

Report of the Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor) to the meeting of Standards Committee to be held on 28 October 2009.

Subject:

West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference

Summary statement:

Standards Committee is invited to consider the proposals for the second West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference

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Portfolio:

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Improvement Area:



2006-2007
Improving Rural Services
Empowering Communities



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Suzan Hemingway, Assistant Director Corporate Services (City Solicitor)



1. Summary

- 1.1 Standards Committee is invited to consider the proposals for the second West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 22 April 2009 the Standards Committee considered a report on a proposal for a West Yorkshire Regional Standards Event. At that meeting the Standards Committee resolved to support such an event.
- 2.2 The first West Yorkshire Regional Conference was held in City Hall, Bradford on Thursday 9 July 2009. The Agenda for the conference is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.3 Feedback from the conference was very positive. A summary of the feedback is attached at Appendix 2. One of the consistent items of feedback was a request that the Regional Conference takes place on at least an annual basis.
- 2.4 Generally the conference was well received by the participants and it was specifically noted that the number of elected members was a much higher percentage than those able to commit to the Standards for England National Conference in Birmingham. It was also noted that the Conference was more focused than the national conference which was seen as positive.
- 2.5 The Monitoring Officer has organised a meeting with Standards Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs and Vice Chairs of the West Yorkshire Districts to take place on 13 November 2009 and their respective Monitoring Officer to discuss how to take forward the second regional conference.
- 2.6 Standards Committee members are invited to discuss the proposals for a second conference and any ideas on the content of that conference to be fed into the meeting with the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs.

3. Financial and resource appraisal

The regional event can be resourced by the five West Yorkshire Districts with support from the Council's Member Development Officer.

4. Legal appraisal

- 4.1 There are no specific legal implications of this report but a continual commitment to such a training event would ensure that committee members are equipped to deal with their specific role and provide a significant opportunity for networking with their regional colleagues.

5. Other implications

- 5.1 There are no equal rights, sustainability, community safety, Human Rights Act or Trade Union implications.

6. Not for publication documents

None.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 That Standards Committee consider the proposals for a second West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference and indicate any proposals they would wish incorporated into the event.
- 7.2 That the Monitoring Officer report the Standards Committee preferences to the meeting of the West Yorkshire Chairs and Vice Chairs for their consideration.

Reasons for the recommendations

To ensure that the West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference is member led and reflects members requirements.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Agenda - West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference 2009

Appendix 2 - Summary of feedback - West Yorkshire Regional Standards Conference 2009

9. Background documents

None.