THE EXECUTIVE

14 DECEMBER 2004

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT

| THE DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNTIES SUMMIT | FOR DECISION |
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This report seeks approval for attendance at a conference in accordance with the Conference, Visits and Hospitality Rules, which states that if the total cost is likely to exceed £1,000, the event must be approved by the Executive in advance.

Summary

This report sets out arrangements for the Council's representation at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's "Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit" in Manchester on 31st January – 2nd February 2005. The Summit, hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister, will be the largest of its kind ever to be held in the UK. 2,000 delegates, representing the public, private and community sectors, are expected to attend. The Summit is a unique opportunity for the Council to learn from best practice, keep abreast of national policy development and promote its regeneration programmes.

The Executive's approval is required for the cost of exhibiting, Member and officer attendance and associated costs - overnight accommodation, travel and subsistence. The details of the three-day event are yet to be finalised, so a programme of the Summit is not currently available for distribution.

Recommendation

The Executive is asked to agree:

- Representation by the Lead Member for Regeneration, Councillor Kallar, the Director of Regeneration and Environment, Niall Bolger and officers from Regeneration Implementation (Jeremy Grint) and Planning (Peter Wright and Gordon Glenday);
- Exhibition at the Conference and the attendance of officers from Regeneration Implementation (Rob Shooter, Lisa Clitheroe and Jo Sinclair) to run the Council's stand and respond to enquiries; and
- 3. Total costs of £11,800, covering the cost of exhibiting, delegate attendance and associated costs.

Reason

Agreement will contribute to the Community Priority 'Regenerating the Local Economy.'

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1. Background

- 1.1 The ODPM is organising the 'Delivering Sustainable Communities Summit' to bring together key stakeholders in the delivery of the Sustainable Communities Plan. The Summit will discuss achievements and progress so far in delivery and follows on from the Urban Summit, held in Birmingham in 2002. Hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister, the Summit will be one of the largest of its kind to be held in the UK with over 2,000 delegates expected to attend from all over the country. It is 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 Summit has been organised to look at the impact of national and global trends on local communities through workshops, master classes, keynote speakers and a large exhibition display area. The exhibition will provide a space for delegates to gain more information, network, share experiences and develop contacts. This will also provide us with the opportunity to highlight our vision and future plans to transform Barking and Dagenham. We have created a package of materials to promote regeneration in Barking and Dagenham, which has already been successfully displayed at the Cityscape Exhibition and Thames Gateway Forum this year. The package includes an exhibition stand, audio-visual materials and new publications.

2. Attendance

The Lead Member for Regeneration, Councillor Kallar and Director for Regeneration and Environment, Niall Bolger, will lead the Council's delegation. Jeremy Grint (Head of Regeneration Implementation), Peter Wright (Head of Planning and Strategic Transportation) and Gordon Glenday (Group Manager, Sustainable Development, Planning and Strategic Transportation) will also attend. Three officers from Regeneration Implementation (Rob Shooter, Lisa Clitheroe and Jo Sinclair) will attend to organise and staff the Council's exhibition stand.

3. Financial Implications

The cost of representation and exhibition will be met from existing budgets. Total costs include delegates' attendance, plus overnight accommodation, travel and subsistence. There will also be costs two officers time and overnight stay to set up the exhibition stand.

| | £ |
|--------------------|---|
| Tickets x 5 | 3,250 |
| Accommodation x 8 | 1,715 |
| Travel x 8 | 420 |
| Hire of floorspace | 5,495 |
| Transportation | 1,000 |
| | Accommodation x 8 Travel x 8 Hire of floorspace |

Total (approximate costs only) <u>11,880</u>

4. Consultation

Officers in Regeneration Implementation and Planning have been consulted. The draft report was also discussed at the programme management meeting of the Regeneration Board on 19th November 204. The Lead Member for Regeneration has been consulted and has agreed to this report.

Background Papers

- Invite from London Government Association (LGA) via email
- ODPM website at www.ODPM.gov.uk