

Transport and Environment Committee

10am Tuesday 13 January 2015

Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2014

Item number	8.3
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All

Executive summary

This report outlines Council representation at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2014 on 25 November 2014. The theme of the Conference was “Talking Tactics” and provided a forum for public sector professionals and stakeholders to discuss meeting Scotland’s climate change targets and ambitions.

Due to the need to confirm arrangements for attendance at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2014, the Acting Director of Services for Communities in consultation with the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee approved attendance by Councillor Burgess under the urgency provisions set out at paragraph 3.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference.

Links

Coalition pledges	P50 , P51
Council outcomes	CO18
Single Outcome Agreement	

Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2014

Recommendations

To note the action taken by the Acting Director of Services for Communities, in consultation with the Convener of the Transport and Environment Committee, in approving attendance by Councillor Burgess at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference in Edinburgh on 25 November 2014 under the urgency provisions set out at paragraph 3.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference.

Background

- 2.1 This report outlines Council representation at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference in Edinburgh on 25 November 2014.
- 2.2 The Sustainable Scotland Network supports public sector action on sustainable development, including programmes on climate change and sustainable procurement. The Network is now widening its support to sustainability practitioners and advocates from throughout the public sector.

Main report

- 3.1 The Sustainability Scotland Network Conference is the annual event of the association and aims to encourage and enhance greater and more effective collaboration between local authorities and the wider public sector.
- 3.2 The conference provided delegates with a platform to exchange knowledge, experiences and issues through a variety of policy forums, working groups, projects and events.
- 3.3 The Sustainability Scotland Network is active in supporting public sector action on sustainable development including programmes on climate change and sustainable procurement.
- 3.4 The theme of the conference was “Talking Tactics” and provided a forum for public sector professionals and stakeholders to discuss meeting Scotland’s climate change targets and ambitions.
- 3.5 There were opportunities to:
 - share experience and good practice with other public sector agencies;
 - promote the city and the expertise available in Edinburgh;
 - strengthen links with other public sector agencies for development and joint activities around sustainability.

Measures of success

- 4.1 Councillor Burgess' attendance at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference in Edinburgh:
- Raised the city's profile
 - Prompted Edinburgh's expertise
 - Learned from other's good practice
 - Strengthened links with other stakeholders and found new partners.

Financial impact

- 5.1 The cost of attendance was £108. As the event was held in Edinburgh travel costs were negligible and there were no accommodation costs involved. The cost was met from the performance strategy and policy budget 2014/15.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are no risk, policy, compliance and governance impacts as a consequence of Councilor Burgess attending the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 There are no direct equalities impacts as a result of this report.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 Travel arrangements were made in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Travel Plan.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Attendance at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference provided the Council with a channel for engaging with various key stakeholders including local and nationally elected member on climate change, sustainable procurement and sustainable development.

Background reading/external references

Sustainable Scotland Network website:

<http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/sustainability-climate-change/sustainable-scotland-network>

Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2014 website:

<http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/ssnconference>

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Links

Coalition pledges	P50 , P51
Council outcomes	CO18
Single Outcome Agreement	
Appendices	None