

Report

Report to:	Conference Allocation Committee
Date of Meeting:	29 January 2019
Report by:	Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Elected Member Representation at Conferences, etc Dealt with in Terms of Standing Order No 36(c)
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise on action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), in view of the timescales involved, by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to approve member attendance at conferences, etc

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the action taken, in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, to approve attendance at the following conferences, etc be noted:-
- ♦ Councillor Scott at the “Understanding Scotland’s New Planning Act – What do you need to know about the new planning system?” conference organised by MacKay Hannah to take place in Edinburgh on 5 February 2019
 - ♦ Councillor Falconer at the “Recycling, Local Authorities cutting out use of Single Use Plastics” conference organised by the National Association of Councillors (NAC) to take place in Leeds on 11 to 13 January 2019

3. Background

3.1. At its meeting on 4 December 2018, the Committee had considered representation at the “Understanding Scotland’s New Planning Act – What do you need to know about the new planning system?” and had agreed that the Council be represented by Councillors Fulton and Le Blond. Following that meeting a further nomination had been received for Councillor Scott to also attend this conference. Confirmation of Councillor Scott’s attendance required to be finalised and the booking made in advance of the date of this meeting.

In addition, a further invitation had been received in respect of a conference arranged by the National Association of Councillors entitled “Recycling, Local Authorities cutting out use of Single Use Plastics”. A nomination had been received for Councillor Falconer, one of the Council’s representatives on the National Association of Councillors, to attend. As the conference was scheduled to take place from 11 to 13 January 2019 the booking required to be made before the date of this Committee.

To allow the necessary arrangements to be made and in terms of Standing Order No 36(c), the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair and an ex officio member, had approved the attendance of Councillor Scott at the “Understanding Scotland’s New Planning Act – What do you need to know about the new planning system?” conference organised by MacKay Hannah to take place in Edinburgh on 5 February 2019 and Councillor Falconer at the “Recycling, Local Authorities cutting out the use of Single Use Plastics” conference organised by the National Association of Councillors to take place in Leeds on 11 to 13 January 2019.

4. Employee Implications

- 4.1. None.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1. Delegate fees associated with members’ attendance at conferences can be met from within the existing budget.

6. Other Implications

- 6.1. Attendance at conferences contributes to individual member’s learning and development profiles. In terms of good governance, it is important that elected members have the opportunity to attend events which keep them briefed on current developments and reinforce the knowledge and skills required to enable them to fulfil their role.
- 6.2. There are no other implications in terms of risk or sustainability associated with the content of this report.

7. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 7.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.
- 7.2. Other than consultation with the appropriate elected members in terms of the process established for dealing with invitations received to attend conferences and seminars, no formal consultation was required.

Paul Manning

Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)

21 January 2019

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, Effective and Efficient

Previous References

- ◆ Minutes of 4 December 2018 (Paragraph 3)

List of Background Papers

Invitations received in respect of individual conferences, seminars, etc

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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