

# Report to the Executive Member for Policy, and Resources for Decision

Portfolio: Policy and Resources

Subject: Attendance at Town & Country Planning Association

**Annual Conference and Parliamentary Reception** 

**Report of:** Director of Planning and Environment

Strategy/Policy: Corporate Objective:

# Purpose:

This report seeks approval for the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Environment to attend the Town & Country Planning Association Annual Conference and Parliamentary Reception, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in London.

# **Executive summary:**

The annual conference is the highlight of the Association's events calendar attracting guests from across central and local government, local authority leaders and senior officers, business and investment organisations, planners, developers, community and voluntary groups and academics. Planning Minister, Nick Boles MP, will be delivering a keynote speech at the conference.

With high-profile speeches from both the Government and Opposition, the conference will be framed around two thematic debates which will provide the opportunity for direct and powerful discussion.

- The first debate 'making planning work at the strategic level' will ask whether the latest planning reforms are delivering the infrastructure the nation needs.
- The second debate, 'housing the nation', will consider the increasingly topical issue of whether the current planning system can deliver enough homes in the right places.

#### Recommendation:

That approval is given for the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Environment to attend the Town & Country Planning Association Annual Conference and Parliamentary Reception, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in London.

#### Reason:

As well as establishing the current political, policy, economic, social and environmental factors shaping the nation's future, the conference will also seek to create constructive recommendations about how every community can reach its full potential.

# **Cost of Proposals:**

There attendance at this conference is £125 + VAT; travel and appropriate subsistence costs would also be payable.

The costs can be met from within existing budgets.

### **Risk Assessment:**

There are no significant risks in relation to the Executive Member for Strategic Planning and Environment attending the Town & Country Planning Association Annual Conference and Parliamentary Reception, to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2013 in London.