

## RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.10

meeting date: 25 SEPTEMBER 2018  
 title: ATTENDANCE AT LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE  
 submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
 principal author: MARSHAL SCOTT

### 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider a request from the Conservative Group to increase attendance at the annual Local Government Association [LGA] Conference.

### 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The LGA Conference and Exhibition is an annual event held over three days, usually in early July.

2.2 The Conference provides an opportunity for delegates to engage in a range of sessions on how innovation and good practice can deliver the best local public services for their communities.

2.3 Policy discussions are held on topical issues ranging from sustainable funding, adult and children's social care, housing and homelessness, as well as local government in a post-Brexit world.

### 3 ISSUES

3.1 Historically the event has been attended by the Leaders of the two political groups on the Council accompanied by the Chief Executive.

3.2 I have been advised by the Conservative Group that they would like 5 representatives to go to the Conference in future, to give the Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group and some chairmen the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the LGA and issues within local government.

3.3 Next year's Conference will be held in Bournemouth between the 2-4 July 2019. The cost to attend is £545 + VAT for each delegate, plus hotel accommodation and travel. This would give an estimated cost of approximately £1,000 per delegate.

3.4 The table below sets out the attendance at this year's Conference which was held in Birmingham, by other Lancashire Council's.

|           |   |              |   |
|-----------|---|--------------|---|
| Burnley   | 1 | Rossendale   | 0 |
| Chorley   | 0 | South Ribble | 5 |
| Fylde     | 0 | West Lancs   | 3 |
| Hyndburn  | 0 | Wyre         | 0 |
| Lancaster | 0 | Lancashire   | 4 |
| Pendle    | 2 | Blackburn    | 2 |
| Preston   | 2 | Blackpool    | 4 |

3.5 If Committee do agree to increase the number of delegates, it would be useful to set out the positions of the attendees.

#### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:-

Resources: the cost of each additional delegate attending next year's LGA Conference is approximately £1,000. The budget includes provision for the attendance of the Chief Executive and the two party Leaders. The cost of any additional delegates will need to be added to the budget.

Technical, Environmental and Legal: None.

Political: this is a request from the ruling Group.

Reputation: no particular comments.

Equality and Diversity: no particular comments.

#### 5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Consider the request from the Conservative Group to increase the number of attendees at next year's LGA Conference.

5.2 Confirm the positions of those attending.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE