

**WRITTEN STATEMENT OF A NON-KEY DECISION
CABINET**

ITEM:	REVIEW OF REGULATION OF INVESTIGATORY POWERS ACT (RIPA) POLICY
Members Present	Councillors: AW Johnson (Leader), H Bramer, J Millar, PM Morgan (Deputy Leader), GJ Powell, PD Price, P Rone.
Date of Decision:	12 June 2014
Exempt:	No
Confidential	No
Urgency/Special Urgency: (As defined in Constitution)	No
Purpose:	<p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000 (RIPA) policy which has been reviewed and updated to reflect legislative changes under the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012.</p> <p>RIPA provides a legal framework for a local authority to conduct covert surveillance techniques. The legislation ensures that any surveillance activity conducted by the council is legal, proportionate and necessary. The recent legislative changes provide further protection to individuals to ensure that covert surveillance techniques are only used if they are judicially approved and are required to detect or prevent serious crime.</p> <p>The report is to be presented to Regulatory Committee on 5 June 2014. Any comments from the committee will be reported verbally to Cabinet.</p>
Decision:	THAT: Cabinet noted the current legal position with regard to the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012 and approve the revised policy.
Reasons for the Decision:	The council policy on RIPA has been updated to reflect the legislative changes identified below and is included as Appendix 1.
Options Considered:	Not approving the revised policy would lead to failure to follow legislative provision.
Conflict of Interest ■ (See below)	
Date the decision is due to take effect:	19 June 2014

COUNCILLOR AW JOHNSON:..... Date: 12 June 2014
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

▪ a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;

And

- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted by the relevant local authority's head of paid service.