



Agenda Item: 5 (b)

REPORT OF INFORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

**NATIONAL CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES CONFERENCE 2012 – 24TH –
26TH OCTOBER 2012 - EASTBOURNE**

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to seek approval for Members to attend the National Children and Adult Services Conference being held at The Devonshire Park Centre in Eastbourne from Wednesday 24th to Friday 26th October 2012.

Information and Advice

2. Under the Travel and Accommodation Policy and other arrangements approved by Full Council on the 7th October 2004 and 18th June 2009, this Committee is the appropriate body for considering/approving attendance at a range of events and the travel and accommodation requirements arising from them.
3. This report describes a proposal which is within this Committee's decision-making powers and Members are asked to consider attendance at the event together with the necessary travel and accommodation arrangements.
4. The information included within the following sections of the report should ensure compliance with normal decision-making rules. If attendance is approved, the details referred to below will be used to compile the Public Register, which is available on the Council's webs-site.

Conference Attendance

5. This year's theme is yet to be announced but the conference will address issues for children and adults.
6. Approval is sought for Members to attend so they can consider issues that are vital to councillors, senior officers, policymakers and service managers with responsibilities for children's services and adult social care in the statutory, voluntary and private sector. It is also an important opportunity for networking with partners and MP's in related fields.
7. The cost of attendance at the conference is £450.00 plus VAT per person. Two or three nights accommodation will also be necessary. An estimate from the conference information suggests a hotel within a reasonable walking distance from the conference centre will be in the region of £100-£120 per person per day, bed and breakfast.
8. The total cost would be met from the Members Services budget.

9. A separate Delegated Decision report will seek approval for the Corporate Director for Adult Social Care, Health and Public Protection to attend the conference.

Other Options Considered

10. None.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. This is an important opportunity for Members to network and take part in breakout sessions and discussion.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

It is recommended that:

approval be given for two Members to attend the National Children and Adult Services Conference at the Devonshire Park Centre in Eastbourne from 24th to 26th October 2012 including the accommodation, travel and associated costs.

LISA SWIFT

Information and Development Officer

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

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Financial Comments (MB 25/04/12)

13. The financial implications are set out in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the report.

Constitutional Comments (SLB 25/042012)

14. The Committee has authority to consider the matters set out in the report. The Delegation to Administration Committee contained in Part III of the Council's Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, includes delegation to authorise expenditure incurred for Member attendance at conference and seminars, including accommodation, travel and associated costs.

Background Papers

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Invitation to attend the conference from the Local Government Association.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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