

Taunton Deane Borough Council

Tenant Services Management Board - 19th January 2015

Tenant Participation Advisory Service (TPAS) Annual Conference 2015

Report of the Tenant Empowerment Manager

(This matter is the responsibility of Executive Councillor Jean Adkins)

1. Executive Summary

Members of the Tenant Services Management Board (TSMB) have previously attended TPAS Annual Conferences which have traditionally been held in July.

This year TPAS is maintaining the same format as last year, with the conference being held in July in the same venue near Warwick.

The TSMB is asked to decide whether to send delegates to the conference, and if so how many.

2. Background

TPAS is a leading national tenant participation organisation working to promote tenant empowerment. As well as providing training events it holds an annual conference which allows tenants from all over the country to attend workshops, hear guest speakers and meet with other tenants.

3. TPAS Conference 2015

TPAS has decided to hold the conference in the same venue as last year:

- Chesford Grange, Kenilworth, near Warwick
- 8th and 9th July 2015

4. Conference Programme

TPAS are currently finalising the full programme including workshops and speakers. The full programme will be available in April 2015.

A conference dinner is to be held on the evening of Wednesday 8th July. This is included in the delegate fee.

5. Cost of Conference

TPAS are currently offering a discount on bookings. This is set at £339 per delegate but must be booked by the 17th April 2015. After this date a place at the conference would cost £389.

Please note that the above cost does not include accommodation. TPAS has negotiated a preferential rate at the venue:

- £100 per night (bed and breakfast)

Board members should note that if they intend to travel to the conference the day before the rate for bed and breakfast is £122 on that day.

It should be noted that other hotels are available in the area if it is felt that this rate is too expensive.

Additional cost will be incurred if TSMB members wish to travel to the conference the day before and also for travel expenses.

The cost of the conference can be met by existing budgets.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended the Tenant Services Management Board:

1. Note this report
2. Decide whether representatives of the board should attend the conference
3. Decide how many representatives should attend
4. If it is decided to attend the conference seek nominations from board members.
(Previous discussions have indicated a desire for members who have not attended such events before to be given an opportunity to attend)

Contact: Martin Price
Tenant Empowerment Manager
01823 356552
m.price@tauntondeane.gov.uk