

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001313
Date 11 July 2017

Overseas Trips

Request:

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act and relates to overseas trips.

From 01 January 2016 to the day this request is processed, I would like to know the number of overseas trips council officials, Councillors and Council Officers, have taken in the course of conducting council business.

For each overseas trip, please provide the following information:

- The date and duration of the overseas trip, as well as the country/city that was visited?
- The full name, title and position of the council official who went on the overseas trip?
- The reason or reasons why the council official went on the overseas trip?
- The cost of the overseas trip (please provide a breakdown of travel costs, accommodation costs and expenses)?
- Please state whether the council met the costs of the overseas trip, or whether an individual, group, company, consortium, charity or another organisation met the costs?
- Please provide the full name of the individual, group, company, charity or organisation that met the costs. If it is a group or consortium, please state who or what composes the group or consortium?

In response to your request, please find our response below:

Please note: The City of Wolverhampton only discloses individual names in respect of the top tiers of its management structures, see link below:

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=10485&p=0>

In respect of the lower staff tiers, we can confirm that we hold the requested information in respect of Council Officials who went on overseas trip however, we do not routinely publish staff positions as we feel this constitutes personal information and therefore is exempt under Section 40(2), Personal Information, the disclosure of which would breach the first data protection principle outlined in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998.

This exemption applies because we consider that disclosure of this information without the consent of the individuals concerned would not be fair or lawful and is judged to be to the wider world and they would not reasonably expect that their details would be disclosed in this way and consider individuals have a reasonable expectation of privacy.

This is an absolute exemption and therefore there is no requirement for us to consider the public interest.

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Date of visit	Duration	Destination	Title / Position	Reason	Travel	Accommodation	Expenses	Who met the costs
14 Mar - 17 Mar 17	4 days	Cannes	Strategic Director Place	To attract investment into the city	£1,800	7793.10	0	Invest Black Country Consortium made up of Black Country LEP, Walsall MBC, Sandwell MBC, City of Wolverhampton Council and Dudley MBC.
14 Mar -17 Mar 17	4 days	Cannes	Cabinet Member for City Economy	To attract investment into the city				
14 Mar -17 Mar 17	4 days	Cannes	Managing Director	To attract investment into the city				
30 Oct 16 - 5 Nov 16	7 days	China - Shanghai & Anqing	Strategic Director Place	To attract investment into the city and to sign Memorandum of Understanding in full about trade deal	18,852.40	£3,010.79	£12,022.56	The Shanghai Foreign Commonwealth Office and The City of Wolverhampton Council The £12,022.56 figure includes costs for an interpreter, visas, train tickets, official gifts, subsistence, conference and commitment fees.
30 Oct 16 - 5 Nov 16	7 days	China - Shanghai & Anqing	Managing Director	To attract investment into the city and to sign Memorandum Of Understanding in full about trade deal				
30 Oct 16 - 5 Nov 16	7 days	China - Shanghai & Anqing	Communications Officer	To attract investment into the city and to sign Memorandum of Understanding in full about trade deal				
30 Oct 16 - 5 Nov 16	7 days	China - Shanghai & Anqing	Leader of the Council	To attract investment into the city and to sign Memorandum of Understanding in full about trade deal				
30 Oct 16 - 5 Nov 16	7 days	China - Shanghai & Anqing	Investment Manager	To attract investment into the city and to sign Memorandum of Understanding in full about trade deal				
23 May 17 - 27 May 17	4 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Tutor	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£209.92	£206.87	£220.61	100% costs funded by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
8 Jan 17 - 12 Jan 17	4 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Curriculum Manager	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£209.92	£175.57	£251.91	100% costs funded by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
18 Feb 17 - 24 Feb 17	6 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Tutor	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£233.05	£281.35	£430.51	100% costs funded by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
19 Apr 17 - 24 Apr 17	5 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Tutor	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£235.04	£166.67	£431.62	100% costs met by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
25 May 17 - 31 May 17	6 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Tutor	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£241.23	£271.92	£464.91	100% costs funded by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
28 Jun 17 - 4 Jul 17	6 days	Italy	Adult Education Service Tutor	To facilitate student work placements as part of the Erasmus+ Programme	£243.36	£309.73	£433.63	100% costs funded by the Erasmus project no net cost to the authority
16 Feb 16 - 17 Feb 16	1 days	Poznan, Poland	Manager, Strategic Projects	Attendance at Gen Y City Workshop	£109.98	£110.58	£16.66	100% costs funded by EU Project; Urbact III in relation to Gen Y City project no net cost to the authority
29 Mar 17 - 31 Mar 17	2 days	Coimbra, Portugal	Manager, Strategic Projects	Attendance at Gen Y City Workshop	£488.31	£273.86	0	100% costs funded by EU Project; Urbact III in relation to Gen Y City project no net cost to the authority
27 Jun 17 - 30 Jun 17	3 days	Kassel, Germany	Manager, Senior Cultural Creator	View and research possible acquisitions	£357.00	£482.00	£192.00	Contemporary Arts Society, London no net cost to the authority
14 Mar 16 - 18 Mar 16	4 days	Cannes	Strategic Director, Place	MIPIM Property Event - To attract investment into the city	£426.96	£1,068.35	0	Invest Black Country Consortium made up of Black Country LEP, Walsall MBC, Sandwell MBC, City of Wolverhampton Council and Dudley MBC.
10 Jul 17 - 14 Jul 17	4 days	Bologna	Development Officer	The Gen-Y City! project brings together a network including the local authority, university, businesses and the 3 rd sector to look at how best to develop and retain young talent in the	£604.14	£449.44	£137.00	100% costs funded by EU project: Urbact III in relation to the Gen Y City project no net cost to the authority
10 July 17 - 14 Jul17	4 days	Bologna	Development Officer & Business Incubation Manager at the SPARK centre					