

## THE EXECUTIVE

17 JANUARY 2006

### REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION

ATTENDANCE AT THE DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONFERENCE 2006	FOR DECISION
<p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The Council's Framework of Rules for Conferences, Visits and Hospitality Rules (Part D of the Council's Constitution) requires that the Executive's approval is obtained for attendance at conferences and similar events where the cost is likely to exceed £1,000.</p> <p>This report sets out an invitation for Member and Officers to attend the Local Government Association (LGA) 'Delivering Sustainable Communities' Conference in Birmingham from Monday, 13 – Wednesday 15 February 2006. After the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Sustainable Communities Summit held in February 2005 the LGA has anticipated their first Sustainable Communities event will receive a similar impact. The conference is a unique opportunity for the Council to learn from best practice, keep abreast of national policy development and promote its regeneration programmes.</p> <p>Approval is required for Member and Officer attendance - Councillor Kallar, Ken Jones and Jeremy Grint, overnight accommodation, travel and subsistence because the cost will exceed £1,000. The details for the three-day event are yet to be finalised, so a programme of the conference is not currently available for distribution.</p> <p><b>Wards Affected</b> - None.</p>	
<p><b>Implications:</b></p> <p><b>Financial:</b> The approximate cost of the conference, two nights accommodation, travel, and subsistence for three delegates will be £1,770, which will be funded from within existing budgets</p> <p><b>Legal:</b> None.</p> <p><b>Social Inclusion and Diversity:</b> None</p> <p><b>Crime and Disorder:</b> None</p> <p><b>Risk Management:</b> None</p> <p><b>Recommendation</b> The Executive is asked to agree the attendance of the Lead Member for Regeneration, the Acting Director of Regeneration and the Head of Regeneration Implementation at the Delivering Sustainable Communities Conference on 13-15 February 2006 at a total approximate cost of £1,770 which will be funded from within existing budgets.</p>	

**Reason**

Attendance at the conference will provide an opportunity to share best practice in the delivery of the Sustainable Communities Plan, create opportunities for developing and sharing ideas and work with leading experts from a range of different fields.

**Contact Officer:**

Jeremy Grint

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Implementation**Contact Details:**

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**1. Proposal**

- 1.1 The LGA is organising 'The Delivering Sustainable Communities' conference to bring together key people who are involved with the delivery of the Sustainable Communities Plan. The Conference will discuss the achievements and progress so far in delivery and follows on from the ODPM's Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit, held in February 2005. The event will be hosted by a range of speakers, including Sir John Harman, Chairman of the Environment Agency and Jon Rouse, Chief Executive of the Housing Corporation. The conference will begin with study tours on Monday for those wishing to attend followed by speeches from internationally renowned speakers, exhibition stalls to small practical problem solving workshops. The conference provides a unique opportunity to share best practice, create opportunities for developing and sharing ideas and work with leading experts from a range of different fields.
- 1.2 The conference will focus on the need for high quality and effective local leadership for all sectors including private and voluntary organisations. Through workshops and speeches the conference will focus on progress and possible solutions to deliver new and revitalised communities. The exhibition will provide a unique space for delegates to gain more information, network, share experiences and develop contacts. The conference will also provide us with the opportunity to highlight our vision and future plans to transform Barking and Dagenham.

**2. Financial Implications**

- 2.1 The cost of three delegates' attendance plus overnight accommodation, travel and subsistence costs will be met from existing budgets.

		£
Attendance costs	Tickets	1,305
	Accommodation	345
	Travel	120
<b>Total (approximate costs only)</b>		<b><u>1,770</u></b>

**3. Consultation****Portfolio Holders**

Lead Member for Regeneration, Councillor Kallar.

**Finance**

Alexander Anderson, Head of Finance (DRE)

**Corporate Strategy**

Muhammad Saleem, Solicitor to the Council

**Background Papers**

- LGA – Delivering Sustainable Communities Conference invite.
- LGA website - [www.lgaconference.net](http://www.lgaconference.net)