

## **REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 5 – 7 JULY 2016**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To report back on Member and officer attendance at the Local Government Association (LGA) Annual Conference which took place in Bournemouth between 5 and 7 July 2016.

#### **Information and Advice**

##### **Background**

2. The County Council's representatives were Councillor Alan Rhodes, Councillor Kay Cutts MBE, Councillor Joyce Bosnjak and the Chief Executive, Anthony May.
3. This report describes the event and how it relates to the business of the Council. The report is supported by reference to the speeches and presentations which are available on the LGA website.

##### **Attendance Objectives**

4. The LGA Conference is the annual national conference for local government organisations in England and this year's event was held in Bournemouth.
5. The event is designed to provide an opportunity to consider, discuss and create a deeper understanding of the key issues and challenges faced by Local Government
6. The conference had a full agenda of speeches, plenary sessions, workshops and exhibitions. It also provided opportunities for Members and officers to talk to colleagues across the Country about the various issues and challenges facing Local Authorities. Conference presenters included Council Leaders, prominent sector figures as well as the Rt Hon Greg Clark MP, Secretary of State for the Department of Communities and Local Government.

## **Achievement of Objectives**

7. A large number of topics were covered and some of the key issues are summarised below;

### Health & Social Care Integration

8. There were a number of informative workshop sessions on this topic including 'Learning the Lessons from Integration' which explored the lessons learnt to date from integration initiatives in terms of improving health and wellbeing outcomes for people and making the best use of health and social care resources with the aim of securing full integration of health and social care by 2020. There was also a plenary session which examined the financial challenges faced by the health and social care sector.

### What next for Local Government – the impact of the EU referendum

9. This plenary session, chaired by Lord Porter of Spalding CBE, considered how local government may respond to the outcome of the referendum and its potential impact.

### Devolution

10. I chaired a workshop entitled 'What next for Combined Authorities' which considered the current position and potential outcomes of the Devolution agenda. This is of significance to the County Council given the ongoing discussions regarding devolution involving Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire local authorities. There was also an associated workshop which examined the fiscal implications of devolution.

13. Address by the Secretary of State

The Rt Hon Greg Clarke MP delivered a key note speech covering the issues associated with the Devolution agenda and the funding challenges for local government for the period 2015 to 2020. Specific mention was made of the potential for devolution in County areas and of the work across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. In addition, the Secretary of State talked in detail about the Government's approach to the local government financial settlement, covering topics such as the increasing costs of Adult Social Care, Business Rates retention and the costs associated with providing support to refugees.

14. In addition to these main themes there were also a number of fringe events including a County Council Network reception at which The Rt Hon Greg Clarke MP spoke, as well as a number of Political Group meetings.
15. Both Members and officers felt that the Conference was effective in providing an opportunity to learn, discuss and explore the common key challenges faced by County Councils.
16. Details of the speeches and presentations can be found on the Local Government Association website.

## **Other Options Considered**

17. The report is for noting only.

## **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

18. The report is for noting only.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

19. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, 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. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

1) That the report back on Member and officer attendance at the Local Government Association Annual Conference held on 5-7 July 2016 be noted.

**Councillor Alan Rhodes**  
**Leader of the Council**

### **For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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## **Constitutional Comments**

20. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

## **Financial Comments (KLA 29/10/13)**

21. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

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.

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

All.

C0311