

Committee(s)	Dated:
Planning and Transportation Committee	19/02/2019
Subject: 5 th European Congress of Local Governments – Member travel approval	Public
Report of: Director of the Built Environment	For Decision
Report author: Bruce McVean, Strategic Transportation Group Manager	

Summary

This report seeks approval for the Planning and Transportation Committee Chairman to attend the 5th European Congress of Local Governments, which will be held in Krakow, Poland on 8 and 9 April 2019.

The Chairman has been invited to speak as part of a panel on 'Car-free City Centres'. This provides an opportunity to promote the City Corporation's Transport Strategy and planned and recently completed projects, such as Bank and Aldgate Square

Attending the Congress will support efforts to maintain and develop relationships with European countries and cities. Attendance is supported by the Policy and Resources Committee Chairman and the Director of Economic Development.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Agree to Member travel to attend the 5th European Congress of Local Governments.

Main Report

Background

1. The European Congress of Local Governments is considered to be central Europe's largest international conference dedicated to local governments, with over 2,200 people attending last year. The event provides an opportunity for local leaders to meet and network with other public administrations, NGOs and businesses. It covers a wide range of issues, including transport, planning and development and smart cities.
2. The Planning and Transportation Committee Chairman has been invited to speak at the Congress as part of a panel on 'Car-free City Centres'. This provides an opportunity to promote the City Corporation's approach to prioritising people

walking (as set out in the draft Transport Strategy), highlight the success of projects such as Bank on Safety and Aldgate Square, and outline proposed projects, for example the City Cluster Area Strategy. Representatives from Croatia, Sweden and Italy have also been invited to join the panel.

Proposals

3. It is proposed that the Planning and Transportation Committee Chairman attend the Congress to take part in the panel discussion and attend other relevant conference sessions.
4. It is also proposed that the Chairman be accompanied by an officer, most likely the Strategic Transportation Group Manager. This will allow the panel discussion to be recorded and reported back to the Committee as well maximising the opportunity for learning and networking.

Corporate and Strategic Implications

5. Attending the Congress will support Corporate efforts to maintain and develop relationships with European countries and cities.
6. The Chairman's attendance is supported by the Policy and Resources Committee Chairman and the Director of Economic Development.

Implications

7. This is Category 2 trip and will be booked in accordance with the City of London Corporation Business Travel Scheme. The estimated cost of Member travel and accommodation is £500.

Appendices

- None

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