

North Lanarkshire Council

Report

Finance and Resources Committee



approval



noting

Ref: KB/EH

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Scotland's Welfare Rights Conference 2019

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Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of an invitation received in respect of Members' attendance at Scotland's Welfare Rights Conference 2019.

Recommendations

That Committee approve the attendance of one Elected Member at Scotland's Welfare Rights Conference 2019 on Friday, 7 June 2019.

1. Report

- 1.1. An invitation, coming under the remit of this Committee, has been received for representatives to attend a conference entitled Scotland's Welfare Rights 2019 at the University of Strathclyde, 99 George Street, Glasgow on Friday, 7 June 2019.
- 1.2. The conference is focused on the major changes in welfare rights within the last year and provides an opportunity to engage in discussion with welfare rights experts and policy makers on the principles of dignity and respect in Social Security.
- 1.3. Delegates will have the opportunity to select two workshops from the following list:-
 - It's not Just About the Houses – Social Security's Role in Creating and Preventing Homelessness;
 - Universal Credit Migration – The Latest;
 - Scottish Social Security Migration – The Latest;
 - A Menu for Change – Ensuring Food Banks Remain a Last Resort;
 - Tackling Child Poverty – Local Area Reports One Year On;
 - Advising People from Europe – The Final Countdown?
 - Health Conditions and Conditionality, and
 - Universal Credit and Prison.

- 1.4. The conference also features a keynote address from Shirley-Anne Sommerville MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Social Security and features a number of prominent panellists including David Wallace, Chief Executive, Social Security Scotland; Jessica Burns, Tribunal Judge, Scottish Entitlement Chamber, and Dr. Sally Witcher OBE, Chair of the Scottish Commission on Social Security.

2. **Equality and Diversity**

2.1. **Fairer Scotland**

There is no requirement for a Fairer Scotland assessment.

2.2. **Equality Impact Assessment**

There is no requirement for an Equality Impact assessment.

3. **Implications**

3.1. **Financial Impact**

The conference fee is £190 per delegate.

3.2. **HR/Policy/Legislative Impact**

There are no specific HR/policy or legislative impacts.

3.3. **Environmental Impact**

There are no environmental impacts.

3.4. **Risk Impact**

There are no identified risks.

4. **Measures of Success**

Attendance at the conference will enhance the Member's knowledge in relation to this subject matter.



Head of Legal and Democratic Solutions