



REPORT OF TEAM MANAGER (MEMBERS AND CIVIC SERVICES)

LGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION 2012

Purpose of the Report

1. To consider representation at the Local Government Association's Annual Conference 2012 being held at the International Conference Centre, Birmingham from 26-28th June 2012.

Information and Advice

2. The Local Government Association's annual conference is the biggest event in the local government calendar. It regularly attracts over 1,100 delegates and keynote speakers from central and local government alike.
3. The main issues in 2012 will include: debates on economic growth, and role of councils in creating jobs and wealth; local leadership, in the light of new relationships with city mayors, policing and crime commissioners and health and well-being boards; and new models of innovation in service delivery.
4. As well as the plenary sessions with high-profile speakers a range of workshops will run over the three days. There will be opportunities to network with leading figures from government and local government.
5. The programme for the annual conference is summarised in the Appendix. The rates per delegate are:

Full conference – £495

Tuesday only – £215

Wednesday only – £265

Thursday only – £265

6. The cost per delegate to attend the full conference is estimated as:

Conference fee	£495
Accommodation (2 nights)	£270
Travel	£45
Total	£810

7. In 2011 the Council was represented by the Leader, Deputy Leader, Leader of the Labour Group and the Chief Executive. The cost for member attendance would be borne by the Members Allowances budget.

Other Options Considered

8. The Committee could decide not to attend the Conference.

Reason for Recommendation/s

9. Attending the Local Government Association's Conference and Exhibition enables the Council to keep in touch with current thinking and emerging good practice across Local Government.

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. 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.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That consideration be given to the attendance of five members (two from the majority group and one from each of the minority groups) at the Local Government Association's Annual Conference 2012 at the International Conference Centre, Birmingham from 26-28th June 2012.

David Ellis
Team Manager (Members and Civic Services)

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Constitutional Comments (SG 06/03/2012)

11. The Committee is the appropriate body to consider the matters set out in this Report. By virtue of paragraph 10.2 of Part 3 of the Constitution, the Committee has responsibility for approving the expenditure to be incurred for Member attendance at conferences together with accommodation and travel costs associated with attending such conferences.

Financial Comments (P.B 06-03-2012)

12. As indicated in paragraph 6 the cost per member of attending the Local Government Association's Annual Conference is estimated at £810, and the total cost (subject to the number of delegates) will be funded from the Members Allowances Budget within the Leader Portfolio. The cost of the Chief Executive attending the conference will be funded from the Policy, Planning and Corporate Services Budget.

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.

Nil

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

Local Government Association Conference Agenda

Tuesday 26th June

Time	Description
09.00	Registration, refreshments and exhibition viewing
11.00	Political group meetings
13.30	General assembly meeting
15.50	Conference opening
15.55	Conference plenary 1
16.45	<p>Workshop sessions</p> <p>W1 – Planning for Growth: How to deliver development that communities support</p> <p>W2 – Creative Councils – The Discipline of Innovation</p> <p>W3 – Members and officers: rethinking the relationship</p> <p>W4 – Transforming the delivery of sport in local communities</p> <p>W5 – What are your council staff worth? The changing face of pay bargaining in local government</p> <p>W6 – In it together for communities: councils and the voluntary and community sector</p> <p>W7 – Session details to be confirmed</p> <p>W8 – Leading localism: the elected mayor's view</p>
18.30	Exhibition closes
18.30	Evening fringe meetings
19.30	Political group social events

Wednesday 27th June

Time	Description
08.00	Breakfast fringe sessions:
09.15	Plenary session 2 – Councils and better health: how local leaders can seize the opportunities of the NHS reforms Keynote speech by Sir David Nicholson KCB CBE, Chief Executive of the NHS in England.
10.00	Plenary session 3 – Political spokesperson
11.15	Workshop sessions (8 concurrent sessions) W9 – Can we learn from the private sector? How do we reduce workforce costs and still drive innovation? W10 – Be a councillor: councillors as talent spotters W11 – Civil disturbances 10 months on – are we doing enough to prevent further disorder in the future? W12 – Members workshop on upcoming finance changes W13 – Beyond books and buildings: should councils close their libraries to save money? W14 – Constitutional reform W15 – Using planning to deliver for – and with – your communities W16 – Productivity and procurement W17 – Children in care: challenges and innovation
14.00	Plenary session 4: Local Government Challenge
14.45	Plenary session 5: Community budgets
15.30	Plenary session 6: Driving local growth
16.30	Political group meetings
18.30	Exhibition closes
18.45	External evening fringe sessions

Thursday 28th June

Time	Description
08.00	Breakfast fringe sessions
09.15	Workshop sessions (four concurrent sessions) W18 – Self improvement – more than an ‘add on W19 – Are we nearly there yet? The care and support White Paper and the prospects for real reform W20 – Welfare reform W21 – Troubled families
11.00	Plenary session 7 – Political spokesperson
11.30	Plenary session 8 – Preparing for police and crime commissioners
13.00	Lunchtime fringe meetings (up to seven concurrent sessions) F1 – The council role in education – learning from the LGA/DfE action research F2 – The evolved role of peer challenge in improving councils F3 – Place-based leadership and public service innovation F4 – Olympics F5 – Taking the lead – councils improving adults and children’s services F6 – Session details to be confirmed F7 – Districts network assembly
14.00	Political group and officer sessions
15.30	Plenary session 9 - Political spokesperson
16.00	Conference close
	Local Government Challenge award and reception