



meeting            ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

date                21 September 2005

agenda item number

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

### **The Global Dimension in Nottinghamshire Schools Teachers International Professional Development (TIPD)**

#### **Purpose of Report**

1. To seek approval for one Local Education Authority (LEA) Officer to travel abroad for more than four days, enabling him to participate in the DfES Teachers International Professional Development (TIPD) programme.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. Under the Travel and Accommodation Policy and other arrangements approved by the full Council on 7 October 2004, this Committee is the appropriate body for considering/approving attendance at a range of events and the travel and accommodation requirements arising therefrom.
3. This report describes a proposal which is within the Committee's decision-making powers and Members are asked to consider whether attendance at the event should be approved (including number of representatives), together with any necessary travel, accommodation or other arrangements.
4. 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 website.

#### **Reasons for attendance**

5. This TIPD study visit takes place between 23 October 2005 and 2 November 2005 in Montgomery County (Near Washington), USA.

6. Approval is sought for an LEA Officer, to attend for the following reasons:-
- The LEA is committed to participating in the DfES initiative, TIPD. The programme aims to provide teachers and the LEA with an insight into different teaching practice provided by different education systems and practices around the world. Study groups comprise between nine and twelve teachers from Nottinghamshire schools, together with an LEA group leader. Each visit looks at a particular theme related to the Education Development Plan priorities. The theme for this visit is 'Citizenship' and there are twelve teachers and one LEA Officer taking part. Reports on all TIPD visits are published on [www.teachernet.gov.uk](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk)
  - The destination for each TIPD visit is chosen by the provider of the TIPD visit, which in this case is The British Council, on the basis of information they have on good practice for each theme which is determined by the DfES. The British Council have identified the USA as one destination that will showcase interesting practice in the field of Citizenship, and recognise that British LEAs can learn from this. The LEA cannot choose the destination for the study visit. The LEA is aware when applying to take part in the TIPD initiative each financial year that the destination could be anywhere in the world, not just restricted to Europe and North America.
  - It is a requirement of the TIPD programme for an LEA Officer to lead the group. Approval for teachers to travel abroad is given by the chair of governors at the schools concerned.
  - Philip Kirkland, Healthy Schools Advisor and Citizenship Co-ordinator for the School Improvement Service is the most appropriate LEA officer to lead this group.

### **Travel and Accommodation requirements**

7. The TIPD group will require UK return travel to the airport which is London Heathrow.
8. The costs to the LEA associated with participating in this TIPD study visit are as follows:-

<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>To be met from</b>
UK Travelling expenses (Minibus for whole group)	£300 approx	Global Dimension Budget (Education)
Subsistence Costs	£650	Global Dimension Budget (Education)

9. The travelling expenses shown above are for a return minibus from Nottingham to the UK airport for the whole group. This is the most cost effective means of transport for a group of thirteen people. The Lifelong Learning Team will arrange the UK transport on behalf of the group. The LEA has a dedicated budget to support the UK travel costs associated with taking part in the TIPD programme.
10. All participants, including the LEA officer, will receive a fixed subsistence allowance of £50 to cover expenses whilst on the visit. This is to help cover expenses incurred by the individual which are not included in the programme, including meals.
11. Participants, including the LEA Officer, do not claim any other subsistence costs associated with taking part in this visit.
12. All other arrangements in association with the TIPD programme including flights, accommodation and insurance are made directly by the provider of the study visit which in this case is The British Council. The costs for accommodation, flights and insurance are paid directly by The British Council and are therefore not known and not paid by Nottinghamshire County Council.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

13. This report is necessary to ensure compliance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation policy and current arrangements for approving attendance at conferences, seminars and Member Training events. The needs of individual travellers will have been considered when compiling the report and, where departures from the policy are recommended, Members should consider the reasons given.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

14. That approval is given for the LEA Officer to lead the TIPD group visit to Montgomery County (Near Washington), USA, which will involve travel abroad for a period of more than four days.

**PAM TULLEY**

Director of Education

### **Legal Services' Comments (KK/14.07.05)**

15. The Administration Committee has the delegated authority to approve officer travel outside Europe or any travel in excess of four days. The proposal in this report, insofar as it is in accordance with the Council's Travel and Accommodation Policy, is within the remit of this Committee.

## **Director of Resources' Financial Comments (NDR)**

16. The financial implications to Nottinghamshire County Council are set out in the report.

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

Cabinet Report to the Administration Committee, 31 March 2004

[www.teachernet.gov.uk/TIPD/](http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/TIPD/)

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

Nottinghamshire

M19C1370