

EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**16 November 2004****IMPLEMENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT (IEG) 4****Report of the Head of Business Management****Purpose of Report:** To approve submission of a pro-forma to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister setting out progress on the agenda for implementing electronic government (IEG4).**Legal implications, including Human Rights Act 1998:**

None

Financial implications:

The submission of the IEG4 pro-forma is necessary to enable the Government to monitor progress towards the December 2005 target for the electronic delivery of services and to ensure receipt of a further grant in 2005/06.

National Park Purposes:

The arrangements for implementing electronic government are intended to deliver National Park Authority services to the public in a more efficient manner and in a way they find more convenient.

RECOMMENDATION:

Members are requested to **NOTE** the current draft and **AGREE** to the National Park Officer finalising the IEG4 pro-forma for submission to the ODPM by 20 December 2004.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Exmoor National Park Authority received funding of £400,000 from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) in the period 2002 -2004 to help it to provide its services in new and improved ways, such as through its web-site (www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk) and making the most of the internet. A further £400,000 is expected for the period 2004 – 2006.

2. PROGRESS TOWARDS IMPLENTING ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT

- 2.1 The Government has set a target of achieving 100% capability in electronic delivery of priority services by December 2005. Given the size of its investment in authorities across the country, the Government is carefully monitoring progress in all authorities.
- 2.2 By 20 December 2004 this authority has to complete a government pro-forma of up to 24 pages in length indicating its progress towards meeting the target. The ODPM has stated that it is important that the information contained in the completed IEG4 pro-forma is approved by the Authority before submission.
- 2.3 A meeting of the IEG working group was held on 27 September 2004, and it is likely that much of the material considered on that occasion will be relevant to the information that the Government will be seeking now.

- 2.4 Given that this is the only meeting of the Authority before the deadline, and that at the time of writing the pro-forma had not been issued (although it is due by 5 November), it is proposed to circulate the latest draft of the completed return to members before the meeting for comment and approval in principle. The final version of the completed pro-forma will be published on the Authority's web-site by 20 December 2004.

John Dunscombe
Best Value Officer and Project Manager
5 November 2004