

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 18TH MAY 2005

VOCAL CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 2005 - CARNOUSTIE

Report by Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

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

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 VOCAL, the Voice of Chief Officers of Cultural, Community and Leisure Services in Scotland organises the largest Leisure/Cultural policy conference in Scotland. This year the event will be held in Carnoustie on 1st and 2nd September.
- 2.2 The Conference theme is the Future for Culture and Sport in Scotland and the programme will consider the work of the Cultural Commission; Developing Local Cultural Strategies; Governance in the Cultural Sector and Sport 21 the National Sports Strategy.

3. CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The conference programme is particularly relevant to East Ayrshire Council as a Local Cultural Strategy is currently being developed and the Council's Leisure Services are undergoing a Best Value Review.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The delegate fee for the conference is £295 inclusive of overnight accommodation; travel and subsistence costs are not included.

5. LEGAL AUTHORITY/IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Participation in this event will assist both the development of a Local Cultural Strategy and the Best Value Review of Leisure Services.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 Attendance at the Conference would bring significant benefits for the Council.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Sub-Committee is invited to:-
- i) consider a response to the invitation to be represented at the VOCAL conference; and
 - ii) otherwise note the report.

William Stafford
Executive Director of Neighbourhood Services

WS/JAG/KH
10TH May 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. VOCAL Conference Brochure

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers listed above should contact John Griffiths, Head of Leisure Services on 01563 578179.

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