



Coventry City Council

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Public report

REPORT BACK ON CONFERENCE/SEMINAR

REPORT TO: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

16th November 2011

REPORT OF: Director of Community Services

TITLE: Environmental Health - Year Ahead Leadership Conference

DATE: 2-3 April 2009

VENUE: Stratford upon Avon

1. Recommendation

1.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to note the report.

2. Background

2.1 The Local Authority Coordinating body for Regulatory Services (LACORS) (now LGR) and the Chartered Institute for Environmental Health (CIEH) organised this third annual conference for local authority leadership. The conference explores the current regulatory landscape and looks ahead to future changes and challenges.

2.2 Following an introductory speech from Paul Lankester, Chief Executive from Stratford on Avon District Council, who set out the challenges of ensuring effective leadership, particularly during the current economic constraints; day one of the programme saw councillors from England, Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland sharing their thoughts on the political landscape that environmental health officers will face in the devolved countries over the coming year. Three of the Vice Chairs on LACORS Board (namely Cllr Keith Evans, Ceredigion Council, Cllr Linda Thomas Council, Bolton & Cllr Sean Kerr, Magherafelt District Council) along with Cllr Rob Murray, Vice President of COSLA, gave their views on the challenges ahead.

2.3 Delegates also heard more about the Local Better Regulation Office (LBRO) Primary Authority Scheme which went live on the 6th April, with Graham Russell from LBRO, Alan Lacey from Sainsburys and Richard Block from Westminster, sharing their views on what primary authority relationships means for businesses and councils working together.

2.4 Day two, as well a discussion on tobacco and smokefree issues from the national, regional and local perspective, provided an update on the key national priorities ahead for the Food Standards Agency (Tim Smith, Chief Executive); the Health and Safety Executive (Kevin Myers, Deputy Chief Executive); the Environment Agency (Ed Mitchell, Head of Business Performance & Regulation) and DEFRA (Martin Williams, Head of Air & Environment Quality).

2.5 The conference was attended by Councillor Hazel Noonan, as Cabinet Member (City Services) and Geoff Makin, Environmental Health Manager.

3. Cost of attending

	Costs Approved by Cabinet/Cabinet Member	Total of Actual Costs
Conference Fees	£290.00	£290.00
Flights	n/a	n/a
Additional Travel Expenses	n/a	£15.20
Accommodation	n/a	n/a
Subsistence	n/a	n/a

4. Benefits

4.1 The conference gives Environmental Health leadership an overview of the future regulatory landscape and allows service planning to be well informed. Additionally it gives elected members an insight into the broader political issues confronted by the service and its customers, allowing corporate strategy to be better informed.

List of background papers

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Other contributors:

Nil

Papers open to public inspection

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conference papers: <http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/ContentDetails.aspx?id=21368>

conference programme: <http://www.lacors.gov.uk/lacors/upload/21096.doc>