Item 6

REPORT TO COUNCIL

21st April 2006

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ROYAL GARDEN PARTIES

Summary

The Council has been invited to send up to four nominees to Royal Garden Parties to be held at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, 11th July, 2006: Tuesday.18th July, 2006 and Thursday 20th July, 2006. The report sets out details of the criteria for those persons eligible to attend, those Members who have already attended a Royal Garden Party and makes recommendations in relation to the selection of the Council's representatives.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Leader of the Council and partner and Councillor G.M.R. Howe and partner be appointed to attend one of the Royal Garden Parties.

DETAIL

Her Majesty the Queen is to give Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace on Tuesday, 11th July, 2006: Tuesday.18th July, 2006 and Thursday 20th July, 2006. to which the Council has been invited to send up to four nominees. The Local Government Association asked the Council to forward nominations for representatives to be invited to attend for onward submission to the Lord Chamberlain's office by 8th March 2006.

As in previous years, the Councils allocation will be four places and nominations should include serving Civic Heads and their consorts. There is also discretion for nominees to be accompanied by up to two of their own children (but within the quota of four) providing each child is unmarried and aged between 18 and 25 years..

It is the Queen's wish that those invited should be drawn from as wide a range as possible and from persons who have not previously attended Royal Garden Parties. A list of current Members of the Council who have previously attended is set out below:-

Councillors B.F. Avery, JP., J. Burton, M A Dalton, Mrs. B. Graham, A. Gray, G C Gray, Mrs. L. Hovvels, M. Iveson, J. Khan, J.P. Moran, G. Morgan,, D.A. Newell, K.Noble, J.K. Piggott, Ms. M Predki, T. Ward and W. Waters and J. Wayman JP..

It is normal practice for the Mayor Elect and Partner to be appointed to attend one of the Royal Garden Parties, but as Councillor Mrs Hovvels has previously attended a Royal Garden Party, it is appropriate in this instance for the Leader of the Council to attend as Civic Head.

As a result of the need to submit nominations prior to this meeting expressions of interest were sought from Members who had not previously attended a Garden Party and as more than one expression of interest was received the name of the nominee was drawn by lot. Retrospective approval is therefore sought for the nominees to attend a Royal Garden Party.

Contact Officer: Elizabeth North

Telephone No: (01388) 816166 ext 4237 Email Address enorth@sedgefield.uk

Background Papers

Letter from Local Government Association dated 8th February, 2006.

Examination by Statutory Officers

		Yes	Not Applicable
1.	The report has been examined by the Councils Head of the Paid Service or his representative	$\overline{\checkmark}$	
2.	The content has been examined by the Councils S.151 Officer or his representative		$\overline{\checkmark}$
3.	The content has been examined by the Council's Monitoring Officer or his representative		$\overline{\checkmark}$
4.	The report has been approved by Management Team		$\overline{\mathbf{A}}$