



NORTHAMPTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Council

Date: 22 May 2006

Item No:

Report of Solicitor to the Council

Directorate: Finance, Governance and
Citizens

Mario Abela

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Senior Solicitor

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Title of the Report:

Authorisation of Staff to represent
Council in Magistrates Court

Recommendations

That Kathleen Greenwood and Paul Dixon, Legal Assistants, be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 to prosecute, defend or otherwise appear on the Council's behalf in proceedings before a Magistrates Court.

Background

Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 enables a local authority to authorise individual employees to appear for the Council in proceedings in a Magistrates Court. Normally only solicitors and barristers have rights of audience in Court.

The authorisation of Kathy Greenwood and Paul Dixon, who are both experienced legal assistants, will add to the capacity of the Legal Services section. The authorisations will be of general application, but it is envisaged that they will be of particular use in the enforcement of fixed penalty notices under environmental legislation.

Background Documents

None.