

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	EP&I
DATE	29 th August
DIRECTOR	Gordon McIntosh
TITLE OF REPORT	KIMO Annual General Meeting 2013
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI/13/138

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to ask approval for the Council to be represented at the Kommunenenes Internasjonale Miljøorganisasjon (KIMO) Annual General Meeting (AGM) taking place in the Faroe Islands in September 2013. KIMO is an International Environmental Organisation for Local Authorities.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that committee:

- Note the Council's long standing membership of KIMO
- Approve travel for Councillor Donnelly to attend the AGM to represent Aberdeen City Council

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Approximate cost of travel = £1,867

Table 1: Breakdown of costs

Item	Approximate cost (£)	Comment
Flights	900	Return flights
Airport Transfer	40	Taxi transfers
Accommodation	207	£69 per night x 3 nights
Subsistence	720	£240 per 24 hour period x 3. Calculated using subsistence rate for Denmark as the Faroese Krona is not an independent currency but a version of the Danish Krone.
Total	1,867	

Flights, airport transfers and accommodation costs detailed in Table 1 above will be funded from the Environmental Policy team's budget which has an allocation to cover costs associated with KIMO (budget code C27113 46111). Subsistence will be funded from the Members budget (budget code M56400 32122).

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

KIMO International:

Kommunerens Internasjonale Miljøorganisasjon (Local Authorities International Environmental Organisation) or KIMO was founded by local municipalities with a shared concern for the state of the marine environment. As marine pollution is a complex problem, which does not adhere to national boundaries it was necessary to create an organisation that could be co-ordinated on an international basis. KIMO was founded in Esbjerg, Denmark, in August 1990 to protect, preserve and enhance northern Europe's oceans. KIMO is designed to give municipalities a political voice at the international level, to share best practice and to find solutions to marine political problems that affect coastal communities.

From a modest start KIMO has grown in size and in terms of its aims and objectives. It now represents over 100 members in Belgium, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Faeroe Islands, The Netherlands, The Republic of Ireland and the Isle of Man (associate member) representing over 6 million people. KIMO has become a pioneering environmental force which has contributed to a steady reduction in marine pollution in Europe's seas.

KIMO has operational 'national networks' in four countries; the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium and Sweden. In addition, there is a newly established KIMO Baltic Sea network which will act as a 'forum' to develop marine environmental policy and coordinate new projects. KIMO also has 'non-active' member countries in Norway & the Republic of Ireland and associate members in the Isle of Man and Foroya Kommunefelag.

KIMO UK:

KIMO UK is comprised of ten local council members. The KIMO network in the United Kingdom was formed in 1991 shortly after the establishment of KIMO International. Grampian Regional Council was a founding member of KIMO UK. The main issue for the network in the early years was the reprocessing of nuclear material at Dounreay and Sellafield and considerable success has been achieved in this area. KIMO UK's lobbying, along with others, has resulted in the closure of Dounreay, a 90% reduction in emissions of Tc 99 and a considerable reduction in discharge allowances for nuclear plants across the board.

Maritime safety is an important issue and the network was involved in the Lord Donaldson enquiry and was instrumental in ensuring that the National Contingency Plan was extended to cover all types of pollution not just oil. The disposal of oil installations in the North Sea has also been an area where KIMO UK has campaigned against threatening proposals such as the dumping of the Brent Spar oil platform.

Other key areas of work include: marine pollution, fishing for litter campaign, nuclear emissions and transportation, pollution from the oil and gas industry, maritime safety and pollution, emergency towing vessels, dumping chemical and conventional munitions at sea, hazardous substances, eutrophication and dangerous pesticides.

Aberdeen City Council's Membership:

As previously mentioned, Grampian Regional Council was a founding member of KIMO UK. Membership was transferred to Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Council's in 1996. In recognition of this status Aberdeen City Council is entitled to appoint three Councillors and an officer to attend meetings. Councillor Milne is currently appointed as lead for KIMO and attends the quarterly UK Business meetings. He is supported in this role by a Sustainable Development Officer from the Environmental Policy team.

As a member of KIMO UK we are also expected to attend the AGM, the location of which rotates amongst member countries. Aberdeen City & Aberdeenshire Council's jointly hosted the AGM in 2011, in 2012 it was held in Sweden and 2013 will be in the Faroe Islands (AGM invitation attached as Appendix A).

Councillor Milne is on annual leave at the time of the AGM, therefore Councillor Crockett suggested Councillor Donnelly be asked to attend in his place and report back, which he has agreed to do.

6. IMPACT

Attending the KIMO AGM will allow the Council to share information and gain a better understanding of the current issues contributing to maritime pollution. It will also provide an open forum for the Council to express any specific concerns regarding any marine pollution issues we have which KIMO can help to explore. This will help to further the high level priority for the smarter environment contained in the 5 year Corporate Business Plan.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The risk of not attending is that Aberdeen City Council will not show the necessary support for the organisation (which we pay an annual membership fee to be a part of) and may miss out on key opportunities to undertake demonstrative environmental projects or opportunities to make joint representations against proposals affecting our marine environment.

It is an opportunity to enhance our membership with KIMO members as we have only been able to attend one UK KIMO Business Meeting in 2013 to date.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

AGM 2013 Invitation (Appendix A)

KIMO Annual Reports can be accessed here:

<http://www.kimointernational.org/KIMO-Annual-Report-2011.aspx>

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Amy Smith

Sustainable Development Officer

amysmith@aberdeencity.gov.uk

(01224) 522725

23rd KIMO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AGM

Hosted by:

Føroya Kommunufelag

13th, 14th & 15th

September 2013



The 23rd KIMO International Conference & AGM will be held in the Faroe Islands and is hosted by Føroya Kommunufelag. The conference this year will address issues such as climate and global changes, safety, preparedness and practical solutions to the problems of bilgewater and litter. Meetings of the International Board and National Coordinators will also take place over the weekend and a final programme is copied on the back of this flyer.

Programme

Conference

Friday 13th

Hotel Hafnia, Parnassið

09:00 – 12:00 KIMO International Board Meeting
12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
13:30 – 16:30 National Coordinators meeting
17:00 KIMO delegate registration
19:00 Informal dinner – Hotel Hafnia

Saturday 14th Day

Nordic House, Skálin, adr: Norðari Ringvegur

08:30 Registration for local participants
09:00 – 12:00 KIMO Conference
12:00 – 13:30 Lunch
13:30 – 17:00 Study tours
1) Tjørnuvík / Klaksvík
2) Kirkjubøur / Saksun

Saturday 14th Evening

Art Gallery adr: Gundadalsvegur

19:00 – 22:00 Civic formal dinner with entertainment

Sunday 15th

Hotel Hafnia, Parnassið

09:00 – 12:00 23rd KIMO International Annual General Meeting
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch



Saturday 14th

Nordic House

09:00 – 10:15 Keynote speaker
Mr. Kári P. Højgaard, minister

The Northeast Atlantic under global change.
Mrs. Marin Margretha H. Larsen
Ph.D. in oceanography,
Havstovan

Faroe Islands in the OSPAR region.
Mr. John Mouat
Deputy Secretary, OSPAR
Commission

10:15 – 10:45 Coffee break

10:45 – 12:00 Safety and preparedness, the Faroe Islands
In a North Atlantic and Arctic context, including SAR and contingency plans.
Mr. Hendrik Weihe Joensen, Consultant

Presentation of a new technique to solve the bilgewater problem.
Mr. Rasmus Magnussen, Sales Manager Faroe Marine Technic

Fishing for Litter on Faroe Islands.
Mr. Kári Thomsen, coordinator KIMO Faroe

Conclusion and summary
Monica Gripp - KIMO International President

