

Conference Invitations

City of Edinburgh Council

3 February 2011

Purpose of Report

- 1 To advise the Council of an invitation to appoint delegates to conferences.

Main Report

- 2 The Council has been invited to consider being represented at the undernoted conferences:

Title	Organiser/ Delegate Fee	Location/Date
COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference	COSLA/£495 (full residential package) £180 (day delegate on 9 March 2011)	St Andrews/9-11 March 2011

(Members will be aware that a meeting of the City of Edinburgh Council will take place on Thursday 10 March 2011. A copy of the programme is attached.)

CIPFA Scotland Annual Conference	CIPFA/ £495 (full residential package)	Dundee/17 and 18 March 2011
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Financial Implications

- 3 Costs and travel and subsistence expenses will be met by the appropriate department.

Environmental Impact

- 4 Travel arrangements will be made in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Travel Plan.

Recommendation

- 5 To consider appointing delegates to attend the conferences referred to in Section 2 above.

Jim Inch
Director of Corporate Services

Appendices	CoSLA Conference details
Contact/tel	Carmel Riley ☎ 529 4830; ✉ carmel.riley@edinburgh.gov.uk
Wards affected	N/A
Single Outcome Agreement	N/A
Background Papers	Conference invitations and delegate nomination forms held by Committee Services

is.
improvement service



Rising to the Challenge

Protecting our
Communities and Services

Wed 09 – Fri 11
March 2011
Fairmont St Andrews

Exhibiting

The exhibition is an integral part of the Conference, attracting a wide variety of organisations working in both the public and private sectors. Tea/coffee will be served in the exhibition areas to ensure that exhibitors have the chance to meet with delegates.

Further information is available from Jessica Maloumi on 0131 474 9224
or e.mail Jessica@cosla.gov.uk

Advertising

The official conference handbook contains essential programme and speaker information and is distributed to all delegates attending the Conference. There is a limited amount of advertising space available in the handbook which will be A4 size and printed in full colour.

The following rates will apply :

Full page	£450 plus VAT
Half page	£280 plus VAT
Quarter page	£200 plus VAT

For technical specifications please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228
or e.mail Linda@cosla.gov.uk

Sponsorship

Sponsoring one particular aspect of the conference brings its own list of benefits and related costs. Organisations may also contribute to the cost of one of the options shown below with recognition in the Conference Handbook.

For estimated costs or to discuss your contribution, please contact Linda Bruce on
0131 474 9228 or e.mail Linda@cosla.gov.uk

Option

Conference Dinner (s)
Evening Entertainment Package
Evening Pre-Dinner Reception (s)
Lunch (es)
Tea / Coffee
Complimentary Gifts
Writing Pads
Pens
Delegate Bags

Promotional Literature and/or Complimentary Gifts

An opportunity exists for including promotional literature or small complimentary gifts in the Delegate Briefcase at a cost of £150 plus VAT per item. We would require you to supply approximately 350 copies or gifts.

Please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or e.mail Linda@cosla.gov.uk for further information.


COSLA



Annual Conference & Exhibition 2011

in partnership with


ROBERTSON

The 2011 Fee includes

As a member Authority, attending as a full residential conference delegate will cost £495 plus VAT.

Included in the full residential conference delegate fee is two nights' accommodation on Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 March. The fee includes attendance at the main conference dinner on Wednesday 9 March and at the COSLA Excellence Awards Dinner and Ceremony on Thursday 10 March. It also includes pre-dinner receptions on both nights and Lunch and tea/coffee.

Attendance at the COSLA Convention Meeting

There will be an opportunity to attend and observe the governing body of COSLA at work on Friday 11 March.

Plenary Sessions

The conference will start at lunchtime on Wednesday 9 March and concludes with the COSLA Convention Meeting at lunchtime on Friday 11 March. This is your chance to contribute to the debate on key issues in Scotland.

The conference is an invaluable opportunity to network in an informal situation.

Accommodation

This year's event will be held at the Fairmont St Andrews Hotel and it is anticipated that all conference delegates will be accommodated within the Hotel. **All accommodation must be booked through COSLA by Monday, 7 February 2011.** We are unable to guarantee places for forms received after this date.

For further information regarding the Hotel or accommodation, please contact Tricia MacFarlane on 0131 474 9217 or email tricia@cosla.gov.uk

Hotel Information

Fairmont St Andrews, Scotland sits proudly amidst the rugged coastal landscape of East Scotland. It is 50 minutes from Edinburgh and 90 minutes from both Aberdeen and Glasgow. The resort offers an international standard of service and meticulous attention to detail in the comfort and convenience of a modern, world class resort. Fairmont St Andrews, Scotland is approximately 2 miles from St Andrews town centre and 20 minutes from Leuchars Railway Station. Information on Fairmont St Andrews, Scotland can be obtained from their website www.fairmont.com

Message from Councillor Pat Watters CBE, President, COSLA Rory Mair, Chief Executive, COSLA Colin Mair, Chief Executive, Improvement Service

The 2011 COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference takes place following the worst financial settlement for Scotland since devolution and just ahead of the Scottish Parliamentary Elections which will decide the Governance of Scotland at a national level for the next four years. Appropriately entitled, *Rising to the Challenge: Protecting our Communities and Services*, the Conference will give us the opportunity to debate the future facing Scottish Local Government and the wider public sector and the major challenges of operating effectively for communities and service users amid the worst recession in generations.

Councils, and their local partners, face severe spending constraints over the next 4 years. Not only will income fall, but demand for services will increase sharply as well. If services and outcomes are to be protected for communities across Scotland, innovation and change will be necessary.

In the run up to the Parliamentary Elections, a range of proposals for structural reform of local services are emerging. The Conference gives Local Government the chance for a serious stocktake:

- What is already happening in terms of innovation, and what works?
- Where is change at national level necessary to facilitate local change?
- If structural reform is on the cards, what are the key reforms that will improve outcomes, efficiency and local accountability?

The Conference will blend political, managerial and stakeholder perspectives on these questions.

The COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference is the keynote event in the Scottish Political Calendar and once again the programme has been carefully designed to embrace well known figures in political life with opportunities for delegate interaction. The 2011 event will hear from all of the Leaders of the main political parties in Scotland on their thoughts for Scottish Local Government and the future shape of public services in Scotland following May's Elections.

The Conference will also be a celebration of excellence within local government in the shape of the Annual Excellence Awards Ceremony which once again this year has, building on the success of the last three years, been incorporated within the Annual Conference on the Thursday evening.

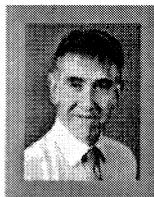
The 2011 event will once again take place over three days in March and culminate in a meeting of the full Convention. It will run from Wednesday, 9 to Friday, 11 March inclusive and will once again be held at Fairmont St Andrews, Fife.



Councillor Pat Watters CBE
President
COSLA



Rory Mair
Chief Executive
COSLA



Colin Mair
Chief Executive
Improvement Service

Delegate Attendance Options

The following flexible attendance options allow you to attend the conference on a basis which best suits your needs. These changes are in response to customer demand and reflect delegates' increasing workplace commitments. Please read the options and mark your choices on the booking form.

OPTION 1

Full Residential Conference Delegate
Accommodation on 9 and 10 March and attendance at all sessions, including the COSLA Convention meeting on 11 March. Tea/Coffee and lunch on 9, 10 and 11 March. Pre-dinner reception and dinner, on 9 and 10 March.

OPTION 2

Day Delegate on Wednesday 9 March
Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 9 March. Does NOT include accommodation or attendance at dinner.

OPTION 3

Day Delegate on Thursday 10 March
Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 10 March. Does NOT include accommodation or attendance at dinner.

OPTION 4

Accommodation on Tuesday 8 March
Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont St Andrews on the night of 8 March

OPTION 5

Accommodation on Wednesday 9 March
Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont St Andrews on the night of 9 March

OPTION 6

Accommodation on Thursday 10 March
Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont St Andrews on the night of 10 March

OPTION 7

Pre-dinner Reception and Dinner on Wednesday 9 March
Attendance at the Pre-Dinner Reception, main Conference Dinner on 9 March

OPTION 8

Pre-dinner Reception and Dinner on Thursday 10 March
Attendance at the Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Dinner and Ceremony on 10 March