

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Provost's Sub-Committee of Strategic Policy & Resources Committee

27 August 2014

MOUNTAINS OF OUR FUTURE EARTH CONFERENCE 2015

Report by Gillian Taylor, Head of Democratic Services

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report relates to a request for civic hospitality from the Centre of Mountain Studies, Perth College UHI, in respect of a conference entitled "Mountains of our Future Earth", coming to Perth in September or October 2015.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 In October 2005, the Centre for Mountain Studies at Perth College UHI, in collaboration with international project partners held a conference in Perth entitled the "Open Science Conference". The conference was attended by 210 people from 41 countries.
- 1.2 In September 2010, the Centre for Mountain Studies, in collaboration with the Mountain Research Initiative, hosted a second international conference in Perth, entitled "Global Change and the World's Mountains". The conference was attended by 450 people from 60 countries. The Council provided civic hospitality in the form of a wine reception for 450 guests at a cost of £1,245.
- 1.3 A third conference is planned to take place in Perth in September or October 2015. It will be entitled "Mountains of our Future Earth" and will be directly linked into the global Future Earth research programme. It is anticipated that the conference will again be attended by approximately 450 delegates from across the world.
- 1.4 It is envisaged that the conference will start on a Sunday with fieldtrips to various parts of Highland Perthshire and other mountain locations easily accessible from Perth, followed by lunchtime sessions at Perth Concert Hall from Monday to Thursday.
- 1.5 The Environment Service has agreed to make a £10,000 financial contribution towards the conference.
- 1.6 In order to attract such a prestigious international conference, VisitScotland has agreed to match the total financial contribution by Perth & Kinross Council to the conference from the VisitScotland National Bid Fund.
- 1.7 The Centre of Mountain Studies, Perth College UHI has requested civic hospitality in the form of a wine reception for 450 delegates at Perth Concert Hall.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Council agree to a request for civic hospitality in the form of a wine reception to welcome 450 international delegates to the 2015 conference, "Mountains of our Future Earth" at Perth Concert Hall in September or October 2015.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is envisaged that the anticipated 450 delegates from across the globe attending the 2015 conference, "Mountains of our Future Earth", will make a substantial contribution to the economy of the area over the week.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Provost's Sub-Committee agrees to the request for civic hospitality in the form of a wine reception at Perth Concert Hall for approximately 450 delegates attending the conference "Mountains of our Future Earth" in September/October 2015.

Author

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Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Bernadette Malone	Chief Executive	4 August 2014

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Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The undernoted table should be completed for all reports. Where the answer is 'yes', the relevant section(s) should also be completed

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	No
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	No
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	No
Strategic Environmental Assessment	No
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	No
Legal and Governance	No
Risk	No
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	No
Communication	
Communications Plan	No

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

The draft Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2013-2023 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

1.2 Corporate Plan

Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013-2018 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

2. Resource Implications - Financial

2.1 The costs associated with the wine reception for 450 delegates at Perth Concert Hall are anticipated to be approximately £1,575.

2.2 Subject to the availability of resources, the estimated costs would be met from the 2015/16 civic hospitality budget.

2.3 The Head of Finance has been consulted on the financial implications for the proposals and has indicated his agreement.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The Provost and the Chief Executive have been consulted in the preparation of this report.