

Transport and Environment Committee

10.00am, Thursday, 5 October 2017

Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2017

Item number	8.7
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	All
Council Commitments	

Executive Summary

This report outlines Council representation at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2017 on 5 October 2017. This years' conference takes place amidst substantive developments in climate change policy and public sector professionals and stakeholders have a critical role in initiating, aligning and leading the demanding changes driven by the emerging climate change policy landscape.

Due to the need to confirm arrangements for attendance at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2017, the Executive Director of Place and Convener of Transport and Environment Committee, in consultation with the Council Leader and Deputy Leader, approved attendance by Councillor Burgess under the urgency provisions set out at paragraph 4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference.

Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2017

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Transport and Environment Committee note the action taken by the Executive Director of Place and Convener of Transport and Environment Committee, in consultation with the Council Leader and Deputy Leader, in approving attendance by Councillor Burgess at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference in Edinburgh on 5 October 2017 under the urgency provisions set out at paragraph 4.1 of the Committee Terms of Reference.

2. Background

- 2.1 This report outlines Council representation at the Sustainable Scotland Network Conference in Edinburgh on 5 October 2017.
- 2.2 The Sustainable Scotland Network supports public sector action on sustainable development, including programmes on climate change and sustainable procurement. The Networks is ow widening its support to sustainability practitioners and advocates from throughout the public sector.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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 2017/18.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

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

7. Equalities impact

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

8. Sustainability impact

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

9. 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.

10. Background reading/external references

10.1 [Sustainable Scotland Network Website](#)

10.2 [Sustainable Scotland Network Conference 2017 website](#)

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11. Appendices

Nil