



meeting	<b>ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE</b>	
date	<b>1 February 2006</b>	agenda item number

## **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (COMMUNITY PROTECTION)**

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE TRADING STANDARDS INSTITUTE**

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To outline the arrangements for this year's Annual Conference of the Trading Standards Institute and to consider representation at the Conference.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. The Trading Standards Institute (TSI) represents the professional interests of the Service. Its Annual Conference, which is specifically designed to enable local authorities to have a full involvement with the issues of the day, will take place 20 – 22 June 2006 at the Royal Victoria Dock, London.
3. The theme of this year's Conference will be "Trading Standards Better Regulation – Better Protection".
4. This theme has been chosen to reflect Trading Standards' engagement with and commitment to the better regulation agenda while also demonstrating its determination to safeguard the protection of consumers, legitimate businesses and communities. The programme will be diverse and challenging throughout and will test current thinking. Conference will provide the opportunity to construct the future role and direction of Trading Standards, and to work together to maximise its contribution, impact and visibility.
5. Sessions, debates and workshops will discuss the key areas of the day. Key note sessions will include;
  - Addresses from the Trading Standards Institute and Business
  - Protecting Public Health
  - Tackling Crime and Disorder, Protecting Local Communities
  - Consumer Challenge Quiz
  - The Business and Consumer Balance
  - Introducing the Consumer and Trading Standards Agency
  - The Hampton Priorities
  - Local Area Agreements
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Year of Young Consumers Competition
  - Lifelong Learning
  - Product Piracy and Intellectual Property Theft
6. The Assistant Director (Community Protection) would recommend that the County Council is represented at this Conference as it is the only national Trading Standards event available that fully reflects all the interests of local authorities.

The Assistant Director (Community Protection) will be attending.

7. The estimated costs per delegate for Conference are as follows:

Conference Fee	£641.55
Traveling Expenses	£150.00
Subsistence	£ 60.00
Accommodation	£330.00

The figures shown for accommodation are in respect of rooms at a hotel located within a reasonable distance from the event. The cost of attending the conference will be met by the Administration Committee. Members Travel, Members Subsistence and Accommodation costs will be met from the Members Travel budget. The Officer costs will be met from the Community Protection budget.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

8. The report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities personnel, Crime and Disorder, and users. Where such implications are material, they have been brought out in the text of the report.

### **Recommendations**

9. It is recommended that the County Council be represented at the Trading Standards Institute Conference.

**Richard Hodge**  
**Assistant Director (Community Protection)**

### **Legal Services Comments [IR 9.1.06]**

There are local government powers that enable the attendance at such events where doing so will help facilitate or is conducive to the delivery of services to the people of Nottinghamshire. The decision to participate in this event must fulfill the criteria within the County Council's Travel and Conference Policy. The authority to make the decision is within the Constitution's Delegation to the Administrative Committee.

### **Director of Resources Financial Comments (C&C/RWK)**

The financial implications are set out in the report.

### **Background Papers Available for Inspection**

Conference Details.

### **Electoral Divisions Affected**

All.