

Report to the Executive Leader

Portfolio: Executive Leader

Subject: Attendance at the Town & Country Planning

Association Spring Conference – 'New Towns: The

Next 70 Years'

Report of: Director of Planning and Regulation

Strategy/Policy: Local Plan/Housing Strategy

Corporate Objective: Balanced Housing Market

Purpose:

This report seeks approval for the Executive Member for Planning and Development to attend the Town & Country Planning Association (TPCA) Spring Conference – 'New Towns: The Next 70 Years' being held at St Martins-in-the-Fields, London on 22 February 2018

Executive summary:

In the Chancellor's Autumn Statement, it was announced that Government would use New Town Development Corporations to kick-start 5 new locally agreed Garden Towns in areas of demand pressure.

More than half a century after the post-war New Towns were built, the idea of building a new generation of New Towns to help solve the housing crisis is now high on the political agenda. With this in mind, this conference will consider what lessons can be learned from the first generation of New Towns, what their situation is now, and what needs to be done to ensure they continue to flourish and continue to provide good places to live.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that approval is given for the Executive Member for Planning and Development to attend the Town & Country Planning Association (TPCA) Spring Conference – 'New Towns: The Next 70 Years' being held at St Martins-in-the-Fields, London on 22 February 2018

Reason:

To provide the Executive Member for Planning and Development with the opportunity to take part in an interactive forum with other Local Authorities, policy makers, developers and housebuilders to explore transferable lessons from the delivery of the post-war towns and consider what is needed to make a new generation of new towns a success.

Cost of Proposals:

Attendance at this conference would be £180.00, plus travel and any other appropriate subsistence costs. The costs can be met from within existing budgets.

Risk Assessment:

There are no significant risks in relation to the Executive Member for Planning and Development attending the TCPA Spring Conference – 'New Towns: The Next 70 Years' which is taking place on 22 February 2018 at St Martin-in-the-Fields, London.