

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10am, Tuesday, 1 October 2019

Conference Invitation – 20 Years on from Devolution...We have a Choice - COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference & Exhibition 2019 (10-11 October 2019)

Executive/routine
Wards ALL
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that the Committee consider appointing elected members to attend the COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference & Exhibition 2019.

Andrew Kerr

Chief Executive

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Report

Conference Invitation – 20 Years on from Devolution...We have a Choice - COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference & Exhibition 2019 (10-11 October 2019)

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Council has been invited to nominate delegate(s) to attend the COSLA and Improvement Service Annual Conference & Exhibition to be held at the Fairmont Hotel, St Andrews on 10-11 October 2019.

3. Background

- 3.1 The City of Edinburgh Council is a member of COSLA and is invited to send delegates to this Annual Conference.

4. Main report

- 4.1 This year's Annual Conference is entitled "20 Years on from Devolution...We have a Choice" and will explore the relationship with Governments and Parliaments. It will specifically consider and debate the issues facing Local Government in a time of significant change and challenge within the wider arenas of Scotland, the UK and Europe. Attached in Appendix 1 is the Conference programme.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 Each political group has been contacted to provide one delegate name. The maximum delegation would be 5 members with the recommendation that this is one member from each group.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The attendance options and costs are set out in the conference flyer at Appendix 1.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Consultation has taken place with the Council Leader and Deputy Leader on this decision. There are no consultation or engagement requirements. In line with the Conference and Civic Visit Procedure, delegates should, following the event, complete a Feedback Form for inclusion in the Committee Business Bulletin.
- 7.2 Travel arrangements will be made in accordance with the Council's Sustainable Travel Plan.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 Background to the Conference can be found at [COSLA and IS Annual Conference 2019](#)

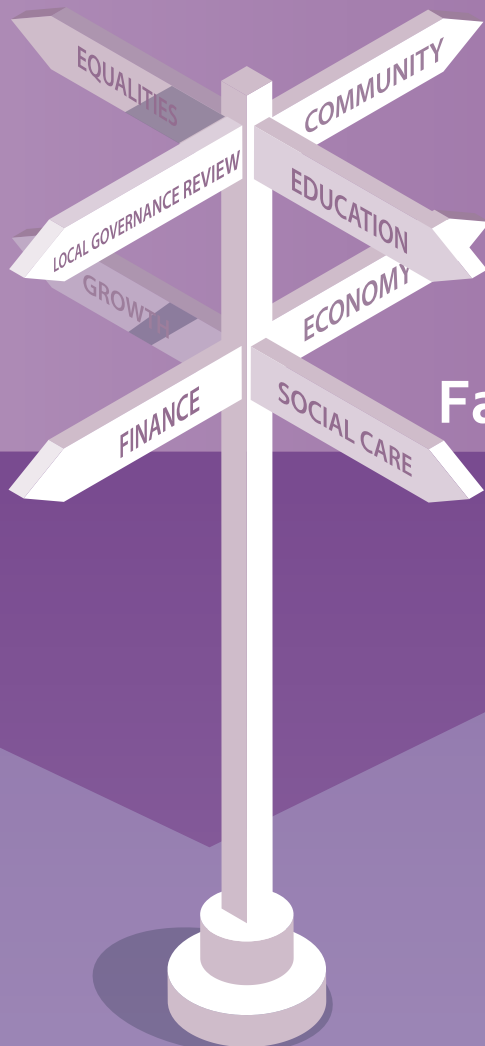
9. Appendices

Appendix 1

20 years on from devolution...

WE HAVE A CHOICE

COSLA & Improvement Service Annual Conference and Exhibition 2019



10-11 October 2019
Fairmont St Andrews




COSLA


improvement service

Headline Sponsor

openreach

Foreword



Councillor Alison Evison
President of COSLA and
Chair of Improvement
Service



Sally Loudon
Chief Executive
COSLA



Sarah Gadsden
Interim Chief Executive
Improvement Service

In 1999 Scotland got its own Parliament – and 20 years on we are at the heart of devolution.

To this day Local Government in Scotland still plays a key role in the delivery of services nurturing our communities, improving the economy and employment.

Now, 20 years on from devolution we have a choice:

- We have a choice about our relationship with Governments and Parliaments.
- We have a choice about how we continue to establish Local Government as a sphere of government in Scotland.
- We have a choice about how we embrace the Digital revolution.
- We have a choice about how we want the fiscal framework to work for communities.
- We have a choice about what services we provide locally – dispelling the postcode lottery myth. It is actually local democratic decision making in practise.
- We have a choice about our relationship with Local Government partners on a European and International platform.

‘We have a Choice’ is ready to be debated in the Fairmont in St Andrews on Thursday, 10 and Friday, 11 October 2019.

This is the place to consider, contemplate and contest the issues facing Local Government in a time of significant change and challenge within the wider arenas of Scotland, the UK and Europe.

Government and democracy underpin our existence and we want to ensure that Local Government is at the forefront of all our considerations and all of the choices we make in the next 20 years.

Don't miss out, come along to the Fairmont for the keynote event in the Scottish Local Government calendar. Whether that is to listen, observe or play a part by contributing to the debate about the choices Local Government as a sector has in Scotland, in the UK and in Europe in these challenging and difficult times, and the vital and key role it plays in the public sector in Scotland.

Conference Information

The 2019 Fee includes:

As a member Authority, attending as a full residential conference delegate will cost **£399** plus VAT.

Included in the full residential conference delegate fee is one nights' accommodation on Thursday, 10 October, the fee includes attendance at the COSLA Excellence Awards, Pre-Dinner Reception, Dinner and Ceremony on Thursday 10 October. It also includes attendance at all Conference sessions including tea/coffee and lunches on 10 and 11 October.

Plenary Sessions

The conference will start at 9.30a.m. on Thursday, 10 October and concludes at 2.00p.m on Friday, 11 October. This is your chance to contribute to the debate on key issues in Scotland.

The conference is an invaluable opportunity to network in an informal situation.

Accommodation

This year's event will be held at the Fairmont St Andrews Hotel and it is anticipated that all conference delegates will be accommodated within the Hotel. **All accommodation must be booked through COSLA by Monday, 9 September 2019.** We are unable to guarantee places for forms received after this date.

For further information regarding the hotel or accommodation, please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email linda@cosla.gov.uk.

Hotel Information

Fairmont St Andrews, Scotland sits proudly amidst the rugged coastal landscape of East Scotland. It is 50 minutes from Edinburgh and 90 minutes from both Aberdeen and Glasgow. The resort offers an international standard of service and meticulous attention to detail in the comfort and convenience of a modern world class resort. Fairmont, St Andrews, Scotland is approximately 2 miles from St Andrews town centre and 20 minutes from Leuchars Railway Station. Information on Fairmont, St Andrews, Scotland can be obtained from their website www.fairmont.com

Delegate Attendance Options

The following flexible attendance options allow you to attend the conference on a basis which best suits your needs. These changes are in response to customer demand and reflect delegates' increasing workplace commitments. Please read the options and mark your choices on the booking form.

OPTION 1

Full residential conference delegate

Accommodation on 10 October and attendance at all sessions, including tea/coffee and lunches on 10 and 11 October. Pre-Dinner Reception, Awards Ceremony and Dinner, on 10 October.

OPTION 2

Day delegate on Thursday, 10 October

Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 10 October. Does NOT include accommodation or attendance at dinner.

OPTION 3

Day delegate on Friday, 11 October

Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 11 October.

OPTION 4

Accommodation on Wednesday, 9 October

Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont St Andrews on the night of 9 October

OPTION 5

Accommodation on Thursday, 10 October

Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont St Andrews on the night of 10 October

OPTION 6

Pre-Dinner Reception Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on Thursday, 10 October

Attendance at the Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on 10 October

Exhibiting

The exhibition is an integral part of the Conference, attracting a wide variety of organisations working in the public, private and third sectors. Refreshments will be served in the exhibition areas to ensure that exhibitors have the chance to meet with delegates.

Further information is available from Lynsay Hamilton on 0131 474 9223 or email lynsay@cosla.gov.uk.

Advertising

The official conference handbook contains essential programme and speaker information and is distributed to all delegates attending the Conference. There is a limited amount of advertising space available in the handbook which will be A4 size and printed in full colour.

The following rates will apply :

Full page	£450 plus VAT
Half page	£300 plus VAT
Quarter page	£200 plus VAT

For technical specifications please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email linda@cosla.gov.uk

Sponsorship

Sponsoring one particular aspect of the conference brings its own list of benefits and related costs. Organisations may also contribute to the cost of one of the options shown opposite with recognition in the Conference Handbook. For estimated costs or to discuss your contribution, **please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email linda@cosla.gov.uk**

OPTIONS

Excellence Awards Ceremony Dinner
Evening Pre-Dinner Reception
Lunch(es)
Refreshment Breaks
Complimentary Gifts
Delegate Writing Pads
Delegate Pens
Delegate Conference Bags

Promotional Literature and/or Complimentary Gifts

An opportunity exists for including promotional literature or small complimentary gifts in the Delegate Bag at a cost of £300 + VAT per item. We would require you to supply approximately 300 copies or gifts.

Please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email linda@cosla.gov.uk for further information.



Delegate Booking Form

Please photocopy this form for each delegate attending and return it to **Linda Bruce** at COSLA, Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh, EH12 5BH. T: 0131 474 9228 E: linda@cosla.gov.uk by **Monday, 9 September 2019**.

First Name	_____	Email	_____
Surname	_____	Address for Correspondence	_____
Job Designation	_____		_____
Organisation	_____		_____
Telephone	_____		_____

Attendance Options and Costs

Delegates are invited to 'pick and choose' the most appropriate options. For a description of all the options, please refer to the notes overleaf. We regret that **NO REFUNDS** can be made, although delegates may substitute, providing reasonable notice is given. It is also important to note that it is **NOT** possible for delegates to 'share' a conference place.

Prices are shown excluding VAT.

Conference Options (please tick)	Member*	Non-Member
1. Full residential conference delegate (includes everything listed below EXCEPT accommodation on Wednesday, 9 October)	<input type="checkbox"/> £399	<input type="checkbox"/> £475
2. Day delegate on Thursday, 10 October	<input type="checkbox"/> £180	<input type="checkbox"/> £250
3. Day delegate on Friday, 11 October	<input type="checkbox"/> £180	<input type="checkbox"/> £250
4. Accommodation on Wednesday, 9 October	<input type="checkbox"/> £145	<input type="checkbox"/> £145
5. Accommodation on Thursday, 10 October	<input type="checkbox"/> £145	<input type="checkbox"/> £145
6. Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on Thursday, 10 October	<input type="checkbox"/> £80	<input type="checkbox"/> £80

***Member** – Denotes Elected Members and Officers from Scotland's 32 Local Authorities

Payment

Please choose one of the following payment schemes (A or B)

A. I enclose a cheque for the amount shown above made payable to COSLA

Amount payable £ _____

Please add VAT at 20% £ _____

Total amount due to COSLA £ _____

A VAT Invoice will be sent separately and a confirmation letter closer to the date of the conference.

B. Please invoice my organisation

Authorised signature _____

Please print name _____

Special Requirements

	Delegate	Partner
Diet?		
Audio?		
Visual?		
Access?		

Partner Booking Details

Partners of all delegates are welcome to attend the conference at an additional cost of £280 plus VAT.

For catering and administrative purposes, please provide details of your planned attendance at the event. All accommodation will be in either a twin or double room with your partner. Access to the leisure facilities at Fairmont St Andrews is also available to partners

First Name _____

Surname _____

Address for Correspondence _____

Telephone _____

Partner's Attendance Schedule

Accommodation on Thursday, 10 October (double/twin occupancy)

Refreshments and lunch on Thursday, 10 October

Refreshments and lunch on Friday, 11 October

Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Dinner and Ceremony on Thursday, 10 October

Amount payable £280

Please add VAT at 20% £56

Total amount due to COSLA £336

I enclose a cheque for the amount shown above

**Further information is available from Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228
or email linda@cosla.gov.uk**