

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF
THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 28TH MARCH 2001**

**TRADING STANDARDS INSTITUTE
ANNUAL CONFERENCE 19TH – 21ST JUNE 2001**

Report by Director of Community Services

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Sub-Committee of a request that the Council be represented at the above event.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Trading Standards Institute (TSI) is the professional body representing Trading Standards Officers throughout the United Kingdom and conducts training and education for Trading Standards staff as well as promoting Trading Standards issues generally.
- 2.2 The Trading Standards Institute holds an annual conference and this year the event will be held at the Cardiff International Arena, Cardiff over Tuesday 19th to Thursday 21st June 2001.

3 DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The central theme of this year's conference is 'Take A Fresh Look' which follows the government challenge that Trading Standards must modernise itself and ensure it provides the best value that consumers and businesses demand and deserve. Examples of best practice and innovative enforcement will be drawn from across the United Kingdom and representatives from all the main players such as the DTI, OFT, LACOTS, consumer and business organisations will all be present and actively involves
- 3.2 Sessions, debates and workshops will discuss the key issues of the day; taking a fresh look at the role of the Services in the community, the professional competencies, performance management and standard setting.
- 3.3 The conference will be addressed by a number of distinguished speakers, including Dr Kim Howells, Minister for Consumer Affairs, who will deliver the keynote address.
- 3.4 The conference provides an opportunity for Councillors and professional staff to meet both formally and informally to debate current Trading Standards issues.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The conference fee is £442.56 + VAT per delegate.

5 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Nil.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The Council has been invited to be represented at the Annual Conference of the Trading Standards Institute to be held at the Cardiff International Arena, Cardiff over 19th – 21st June 2001.

7.2 The Conference will be addressed by speakers of the highest calibre on current Trading Standards issues which are of interest to the Council.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Sub-Committee is invited to:-

- (i) consider the request for representation at this conference; and
- (ii) otherwise note the report.

William Stafford
Director of Community Services

WS/JD/PL

14th February 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Conference Publicity Brochure

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AGENDA