

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

SPECIAL POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 17 DECEMBER 2004

TRADING STANDARDS INSTITUTE/LACORS CONFERENCE: 3-4 FEBRUARY 2005

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of an invitation for the Council to be represented at the above conference.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 An invitation has been received from LACORS (Local Authority Coordinators of Regulatory Services) for the Council to attend the 2005 Leadership Conference “Delivering Public Value” which is being jointly organised with the Trading Standards Institute in Stratford-Upon-Avon next February. The Conference is an annual event which considers current and future issues affecting the operational world of those involved in consumer affairs and Trading Standards services.

- 2.2 Programme speakers include a Chairman of the Local Government Association; the Head of Local Government Quality and Performance decision, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister; the Chief Executive of the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities; the Director or Rural Policy, DEFRA; the Executive Director, Office of Fair Trading; and the Executive Director of LACORS.

- 2.3 The programme topics include:-

The ODPM Strategy and what it means to Local Government;
Devolved Government – Lessons Learned;
Trading Standards – The Next Five Years;
Performance Management.

Each presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The programme of topics is of interest to the Trading Standards Service and there would be merit in the Council being represented at both Elected Member and Officer level.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The delegate's fee is £352.50 inclusive of VAT. Attendance at the event will also incur additional travel and subsistence fees.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The project is in accord with the Aims for Improving Opportunities in the Community Plan in that it could improve the accessibility of information and services.

7. CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The Council has been invited to be represented at the TSI/LACORS Year Ahead Leadership Conference "Delivering Public Values" in Stratford-Upon-Avon in February 2005.

7.2 The programme of topics is of significant interest to the Trading Standards Service and there is merit in the Council being represented at the event.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Committee is invited to consider the Council attending this Conference.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

JFC/KM

3rd December 2004

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1 Letter from LACORS dated 23rd November 2004 to the Principal Officer of Trading Standards

Implementation Officer: John F Crawford, Head of Protective Services