

29 April 2019**Agenda Item: 9****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR – FINANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE &
IMPROVEMENT****CIPFA CONFERENCE 2019****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for 2 nights' hotel accommodation to allow one of the Vice Chairs of the Committee to attend the annual Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) conference in Birmingham on 9 -10 July 2019.

Information and Advice

2. At the last meeting of the Committee on 18th March 2019 approval was given for 2 members and an officer to attend the above conference. Councillor Richard Jackson, Councillor John Ogle and Nigel Stevenson are due to attend. As the Conference is due to be held in Birmingham it was assumed that hotel accommodation would not be required and approval was therefore given for return rail travel for the attendees on each of the 2 days of the Conference.
3. However, the Vice Chairman, Councillor Ogle, lives in Retford and it is not possible to travel by public transport from Retford to Birmingham on the same day and arrive in time for the beginning of the Conference. Approval is therefore sought for 2 nights' accommodation in Birmingham for Councillor Ogle. The estimated cost of 2 nights' accommodation is £200.

Other Options Considered

4. Driving between Retford and Birmingham and returning on 2 successive days is not considered to be a practical or safe alternative to 2 nights' accommodation in Birmingham.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

5. Under the terms of the Council's constitution, the Finance & Major Contracts Management Committee is responsible for the financial management of the Authority, and it is best practice to ensure that those charged with decision-making and financial management have effective knowledge and skills. Without the approval of overnight accommodation it will not be possible for one of the Vice Chairs of the Committee to attend the Conference.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment 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

That 2 nights' hotel accommodation in Birmingham on 8th and 9th July 2019 be approved to allow attendance at the CIPFA annual conference by the Vice Chair of the Committee.

Nigel Stevenson

Service Director – Finance, Infrastructure and Improvement

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Keith Palframan – Group Manager Financial Services

Constitutional Comments (KK 04/042019)

7. The proposal in this report relating to the approval of hotel accommodation to allow the Vice Chair to attend the CIPFA annual conference is within the remit of the Finance and Major Contracts Management Committee.

Financial Comments (KRP 04/04/2019)

8. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

- None