



Conference Sponsor



Local Leadership



In a Changing World

COSLA Annual Conference & Exhibition



Thursday 19 - Friday 20 November 2026



Fairmont, St Andrews

Foreword



Councillor
Shona Morrison
President of COSLA



Councillor
Steven Heddle
Vice President of
COSLA

As COSLA's President and Vice President, we are delighted to welcome you back to the Local Government event of the year, *COSLA's Annual Conference*.

This year's event will be held at the Fairmont, St. Andrews on 19 and 20 November, where delegates have the opportunity to network in-person, hear from inspiring leaders and experts, and debate political hot topics.

This year's Conference will be examining the theme of **Local Leadership in a Changing World**.

As we approach the Scottish Local Government Elections in 2027, local leadership is evolving within a world of social change, digital transformation, Public Service Reform and economic and international uncertainty. The COSLA Conference will focus on the empowerment of local leadership and explore how we can renew public confidence in democratic institutions and the services that are essential to the fabric of our communities.

The Conference will focus on local leadership, the skills required to deliver change and the steps that can be taken to foster positive civic participation whilst sustaining community cohesion.

This is a call to action for those shaping local democracy now and laying the foundations for the next local authority term and beyond.

Do not miss the opportunity to discuss *Local Leadership in a Changing World* and hear from a range of contributors.

Book your place now for our Conference on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 November 2026.

Conference Information

The 2026 Fee includes:

As a member Authority, attending as a full residential conference delegate will cost **£499** plus VAT. Included in the full residential conference delegate fee is one nights' accommodation on Thursday 19 November, the fee includes attendance at the COSLA Excellence Awards, Pre-Dinner Reception, Dinner and Ceremony on Thursday 19 November. It also includes attendance at all Conference sessions including tea/coffee and lunch on 19 and 20 November.

Plenary Sessions

The Conference will start at 9.30a.m. on Thursday 19 November and concludes early afternoon on Friday 20 November. This is your chance to contribute to the debate on key issues in Scotland.

The Conference is an invaluable opportunity to network in an informal situation.

Accommodation

This year's event will be held at the Fairmont Hotel, St. Andrews and it is anticipated that all conference delegates will be accommodated within the Hotel.

All accommodation must be booked through COSLA by Friday 23 October 2026.

We are unable to guarantee places for forms received after this date.

For further information regarding the Hotel or accommodation, contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email Linda@cosla.gov.uk

Accommodation and Hotel Information

Fairmont St. Andrews Hotel sits proudly amidst the rugged coastal landscape of East Scotland. A truly unique and special venue that makes the visit one to remember, with its stunning surroundings, peaceful setting and stunning cliff top views of St Andrews and the North Sea. It is 50 minutes from Edinburgh and 90 minutes from both Aberdeen and Glasgow. The Hotel is located approximately 2 miles from St. Andrews town centre and 20 minutes from Leuchars Railway Station.

Further information can be found on the hotel website at www.fairmont.com

Delegate Attendance Options

The following flexible attendance options allow you to attend the Conference on a basis which best suits your needs. These changes are in response to customer demand and reflect delegates' increasing workplace commitments. Please read the options and mark your choices on the booking form.

OPTION 1

Full residential conference delegate

Accommodation on 19 November and attendance at all sessions, including tea/coffee and lunch on 19 and 20 November. Pre-Dinner Reception, Awards Ceremony and Dinner on 19 November.

OPTION 2

Day delegate on Thursday 19 November

Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 19 November. Does NOT include accommodation or attendance at dinner.

OPTION 3

Day delegate on Friday 20 November

Attendance at all sessions, tea/coffee and lunch on 20 November.

OPTION 4

Accommodation on Wednesday 18 November

Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont Hotel on the night of 18 November.

OPTION 5

Accommodation on Thursday 19 November

Bed and breakfast at the Fairmont Hotel on the night of 19 November.

OPTION 6

Pre-Dinner Reception Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on 19 November

Attendance at the Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on 19 November.

Exhibiting

The Exhibition is an integral part of the Conference, attracting a wide variety of organisations working in the public, private and third sectors. Refreshments will be served in the exhibition areas to ensure that exhibitors have the chance to meet with delegates.

Further information is available from Alex Shirlaw on 0131 474 9215 or email Alex@cosla.gov.uk

Advertising

The official Conference handbook contains essential programme and speaker information and is distributed to all delegates attending the Conference. There is a limited amount of advertising space available in the handbook which will be A4 size and printed in full colour.

The following rates will apply:

Full page	£450 plus VAT
Half page	£300 plus VAT
Quarter page	£200 plus VAT

For technical specifications, please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email Linda@cosla.gov.uk.

Sponsorship

Sponsoring one particular aspect of the conference brings its own list of benefits and related costs. Organisations may also contribute to the cost of one of the options shown below with recognition in the Conference Handbook.

For estimated costs or to discuss your contribution, **please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email Linda@cosla.gov.uk**

OPTIONS

Excellence Awards Ceremony Dinner
Evening Pre-Dinner Reception
Lunch(es)
Refreshment Breaks
Complimentary Gifts
Delegate Writing Pads
Delegate Pens
Delegate Conference Bags
Conference Fringe Sessions

Promotional Literature and/or Complimentary Gifts

An opportunity exists for including promotional literature or small complimentary gifts in the Delegate Bag at a cost of £400 + VAT per item. We would require you to supply approximately 300 copies or gifts.

Please contact Linda Bruce on 0131 474 9228 or email Linda@cosla.gov.uk for further information.

Delegate Booking Form

Please scan this form for each delegate attending and return it to:

Linda Bruce at COSLA, Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh, EH12 5BH.

T: 0131 474 9228

E: Linda@cosla.gov.uk

by **Friday, 23 October 2026**

Delegate Details

First Name	<input type="text"/>	Address for Correspondence	<input type="text"/>
Surname	<input type="text"/>		
Job Title	<input type="text"/>		
Organisation	<input type="text"/>	Invoice Email Address	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>	PO Number	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>		

Attendance Options and Costs

Delegates are invited to 'pick and choose' the most appropriate options. For a description of all the options, please refer to the notes overleaf. We regret that **NO REFUNDS** can be made, although delegates may substitute, providing reasonable notice is given. It is also important to note that it is **NOT** possible for delegates to 'share' a conference place.

Prices are shown excluding VAT.

Full Conference Option (please tick)	Member*	Non-Member
1. Full residential conference delegate (includes everything listed below EXCEPT accommodation on 18 November)	<input type="checkbox"/> £499	<input type="checkbox"/> £550
2. Day delegate on Thursday 19 November	<input type="checkbox"/> £199	<input type="checkbox"/> £245
3. Day delegate on Friday 20 November	<input type="checkbox"/> £199	<input type="checkbox"/> £245
4. Accommodation on Wednesday 18 November	<input type="checkbox"/> £220	<input type="checkbox"/> £250
5. Accommodation on Thursday 19 November	<input type="checkbox"/> £220	<input type="checkbox"/> £250
6. Pre-Dinner Reception, Excellence Awards Ceremony and Dinner on Thursday 19 November	<input type="checkbox"/> £95	<input type="checkbox"/> £95

***Member** – Denotes Elected Members and Officers from Scotland's 32 Local Authorities

Payment

Please invoice my organisation

Authorised Signatory

(please print name) _____

Amount payable £ _____

Please add VAT at 20% £ _____

Total amount due to COSLA £ _____

A VAT Invoice will be sent separately and a confirmation letter closer to the date of the conference.

Special Requirements

	Comment
Diet?	
Audio?	
Visual?	
Access?	

Please visit COSLA's Privacy Notice for information about how we manage your personal data:
<https://www.cosla.gov.uk/home/privacy-statement>

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