**Convention Minutes on Brexit**

7-10-16

1. **Developing COSLA’s Response to Leaving the European Union**

The Convention considered a report which provided an update over where the UK and Scotland currently were since the European Referendum of 23 June, noted emerging matters of importance to Scottish Local Government, and invited Convention to provide strategic direction to the suggested areas of activity for COSLA’s leadership and officials and to provide a political mandate for work to progress.

There was a wide-ranging discussion with a number of points of view put across. In particular, the need to engage with as many stakeholders as possible such as businesses and trade unions to develop joint approaches and collate detailed information was emphasised. In addition, there was a suggestion that COSLA should explore the possibility of appointing a Spokesperson for Brexit. All these points were noted.

The Convention:

1. agreed the strategic direction being taken by COSLA politically and at an officer level and in particular that COSLA continues to seek access to the high level political negotiations at UK and Scottish levels for its members;
2. considered the impact in their local areas, add to the list of issues of importance to their councils and let COSLA have information as soon as available; and
3. agreed that further reports be brought back to COSLA’s governance structure, including Convention where appropriate, to allow detailed consideration of matters and to develop Local Government position as further information becomes available.