

Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 4 August 2015

Nuclear Free Local Authorities - Membership

Item number	7.5
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	City Wide

Executive summary

The Council has been invited to renew its membership of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities organisation.

The Council and its predecessors have been members of Nuclear Free Local Authorities for a number of years. The annual affiliation fee for 2015/16 is £2,815. This sum includes the affiliation fee for the NFLA Scotland Forum.

Continuing membership allows the Council to play its part within local government in interacting with and influencing the national and international nuclear policy agenda. The NFLA provides an expert consultancy service across nuclear policy, waste management and in proposing renewable energy alternatives to nuclear power. It will also support the Council's emergency planning and community safety functions. Councillor Gardner is the Council's representative on both the National Committee and the Scottish Committee.

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Nuclear Free Local Authorities - Membership

Recommendations

- 1.1 To consider renewing the Council's membership of Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA) for 2015/16.

Background

- 2.1 The Council has been invited to renew its membership of the Nuclear Free Local Authorities organisation.
- 2.2 The Council and its predecessors have been members of NFLA for a number of years. The annual affiliation fee for 2015/16 is £2,815. This sum includes the affiliation fee for the NFLA Scotland Forum.
- 2.3 Continuing membership allows the Council to play its part within local government in interacting with and influencing the national and international nuclear policy agenda. The NFLA provides an expert consultancy service across nuclear policy, waste management and in proposing renewable energy alternatives to nuclear power. It will also support the Council's emergency planning and community safety functions. Councillor Gardner is the Council's representative on both the National Committee and the Scottish Committee.

Main report

- 3.1 The NFLA is the primary voice in local government in the UK and Ireland for interacting and influencing the national and international nuclear policy agenda. The organisation is well-known within local government and is seen as a legitimate stakeholder with central government, the wider nuclear sector and nuclear regulators. The NFLA has also developed strong international links through its close co-operation with the Mayors for Peace and the Network of Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe.
- 3.2 The network currently has around 50 members in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. Its members affiliate in order to support the NFLA's work in promoting public safety, protecting the environment, and informing the public. Leading members include Councils in Manchester, Leeds, Glasgow and Cardiff. By working together, NFLA members are more able to influence policy on nuclear issues.

- 3.3 The broad range of issues which NFLA campaigns and provides advice on includes:
- the transport of nuclear materials, weapons, and waste;
 - Nuclear legacy issues, such as the decommissioning of nuclear installations and the disposal of radioactive waste;
 - the use of renewable energy sources and energy conservation as alternatives to a new generation of nuclear power stations;
 - planning issues relating to nuclear sites;
 - information to help local authorities fulfil their emergency planning role relating to nuclear sites and major nuclear accidents overseas;
 - information on nuclear safety, nuclear emergency planning and public health;
 - awareness-raising about low level radiation risks, such as the risks from radioactively contaminated scrap metals and discharges into the marine environment;
 - information about nuclear proliferation and support for the international campaign to create a nuclear weapons free world; and
 - sustainable economic development and employment outside the nuclear sector.
- 3.4 The NFLA provides an expert consultancy service across nuclear policy, waste management and in proposing renewable energy alternatives to nuclear power. Continuing membership of the NFLA allows the Council to play its part within local government in interacting with and influencing the national and international nuclear policy agenda. It will also support the Council's emergency planning and community safety functions. Councillor Gardner is the Council's representative on both the National Committee and the Scottish Committee.

Measures of success

- 4.1 There are no immediate measures of success applicable to this report. Membership of the NFLA does, however, strengthen the organisation's voice in local government in the UK in influencing the nuclear power agenda.

Financial impact

- 5.1 It is proposed that the affiliation fee for 2015/16 is shared equally between Services for Communities and Economic Development.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are no specific risks arising from this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no equalities impacts arising from this report.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Membership of NFLA will support the Council's objectives relating to the environment and its duties as set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.
- 8.2 The NFLA provides advice on the use of renewable energy sources and energy conservation as alternatives to nuclear power stations. Its members affiliate in order to support the NFLA's work in promoting public safety, protecting the environment and informing the public.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 None.

Background reading/external references

[Nuclear Free Local Authorities](#)

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