



meeting ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

date 13 July 2009

agenda item number **5 (e)**

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

National Children and Adult Services Conference 2009 'Rising to the Challenge: Brighter Futures for All' 21-23, October 2009, Harrogate

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for one Member (Children and Young People's Services) to attend the National Children and Adult Services Conference being held at Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate, from 21 to 23 October 2009. Approval was given for three Members to attend this conference in a delegated decision report dated 24 March 2009 (CX/2009/00024).

Information and advice

Background

2. Under the Travel and Accommodation Policy and other arrangements approved by Full Council on 18 June 2009, the Administration Committee is the appropriate body for considering/approving attendance at a range of events and the travel and accommodation requirements arising therefrom.
3. The information included within the following sections of the report should ensure compliance with normal decision-making rules. If attendance is approved, the details referred to below will be used to compile the Public Register, which is available on the Council's web-site.
4. The theme of this year's Conference, which has been jointly organised between the ADASS, ADCS and the LGA, is "Rising to the Challenge: brighter futures for all". The theme addresses the challenges that arise in the children and adult sector and how the outcomes can predict a brighter future in the changing political landscape.

Reason for attendance

5. Approval is sought for one Member to attend for the following reasons:

This Conference will give delegates the opportunity to consider issues of:

- ❖ health and wellbeing for children and adults
- ❖ children's services
- ❖ social care
- ❖ choice
- ❖ education
- ❖ lifelong learning
- ❖ innovation
- ❖ excellence in service provision.

Underpinning this work and a key theme for the conference is building and supporting the staff that deliver these services.

6. This year's programme will consist of a mix of keynote / ministerial addresses and other significant plenary sessions by key players in the adult and children sectors. There will also be the opportunity to take part in a variety of participatory breakouts and networking sessions. A written report on feedback from the conference will be made available after the event.

Statutory and policy implications

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, personnel, crime and disorder and those using the service. Where such implications are material, they have been described in the text of the report. Attention is however drawn to the following:-

Financial implications – Travel and accommodation requirements

8. The County Council's representatives will travel to the venue on the 20 October 2009 by a method yet to be determined. In previous years all delegates have travelled together by minibus and this costing is reflected below.
9. The cost of attending the conference is £485.00 per delegate. Three nights accommodation will also be necessary. An estimate from the conference information suggests a hotel within a reasonable walking distance from the conference centre will be in the region of £100- £120 per delegate per day for bed and breakfast. Total costs therefore to attend the event are estimated overleaf:

Description	Total Amount
Return Travel to Harrogate	£160
Attendance at Conference	£485
Bed and Breakfast	£350
Total	£995

10. The total cost will be met from the Members Services budget for Conferences.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That:

- (1) approval be given for one Member to attend the National Children and Adult Services Conference at the Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate from 21 to 23 October 2009 together with any necessary travel and accommodation arrangements;
- (2) to note that approval has already been given for three Members to attend this conference in a delegated decision report dated 24 March 2009 (CX/2009/00024);
- (3) to note that one Officer will be attending from the Children and Young People's Department (costs of which will be paid for from the Children and Young People's budget for staff conferences);

ANTHONY MAY

Corporate Director of Children and Young People

Legal Services' comments (LM/3.7.2009)

12. The Administration Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial comments of the Service Director – Finance (NDR)

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

Background papers available for inspection

None

M19C2424