

meeting **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

date **28 July 2010**

agenda item number **4(b)**

30TH ANNUAL PUBLIC LIBRARY AUTHORITIES CONFERENCE - LEEDS INSPIRING, EXCITING AND EFFICIENT - PARTNERSHIPS, NEW MODELS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE NEXT DECADE

Purpose of report

1. To consider the attendance of two Elected Members and one officer at the 2010 Public Library Authorities Conference in Leeds 20 – 22 October.

Information and Advice

2. Approval is sought within the terms of the Council's Conference and Travel Policy for one Member of the Majority Group (the Cabinet Member for Culture and Community) and one Opposition Group Member and one officer to attend the Conference.
3. Attendance at / participation in this event has been considered under paragraph 3 of that policy and the following comments are offered:-

The Authority has a statutory duty under the 1964 Public Libraries and Museums Act to provide a library service for Nottinghamshire. This is the only national library conference specifically developed for Elected Members and public library professionals. The Authority is required by statute to meet statutory obligations as defined by the act and in accordance with the guidance of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Public Libraries contribute to the key strands of the strategic plan of the authority.

4. The Public Library Authorities Conference 2010 will debate the current prospects for library services. The intention is to give delegates the opportunity to have their say in the future direction for public libraries. The conference will be topical and will give an update on the challenges, themes and major developments facing public libraries.
5. This year's conference explores the role, the contribution and the positioning of libraries in the context of a society which has increasing

citizen expectations and empowerment, with an increasingly frugal fiscal environment.

6. The conference will be held at the Queens Hotel Leeds 20 – 22 October 2010. Overnight accommodation will be required on 20 and 21 October.
7. The costs associated with the above event are as follows:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>To be met from</u>
Conference fee (Councillors)	£1200.00 (£600 x 2)	Members Conference Budget
Conference fee (Officer)	£600	Library Service's Revenue Budget
Accommodation	Included in Conference fee	
Subsistence	All meals included in Conference fee	

8. Travel by public transport or car will be undertaken depending on the requirements of delegates.
9. The County Council's representatives would be staying at the Conference Hotel so that they are closer to the business of the event, and also because there is no separate charge for accommodation and meals as this is an inclusive-fee conference.

Personnel Implications

10. There are no personnel implications arising directly from this report. [NG - 24/06/10].

Financial Implications

11. The cost per delegate is £600.00 for Members which includes all conference fees, accommodation and meals during the conference dates. Additional costs will be incurred for travel. Members' conference costs are met from the Members Conference budget. One officer will be attending the conference and those costs will be met from the Library Service's revenue budget.

Equal Opportunities Implications

12. There are no Equal Opportunities implications arising directly from this report, but the conference agenda usually addresses a number of equalities issues impacting on public libraries.

Crime and Disorder Implications

13. There are no implications arising specifically from this report.

RECOMMENDATION

14. That the County Council be represented by one Member of the Majority Group (the Cabinet Member for Culture and Community), one Opposition Member and one officer at the Public Library Authorities Conference 2010.

PETER GAW

Head of Libraries, Archives and Information

Legal Services' Comments (SLB - 25/06/2010)

The Administration Committee is responsible for approving expenditure to be incurred for Member attendance at conferences and seminars including expenditure on travel, accommodation and associated costs. The proposal in this report, insofar as it is in accordance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy and relates to Members, is within the remit of this Committee. Officer approval is a departmental matter.

Comments of the Service Director - Finance (LMc - 24.06.10)

The financial implications are set out in the report at point 7-9 and 11.

Background papers available for public inspection

PLA Conference Programme, full details of which are available on www.cilip.org.uk/pla2010

Electoral Division(s) Affected

All