

Committee(s)	Dated:
Policy and Resources Committee	7 July 2016
Subject: Request for funds – London Councils Summit in 2017, 2018 and 2019	Public
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Director of Economic Development	For Decision
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Summary

This report proposes that the City of London Corporation renew its commitment to the annual London Councils' London Summit – the annual free conference for all local councillors, Chief Officers and Borough leaders in the capital – for the next three years (2017-19). The City Corporation would provide the venue and associated hire costs in return for appropriate branding opportunities, an opportunity to give a keynote speech at the conference, and for Members and Chief Officers to attend the Summit.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:-

- agree that the City Corporation provides the venue for the conference for the next three years, paying the Remembrancer's Department a sum not exceeding £15,000 in 2018, £15,500 in 2019, and £16,000 in 2020 (£46,500 in total) for the hire of the Guildhall Complex; these costs are to be met from the Committee's *Policy Initiatives' Fund for 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20* categorised under the *Events* section of the *Fund* and charged to City's Cash.

Main Report

Background

1. London Councils is a cross party organisation committed to fighting for more resources for London and getting the best possible deal for London's 33 local authorities. London Councils lobby the Government and others on behalf of their member councils, not just for a fair share of resources, but also to protect and enhance council powers to enable them to do the best possible job for their residents and local businesses. They develop policy and encourage improvements to the services offered by London Boroughs.
2. The Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee sits on the Executive Committee of London Councils in the prominent position of Vice Chair, along with Mayor Jules Pipe (Chair and Mayor of Hackney), Cllr Claire Kober

(Deputy Chair and Leader of Haringey), Cllr Teresa O'Neill (Vice Chair and Leader of Bexley) and Cllr Ruth Dombey (Vice Chair and Leader of Sutton). The Policy Chairman is also a member of the London Councils Leaders' Committee which sits monthly to discuss issues of relevance and importance.

3. The London Councils' London Summit is an annual free conference open to all London councillors, Borough leaders, Borough Chief Executives and Members of the City Corporation's Court of Common Council. Over 200 guests attended the conference in 2015. The conference is a well-established fixture of London's local government calendar. It offers a platform for policy discussion, to hear keynote speeches and is a unique opportunity to network with councillors from across London and key individuals in the public sector.

Current Position

4. The City Corporation has supported the conference since 2002. In return for this level of support, the City Corporation has benefitted from the opportunity for the Policy Chairman to speak at the conference or chair one of its breakout sessions; branding on all *London Summit* literature; a free exhibition stand; complimentary delegate places; and, an opportunity to include literature in the delegate packs.
5. Previous speakers at the conference have included Eric Pickles MP, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government; the Mayor of London Boris Johnson; Lord Deighton, Chief Executive of London2012; Peter Hendy, Transport for London Commissioner; and Ian McPherson, Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

Proposals

6. It is proposed that the City Corporation continues to support the London Councils' London Summit for the next three years (2018-2020) by providing the venue for the conference and half day set up. Subject to the approval of the Hospitality Working Party, the Guildhall would be provided to London Councils on a 'City rate' basis. These costs will be paid to the Remembrancer's Department for hire of the Guildhall Complex.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. By providing Guildhall as a venue for the event, the City Corporation would be the primary supporter of the London Summit and also, exclusively, its host. This will provide an opportunity to bring senior politicians, council officers and policymakers into the City.
8. In return for the City Corporation's sponsorship, it would receive acknowledgement before and during the event as a sponsor; branding opportunities online, on publications and at the venue during the conference; the Policy Chairman will give a speech to the conference; and, all Members of the Court will be invited to attend the conference.

Implications

9. The current uncommitted balance available within your Committee's Policy Initiatives Fund for 2017/18 is £1,047,300, for 2018/19 it is £1,200,000 and for 2019/20 it is £1,250,000, prior to any allowance being made for any other proposals on today's agenda.

Conclusion

10. The Policy and Resources Committee is therefore recommended to approve £46,500 for sponsorship of the London Councils Summits.

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