

**REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE**

**LINK TO WORK PROGRAMME – POLICY REVIEW**

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP5: Attractive and Inclusive City.**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services; CIO4: Improving Partnership Working To Deliver ‘One City’.**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 For the Committee to consider sending delegates to the Housing Quality Network conference entitled ‘Under Pressure – Fairness and Flexibility in Local Housing’.

**2. Background**

2.1 An invitation has been received from the Housing Quality Network to attend a national conference relating to the allocation of social housing. The event takes place on Wednesday 14 October 2009 from 10am until 4.30pm at the Hilton Paddington Hotel in London.

2.2 The conference will include sessions on the following:

- Key proposals from the new Communities and Local Government draft guidance
- A legal update
- Tackling overcrowding
- Choice Based Lettings Schemes
- TSA Standard for allocations

2.3 The full advert is attached at appendix 1 for members’ information.

2.4 The itinerary for the event will provide members with some useful information in relation to this years policy review which centres on access to housing. The event also provides other useful information which will help increase the knowledge and expertise of members of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

2.5 The cost of the event is £262 per individual delegate. It is suggested that the Committee consider attendance at this event.

**3. Recommendation**

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the attendance of members to the above network event to be funded from the budget of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

#### 4. Background Papers

- Housing Quality Network invitations issued by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

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