

Policy and Sustainability Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 1 October 2019

Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce Trade Delegation to Shenzhen – Request for Attendance

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 It is recommended that Committee:
 - 1.1.1 approve that the Lord Provost joins the Chamber of Commerce Trade Delegation to Shenzhen, 11-16 November 2019; and
 - 1.1.2 note that further information on the benefits of the visit will be included in a future Business Bulletin.

Paul Lawrence

Executive Director of Place

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Report

Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce Trade Delegation to Shenzhen – Request for Attendance

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 The Lord Provost has been invited by the Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce to accompany a trade mission to Shenzhen in November 2019.
- 2.2 The trade mission will include an Edinburgh/Scotland Pavilion at the All China High Tech Fair.
- 2.3 The trip will also provide the opportunity for the Lord Provost to meet with the Mayor of Shenzhen and other Government officials to further develop links and opportunities under the International Friendship Cities agreement.

3. Background

- 3.1 Edinburgh and Shenzhen signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2013 which established the Edinburgh Shenzhen Creative Exchange.
- 3.2 In May 2019, the Lord Provost and Mayor of Shenzhen signed an International Friendship Cities agreement.
- 3.3 The Corporate Policy and Strategy Committee of [26 February 2019](#) approved the Lord Provost's International and UK Engagements. This Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce Trade Mission is in addition to this programme but builds on the outcomes of the approved Shenzhen visit in May 2019.
- 3.4 The Policy and Sustainability Committee of [6 August 2019](#) approved the Edinburgh International Activity report which includes Shenzhen as a priority relationship and notes new collaborative approach to international engagement with partners including the Chamber of Commerce.

4. Main report

- 4.1 Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce has invited the Lord Provost to accompany a trade mission to Shenzhen 11-16 November 2019.

- 4.2 The Trade Mission is being undertaken as part of the International Trade Partnership programme, a Scottish Government funded initiative to encourage overseas trade and export.
- 4.3 Ten companies from Edinburgh and Scotland will be provided with the opportunity to display at and Edinburgh/Scotland Pavilion during the All China High Tech Fair.
- 4.4 The Lord Provost will also meet with Shenzhen partners and government officials, including the Mayor of Shenzhen, to explore further developments under the International Friendship Cities agreement signed in May 2019 in line with the Council's new approach to international activity.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The full programme is being prepared by Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce and the event organisers.

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The costs of this visit, including travel and accommodation, are being met by the event organisers.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 Programmes for civic visits are co-produced with event organisers as required.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 None.

9. Appendices

- 9.1 None.