

**REPORT OF THE LEADER****LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND  
EXHIBITION 2016****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for the attendance of three Members and the Chief Executive at the Local Government Association (LGA) Annual Conference & Exhibition in Bournemouth on 5-7 July 2016.

**Information and Advice**

2. The LGA covers every part of England and Wales, and is the voice of local government. The LGA's annual conference is the largest event in the local government calendar, regularly attracting over 1,200 delegates. This year's event is being held at the Bournemouth International Centre.
3. The 2016 event comes at a pivotal time for local government in terms of the post Spending Review landscape and the new devolution agenda. The major issues facing the sector including finance, housing, devolution and health and social care, will be considered at the event.
4. The conference will provide delegates with an opportunity to hear and engage in a wide variety of sessions focusing on delivering the best local public services to communities. There will be a range of expert speakers from inside and outside local and central government.
5. It is proposed that the Leader and Deputy Leader attend the conference along with the Chief Executive. The remaining place will be offered to the main Opposition group.

**Other Options Considered**

6. To not send any delegates to the event but this would mean the Council missing out on a valuable opportunity to share best practice and utilise valuable networking opportunities.

**Reasons for Recommendation**

7. To enable the County Council to be appropriately represented at this year's annual conference.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Financial Implications**

9. The cost of each conference place remains at £495 this year (which reflects a reduced rate for LGA Members). The costs for Member attendance and related travel and accommodation will be met from the Democratic Services budget for Member conference fees and will be in accordance with the requirements and rules within the Travel and Accommodation Policy.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That approval be given for the attendance of the Leader, Deputy Leader, a member of the main Opposition group and the Chief Executive at the Local Government Association Conference and Exhibition in Bournemouth on 5-7 July 2016.

**COUNCILLOR ALAN RHODES**  
**Leader of the Council**

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### **Constitutional Comments (SLB 1/3/16)**

The recommendation falls within the remit of Policy Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SES 23/2/16)**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

### **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.

- The local Government Association's dedicated website for the event - <https://lgaevents.local.gov.uk/lga/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=35013&eventID=121&traceRedir=2&eventID=121>

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All