



Information Governance
Coventry City Council
PO Box 15
Council House
Coventry
CV1 5RR

www.coventry.gov.uk

25 November, 2020

Please contact Information Governance
Direct line 024 7697 5408
infogov@coventry.gov.uk

Dear

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)
Request ID: REQ07437

Thank you for your request for information relating to Overseas trips for Council Staff.

Your request and our responses are outlined below:

For the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:

1. How much money has the council spent in total on overseas trips for council staff?

We can advise that £28,975.76 has been spent on overseas trips for Council staff. We have undertaken 4 visits within the time period specified and the figures provided relate to those 4 visits.

We have referenced public reports available for 2 of the visits. The information requested is included within the travel approvals and report backs we publish when undertaking visits and this is accessible to you via the Council's website at the following links:

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s45522/Report%20Back%20on%20UAE%20Capital%20Attraction%20Visit%20AprilMay%202019.pdf>

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/documents/s46369/Intelligent%20Transport%20Systemes%20ITS%20World%20Congress%202019%20Conference%20Report.pdf>

With the remaining 2 visits, we can advise that they are due to be considered at Scrutiny Committee on Weds 2nd December. Further information on this meeting is available to you at the following link:

<https://edemocracy.coventry.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=570>

2. How much money has the council spent in total on overseas trips for councillors (elected members)?

3. If time permits, I would be grateful for a breakdown of spending:

- **Cost of any flights / ferries / coaches / taxis etc**
- **Class of travel purchased (e.g. economy, business, first)**
- **Cost of hotel stays and names of hotels**
- **Cost of subsistence (e.g. restaurant bills, drinks expenses)**
- **Any other fees / or costs incurred**
- **Reason for trips**

In response to questions 2) and 3) we can advise that £4,238.70 was spent on overseas visits involving councillors, please see breakdown below:

- Dunkirk, France 27-29 May 2019 To attend the 4th International Symposium of Cities of Memory
Eurotunnel Crossing & refreshments during travel - £338.88.
Hotel costs paid for by hosts.
- Kiel 21st till 24th June 2019
To attend the opening of Kieler Woche (Kiel Week) and the International City Forum on 'Life in the Urban City'.
Flights £471.18
Accommodation/transfers and associated costs paid for by hosts.
- Dueren, Germany, 25-28 June 2019
To attend 15th German/Russian Sister Cities Conference.
Flights - £125.92
Accommodation/transfers and associated costs paid for by hosts.
- Volgograd 28 October - 2 November 2019, Volgograd
To attend the International People's Diplomacy Forum 'Dialogue on the Volga: Peace and Mutual Understanding in the 21st Century' on the 75th Anniversary of the twinning link between the two cities
Flights - £1,339,26
Airport Transfers – approximately £250
Visa charges – £553.20
- Dresden 12-15 February 2020
To attend the Commemoration and International Congress on Cultures of Remembrance in Dresden
Flights - £585.27
Hotel - £574.99

The supply of information in response to a freedom of information request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further

permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

Should you wish to make any further requests for information, you may find what you are looking for is already published on the [Council's web site](#) and in particular its FOI/EIR [Disclosure log](#), [Council's Publication Scheme](#), [Open Data](#) and [Facts about Coventry](#).

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email casework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance