THE EXECUTIVE

20 JULY 2004

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

ATTENDANCE AT THE SOCIETY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT AUTUMN CONFERENCE	FOR DECISION

This report seeks approval for attendance at conferences in accordance with the Council's Conference, Visits and Hospitality Rules, which states that the Executive must approve such attendance.

Summary

The Executive is asked to agree representation of the Council by 3 persons at the Society of IT Managers Autumn Conference 2004, which is to be held over a 3 day period.

Recommendation

The Executive is asked to approve attendance of the Head of Information Management & Technology (IM&T), The Production Services Manager and The Technology Services Manager to attend the Society of Information Technology Management (SOCITM) Autumn Conference.

Reason

This report is being brought to the executive for approval as the total cost of attending the conference will exceed £1,000.

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1. Background

1.1 The Society of Information Technology Management (SOCITM) is the recognised body of Public Sector IT managers, SOCITM supports members in modernisation, best value and e-government programmes, the organisation works closely with national and local government to share best practice and achieve excellence in the delivery of public services.

1.2 The organisation hold two conferences one in the spring and one in the autumn, these conferences are held at various venues around the United Kingdom, the Spring one being a one day event and the Autumn one three days starting with a welcome on the Sunday evening.

1.3   The event combines Keynote speakers with workshops and an exhibition of relevant Information Technology software and hardware suppliers. At this time the full programme has not been established, however speakers already include Sir Michael Bichard, chair of the inquiry into the intelligence handling of the Soham murders, David Taylor author of *The Naked Leader* and Peter Hetherington regional affairs editor of *The Guardian*. Workshops include 'achieving a transactional status website, connecting to the NHS, achieving BS7799 the most widely recognised security standard in the world. The event also provides excellent opportunities to network with peers and colleagues.

1.4   Members' approval is therefore sought to approve the attendance of the Head of IM&T, The Production Services Manager and The Technology Services Manager at the SOCITM Autumn Conference.

2.   **Financial Implications**

2.1   This years Autumn conference is being held in Edinburgh from 10th–12th October. The cost is £525 for the first delegate and £475 for further delegates from the same organisation this includes meals and accommodation. For three delegated the cost would be £1475 plus travel costs. he cost of this can be met from IM&T's existing training and seminar budget.

Background Papers
www.socitm.gov.uk/public/events/socitm+2004/default.htm