

South Ayrshire Council – 1 March 2023

Formal Questions

Received from:	Councillor Brian McGinley
Response to be provided by:	Councillor Martin Dowe, Leader of the Council

	<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
1.	What are the administration's plans for the Citadel?	Funding is included within today's capital programme and detailed proposals will be brought forward for relevant approvals
2.	What were the purposes and achievements of the Council Leader and Deputy Leader travelling to London? How much did it cost, who authorised and paid for it?	Discussions with UK Government Ministers in respect of funding for South Ayrshire Total costs (£1,050.09) charged to Elected Member travel and subsistence costs, expenditure incurred in line with provisions of travel and subsistence scheme for Elected Members
3.	What discussions took place and what arrangements were put in place to uptake the responsibilities and workload of the Director of Place once he left the Council?	Responsibilities of Director Place were transferred to new posts approved by Council on 9 September 2022.

	Question	Response
4.	It was recently announced that all South Ayrshire levelling up bids failed while neighbouring authorities were successful in securing funds. What are the reasons for this?	North Ayrshire Council received funding in first round and East Ayrshire Council received funding in second round. Feedback on the recent bids is awaited from UK government

Received from:	Councillor Brian McGinley
Response to be provided by:	Eileen Howat, Chief Executive

5.	How much has been spent of this year's elected member training budget, who were the beneficiaries and what process was used to authorise these decisions?	<p>The process for agreeing a member's attendance at conference/ seminars is the completion of an online form which contains the details of the proposed conference/ seminar. This is submitted to the Monitoring Officer for approval</p> <p>The conferences Members requested to attend in 2022 are set out below:</p> <p>Conferences 2022</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date of Conference</th> <th>Cllr Attended</th> <th>Subject</th> <th>Cost</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>26 January 2022</td> <td>Cllr Connolly</td> <td>Next Steps for Planning Policy</td> <td>£210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24 February 2022</td> <td>Cllr Connolly</td> <td>Live Well Locally – COSLA Improvement Services Conference</td> <td>£75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date of Conference	Cllr Attended	Subject	Cost	26 January 2022	Cllr Connolly	Next Steps for Planning Policy	£210	24 February 2022	Cllr Connolly	Live Well Locally – COSLA Improvement Services Conference	£75
Date of Conference	Cllr Attended	Subject	Cost											
26 January 2022	Cllr Connolly	Next Steps for Planning Policy	£210											
24 February 2022	Cllr Connolly	Live Well Locally – COSLA Improvement Services Conference	£75											

		<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="1016 177 1326 276">21 March 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1326 177 1525 276">Cllr McGinley</td> <td data-bbox="1525 177 1944 276">Trauma Champions Workshop</td> <td data-bbox="1944 177 2148 276">Free</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1016 276 1326 375">27 April 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1326 276 1525 375">Cllr Dettbarn</td> <td data-bbox="1525 276 1944 375">Scotland Gypsy/Travelling Communities Conference</td> <td data-bbox="1944 276 2148 375">£30</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1016 375 1326 474">1 September 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1326 375 1525 474">Cllr Kilbride</td> <td data-bbox="1525 375 1944 474">APSE Scotland – Ash Dieback Workshop</td> <td data-bbox="1944 375 2148 474">Free</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1016 474 1326 547">13 September 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1326 474 1525 547">Cllr Davis</td> <td data-bbox="1525 474 1944 547">Scotland Bus Summit</td> <td data-bbox="1944 474 2148 547">Free</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1016 547 1326 646">14 September 2022</td> <td data-bbox="1326 547 1525 646">Cllr Hunter</td> <td data-bbox="1525 547 1944 646">Scottish Towns Partnerships Roadshow</td> <td data-bbox="1944 547 2148 646">Free</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" data-bbox="1016 646 2148 901"> <p>A temporary budget of £20,000 was allocated for 2022/23 in recognition of the Local Government Elections and training required by new Members. £1,260 was spent on external training for Licensing Board members and £7,000 on external media training made available to all members.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	21 March 2022	Cllr McGinley	Trauma Champions Workshop	Free	27 April 2022	Cllr Dettbarn	Scotland Gypsy/Travelling Communities Conference	£30	1 September 2022	Cllr Kilbride	APSE Scotland – Ash Dieback Workshop	Free	13 September 2022	Cllr Davis	Scotland Bus Summit	Free	14 September 2022	Cllr Hunter	Scottish Towns Partnerships Roadshow	Free	<p>A temporary budget of £20,000 was allocated for 2022/23 in recognition of the Local Government Elections and training required by new Members. £1,260 was spent on external training for Licensing Board members and £7,000 on external media training made available to all members.</p>			
21 March 2022	Cllr McGinley	Trauma Champions Workshop	Free																							
27 April 2022	Cllr Dettbarn	Scotland Gypsy/Travelling Communities Conference	£30																							
1 September 2022	Cllr Kilbride	APSE Scotland – Ash Dieback Workshop	Free																							
13 September 2022	Cllr Davis	Scotland Bus Summit	Free																							
14 September 2022	Cllr Hunter	Scottish Towns Partnerships Roadshow	Free																							
<p>A temporary budget of £20,000 was allocated for 2022/23 in recognition of the Local Government Elections and training required by new Members. £1,260 was spent on external training for Licensing Board members and £7,000 on external media training made available to all members.</p>																										
6.	<p>The five reports at the last Council meeting were withdrawn to seek further legal advice. Has the legal advice been secured and if so, what is it?</p>	<p>Advice has been provided by King’s Counsel to the Monitoring Officer on the use of the Provost’s casting vote and the Monitoring Officer issued an email confirming the advice to members on 27th February 2023.</p>																								

Received from:	Councillor Julie Dettbarn
Response to be provided by:	Councillor Martin Dowey, Leader of the Council

	<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
7.	Why, nine months into the new administration, has the Member/ Officer Working Group for Improving the Lives of Gypsy Travellers yet to meet?	Asset Management are working to secure a land option. Once this option has been confirmed then the Member/Officer Working Group will be reconvened.

Received from:	Councillor Craig Mackay
Response to be provided by:	Councillor Martin Dowey, Leader of the Council

	<i>Question</i>	<i>Response</i>
8.	Why, nine months into the new administration, South Ayrshire Cycling Forum has yet to meet?	The cycling forum hasn't met since the start of the Pandemic. Ayrshire Roads Alliance are meeting with the portfolio holder next week to set the terms of reference of the new forum and arrange meetings.