



AGENDA ITEM No. 24(c) LOCAL GOVERNMENT
DRUGS FORUM

35 Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BJ
Switchboard: 071 222 8100
Direct line: 071 227 2863
Fax: 071 222 0878

Andrew Cowe
Chief Executive
North Lanarkshire Council
PO Box 14
Civic Centre
Motherwell ML1 1TW

Ref: NT/CT

20 July 1995

Dear Mr Cowe

**SEMINAR: RESPONDING TO DRUG PROBLEMS: KEY ISSUES FOR LOCAL
AUTHORITIES IN SCOTLAND**

29 September 1995

COSLA, Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh.

I write to advise you that the Local Government Drugs Forum will be holding a seminar on the topic "*Responding to Drug Problems: Key Issues for Local Authorities in Scotland*", on **29 September** at COSLA. The Local Government Drugs Forum (LGDF) speaks for local authorities on illegal drug issues and helps local authorities, alongside others, tackle problem drug use in their communities.

The purpose of the Seminar is to:

- (a) consider the action taken by the Scottish Office following publication of the Drugs Task Force Report, "*Drugs in Scotland*";
- (b) highlight progress in relation to the establishment of Drug Action Teams in Scotland;
- (c) consider the implications for Unitary Authorities as they respond to drugs issues and problems after April 1996.

Key note speakers will include: ● a senior official from the Scottish Home and Health Department; ● senior representatives from the Social Work and Education professions in Scotland; ● elected members Regional Councils and the new Unitary Authorities.

A joint initiative by the
Association of County Councils
Association of District Councils
Association of Metropolitan Authorities
Convention of Scottish Local Authorities

Chairman *Cllr Clive Jordan*
Principal Officer *Noel Towe*

The Seminar is aimed at Regional Councillors on Education and Social Work Committees, Elected Members of the new Unitary Authorities, Chief Executives, Chief Education Officers, Directors of Social Work and other professionals with an interest in drug problems in Scotland. Seventy places will be available, there is no charge for these places and early booking is advisable.

... *To make a booking please complete the attached form overleaf and return it by 15 September to the above address. Thank you.*

Yours sincerely



Noel Towe
Principal Officer

SEMINAR:

***RESPONDING TO DRUG PROBLEMS: KEY ISSUES FOR LOCAL
AUTHORITIES IN SCOTLAND***

29 September 1995

COSLA, Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh.

I would like to attend the above event

NAME AND TITLE:
LOCAL AUTHORITY/ORGANISATION:
ADDRESS:
PHONE:
FAX:

Please return this form to:

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT DRUGS FORUM
35 GREAT SMITH STREET
LONDON SW1P 3BJ**

**PHONE: 0171 227 2863/2813
FAX: 0171 222 0878**

SEMINAR:

***RESPONDING TO DRUG PROBLEMS: KEY ISSUES FOR LOCAL
AUTHORITIES IN SCOTLAND***

29 September 1995

COSLA, Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh.

Purpose of the Seminar:

1. To hear about action taken, or to be taken by the Scottish Home and Health Department following publication of the Drugs Task Force Report *Drugs in Scotland: Meeting the Challenge*.
2. To highlight progress in relation to the establishment of Drug Action Teams.
3. To consider the implications for Unitary Authorities as they respond to drug problems and issues from April 1996.

PROGRAMME

09.00 Coffee

09.45 Presentation on the contrasts between the English White Paper *Tackling Drugs Together* and the Scottish Drugs Task Force Report *Drugs in Scotland: Meeting the Challenge*.
Mike Ashton, Editor "Druglink", journal of the Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence.

10.30 Presentation on the action required following publication of the Scottish Drugs Task Force Report *Drugs in Scotland: Meeting the Challenge*.
David Belfall, Under Secretary, Scottish Home and Health Department.

11.00 Coffee

11.15 Presentation on the issues facing the new Unitary Authorities in Scotland in responding to the Task Force's recommendations.
John Chant, Director of Social Work, Lothian Regional Council.

12.00 Plenary discussion on the issues arising

12.45 Lunch and Close