

Chairperson and Committee Members

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

15 MARCH 2012

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

IPANZ CONFERENCE APRIL 2012 - COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 Council is asked to consider attendance at a one-day Conference “Rethinking Local Government – International Trends and lessons from Auckland” being held in Lower Hutt on 2 April 2012 by the Institute of Public Administration New Zealand.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 The Council’s Significance Policy is not triggered by this report.

BACKGROUND

- 3 In June 2011 Council approved a forward programme of Councillor training and development for the rest of the Triennium. However, as signalled in that report (Corp-11-094) this did not preclude attendance at relevant ad hoc events coming to Council’s attention over the course of the triennium.
- 4 The IPANZ Conference aims to provide a neutral forum to present and discuss international pressures and trends for local government reform, with a particular emphasis on Australia, Auckland and the Wellington region. It will provide an opportunity to discuss with key decision makers and experts emerging issues in local government governance and structure, local democracy/decision-making and reforms.
- 5 Although a programme is not yet available the key speakers will be:
 - Dr Warren Mundy – Commissioner, Australian Productivity Commission
 - Professor Natalie Jackson – Professor of Demography and Director, National Institute of Demography and Economic Analysis, University of Waikato
 - Mike Reid, Manager, Governance, Local Government New Zealand
 - Peter McKinlay, Director, Centre for Local Government, Auckland University of Technology
 - Bob Harvey, Chair, Auckland Waterfront

CONSIDERATIONS

Issues

- 6 Councillors may wish to consider attending this one day conference in Lower Hutt on Saturday 2 April 2012.

Financial Considerations

- 7 There is sufficient funding available to meet the costs of attendance which would be \$150 (excl GST) per person.

Legal Considerations

- 8 There are no legal considerations.

Delegation

- 9 The Committee may consider this matter under clause 7.1, Section B.1 of the Governance Structure and Delegations (26 January 2012 version):

‘undertake all matters not specifically delegated to Council officers or other Committees concerning or involving community development and wellbeing...’

Consultation and Policy Implications

- 10 There are no consultation or policy implications.

Tāngata Whenua Considerations

- 11 There are no tāngata whenua considerations.

Publicity Considerations

- 12 Attendees will be required to provide a written report for publication in the Elected Members’ Bulletin on their return.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13 That the Committee approves the attendance of Cr(s)..... at the IPANZ Conference “Rethinking Local Government – International Trends and lessons from Auckland” being held in Lower Hutt on 2 April 2012.
- 14 That the attendees will provide written reports in a timely fashion after the event and these reports will be published in the Elected Members’ Bulletin.

Report prepared by:

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