

The background of the slide features a large, light blue crest of the University of Victoria. The crest is a shield with a crown on top. The crown has four points, each with a stylized flower. The shield is divided into four quadrants. The top-left quadrant contains a cross. The top-right quadrant contains a stag's head with antlers. The bottom-left quadrant contains a sailing ship on waves. The bottom-right quadrant contains a griffin. A banner at the bottom of the shield contains the motto "ANE FOR A".

Agenda Item

15

**Attendance at Conferences –
Requests for Approval**

Falkirk Council

Title: Attendance at Conferences – Requests for Approval
Meeting: Executive
Date: 26 September 2017
Submitted By: Director of Corporate and Housing Services

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for members' attendance at the following conferences:-

- the Care of Older People in Scotland 2017: 5th Annual Conference for which the delegate fee, per person, is £235 + vat, and
- the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) and Improvement Service conference for which the delegate fee, per person per day, is £180 + vat.

2. Recommendations

2.1 The Executive is asked to consider the following requests:-

- (i) the Care of Older People in Scotland 2017: 5th Annual Conference to be held on the 21st of November 2017 at a cost of £235 + vat for Councillor Black, and
- (ii) the COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference and Exhibition 2017 to be held in the Crieff Hydro Hotel on 5th and 6th October 2017 at a cost of £180 + vat per day for:-
 - (a) Councillor Bissett on 5 and 6 October 2017, and
 - (b) Councillor Kerr on 5 and 6 October 2017.

3. Background

3.1 In terms of Standing Order 60.14A, decision making on members' attendance at conferences and seminars is delegated to the Director of Corporate and Housing Services where the cost does not exceed £200. For conferences and seminars exceeding £200, approval requires to be sought from the Executive. The requests from Councillors Bissett, Black and Kerr are over the delegated threshold.

4. Considerations

Care of Older People in Scotland 2017: 5th Annual Conference

- 4.1 The annual conference will examine the promotion of innovation, adopting and sharing best practice and understanding the new care challenges presented by advances in digital innovation, medical capability and legal rights. The event will be held on the 21st of November.

COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference and Exhibition

- 4.2 The annual conference for 2017 has the theme “Tomorrow’s World” and the event will be held on the 5th and 6th of October.
- 4.3 Attendance at these conferences is in accordance with members’ approved duties, as defined in the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.
- 4.4 Details of members’ attendance at conferences/seminars, together with the associated costs, are reported annually, as required by the Local Government (Allowances and Expenses) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 and guidance issued by the Scottish Local Authorities Remuneration Committee.

5. Consultation

No consultation was required.

6. Implications

Financial

- 6.1 The full delegate fee for the Care of Older People in Scotland event is £282 and for the COSLA event is £216 per day. The cost can be met from existing budgetary provisions. In 2017/18 the budget for members’ attendance at conferences and seminars is £5,130. Spend so far this year is £75. If all the requests presented in this report are approved the total year to date spend will be £1,146, leaving a remaining budget of £3909.

Resources

- 6.2 Nil.

Legal

- 6.3 Nil.

Risk

- 6.4 Nil.

Equalities

6.5 No equality implications arise from this request.

Sustainability/Environmental Impact

6.6 There are no sustainability/environment impacts.

7. Conclusions

Attendance at these conferences is in line with Councillors' duties. The costs of attending these conferences can be met from within the current budget.

Director of Corporate and Housing Services

Author – Jack Frawley, Committee Services Officer – 01324 506116
jack.frawley@falkirk.gov.uk

Date: 18 September 2017

Appendices

None

List of Background Papers:

No papers were replied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.