

## REPORT TO INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE – 24 August 2017

### Elected Member Attendance at Events and Conferences

#### 1 Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Note the key Economic Development related events, conferences and exhibitions planned in the next few years.
- 1.2 Nominate the Elected Member(s) to attend the listed events, conferences and exhibitions as set out in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Agree the role of the Elected Member(s) at these events and conferences as set out in 2.2.

#### 2 Background / Discussion

- 2.1 The Economic Development Service is involved with a number of events, conferences and exhibitions throughout the year, some of which the Service is responsible for managing and others are attended in a stakeholder capacity.
- 2.2 It is important that the Council is represented at the key events at both senior political and officer levels. The role of this representation is to:
  - a) To promote Aberdeenshire as a key location to undertake and grow business;
  - b) To promote the strengths of the local and regional economy and its role in supporting the national economy;
  - c) To forge links and co-operation with partners that supports economic development;
  - d) To promote Aberdeenshire Council's role in assisting business and industry;
  - e) To promote understanding between business and Aberdeenshire Council;
  - f) To enable informal dialogue between members of the business community and representatives of the Council; and
  - g) To represent business needs to Aberdeenshire Council services.
- 2.3 A list of the anticipated events, conference and exhibitions is included in Appendix 1. Also included is a suggestion of which Members should attend, based on historical attendance. This has been dependant on whether a table, part table or individual seats are taken. The list of events may be added to, or reduced, as required. The list does not include events which the Provost launches or hosts.
- 2.4 The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are

incorporated. The Head of Finance and the Monitoring Officer within Business Services are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

### **3 Scheme of Governance**

- 3.1 The Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section F3.3 of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to the attendance of members of this Committee at courses and conferences within the approved budget allocation.

### **4 Equalities, Staffing and Financial Implications**

- 4.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required because the recommended action will not have a detrimental impact on people with protected characteristics.
- 4.2 Officers will accompany Members to relevant events, conference and exhibitions as appropriate.
- 4.3 There are financial implications arising from the content of this Report. The cost of Elected Member attendance, travel and subsistence at any event this financial year will be met by the Councillors' budget 2017/18, Line 19 Travel and Subsistence.

### **Stephen Archer, Director of Infrastructure Services**

Report prepared by Alistair Reid, Team Manager - Industry Sectors  
Date 25 July 2017

Event	Location	Suggested Member Attending	Frequency
Scottish Skipper Expo* visit	Aberdeen	Provost, Leader, Chair ISC	Yearly
Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce AGM	Aberdeen	Not required	Yearly
Taste of Grampian Sponsors' Dinner (individual seats)	Inverurie	Provost, Leader, Chair ISC, Vice Chair, Opp Spokesperson	Yearly
Taste of Grampian visit	Inverurie	Provost	Yearly
Royal Highland Show	Ingliston	Provost	Yearly
SPE Offshore Europe*	Aberdeen	Provost, Council Leader, Chair ISC	Biennial
AGCC Offshore Europe Breakfast	Aberdeen	Provost, Council Leader, Chair ISC, Vice Chair, Opp Spokesperson	Biennial
Offshore Northern Seas*	Stavanger	Chair ISC	Biennial
Northern Star Awards (part table)	Aberdeen	Provost, Council Leader, Chair ISC, Opp Spokesperson	Yearly
Subsea Expo*	Aberdeen	Provost, Leader, Chair ISC	Yearly
Subsea UK Business Awards (individual seats)	Aberdeen	Provost, Leader, Chair ISC, Opp Spokesperson	Yearly
Aberdeen City Shire Tourism Conference	Aberdeenshire/Aberdeen	VisitAberdeenshire Board Member & Sub, Council Leader, Opp Spokesperson	Yearly
Aberdeen-Houston or Stavanger Gateway (individual seats)	Aberdeen	Provost, Leader (one invited as guest of organiser)	Yearly
North East of Scotland Food & Drink Awards (part table)	Aberdeenshire	Provost, Leader, Chair ISC	Yearly
Aberdeen City and Shire Tourism Awards (table)	Aberdeenshire	Provost, Leader (one invited as guest of organiser), Chair ISC, Vice Chair, Opposition Spokesperson	Yearly
Offshore Technology Conference*	Houston	Leader	Yearly
All Energy	Glasgow	Not required	Yearly
Decom Offshore	Aberdeen	Not required	Yearly
Scottish Rural Action/ Rural Parliament	Various in Scotland	Chair ISC	Yearly
Elevator Awards (table shared with City Council)	Aberdeenshire	Provost, Leader (one invited guest of organiser), Chair ISC, Opp Spokesperson	Yearly
Business Engagement Lunch	Various Aberdeenshire	Provost, ISC Chair, Vice Chair, Opp Spokesperson, Ward Members	Yearly
Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce Shire Connections	Various Aberdeenshire	ISC Chair, Vice Chair, Ward Members	Thrice yearly
Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfasts (part table)	Various Aberdeen/Abdeenshire	Leader, Chair ISC, Vice Chair, Opp Spokesperson	Various
North Sea Commission (NSC) General Assembly (GA)/North Sea Conference	Various	Two as appointed Members	Yearly
NSC Executive Committee**	Various	One as appointed Member	Thrice yearly, one during GA
NSC Energy and Climate Change Group	Various	One as appointed Member	Thrice yearly, one during GA
NSC Marine Resources Group	Various	One as appointed Member	Thrice yearly, one during GA
NSC Smart Regions	Various	One as appointed Member	Thrice yearly, one during GA
NSC Transport Group	Various	One as appointed Member	Thrice yearly, one during GA
Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions	Various	One as appointed Member	Yearly

\* Aberdeenshire Council exhibits

\*\* One of the Elected Members appointed to the General Assembly, if elected by other Scottish North Sea Commission members







