

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

9 July 2009

REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider nominating delegates to the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals Annual Conference 'Impact, Inclusion, Information: The Value of Libraries in the Lives of Communities'.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Handbook contains a protocol for use of the Scrutiny Committees budget by members to attend training and conferences relevant to the remit of the Committee.
- 2.2 The Public Library Authorities (PLA) Conference one of the key dates in the calendar and funding has been used previously from the dedicated scrutiny budget to send delegates when appropriate.

3. Conference Details

- 3.1 An invitation has been received from the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals for the Conference to take place between 7-9 October 2009 in Bristol.
- 3.2 The Conference is built around three themes : Local Democracy, Local Involvement, The Power of Reading and Healthy Communities (including case studies on health and well-being and digital inclusion).
- 3.3 Highlights of the programme will be:
 - Barbara Follett MP, Minister for Culture on the findings of the DCMS review of public libraries
 - Liz Forgan, Chair of Arts Council England
 - Terry Ryall, Chief Executive of V, the young people's volunteering organisation
 - John Hicks on the latest trends in library governance
 - John Fisher, Director of Citizen's Online, exploring what makes a successful digital community
 - Keynote speaker on the importance of empowering communities
 - and a Third World speaker describing the impact of libraries in multiply disadvantaged communities abroad

- Visits to a choice of libraries and community centres to see examples of inclusion in action
- 3.4 The cost of the conference is £572.00 per delegate including conference attendance, 2 nights accommodation and all meals from Wednesday lunch through to Friday lunch.
- 3.5 It is suggested that the Committee nominate one or two Members to attend the Conference.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the attendance of members to the above conference to be funded from the budget of the Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background Papers

- Conference invitations issued by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.
- Itinerary issued by Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.

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