

<b>Report to Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers</b>	<b>FTC/07/14</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b> 24 June 2014	
<b>Member Attendance at Opening Event for Fort Duffel: report of action taken since last meeting</b>	
<b>Report by:</b> Committee Services Manager	
<b>Enquiries to:</b> Judith Dignum, 01245 430044, ext 20044 ( <a href="mailto:Judith.dignum@essex.gov.uk">Judith.dignum@essex.gov.uk</a> )	

### 1. Purpose of the Report

To update the Committee on action taken since the last meeting regarding Member attendance at the opening event for Fort Duffel, near Antwerp on 29/30 April.

### 2. Recommendation:

That the report be noted.

### 3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 At the last meeting of the Committee on 22 April 2014, Members considered an application for Councillor John Jowers (Cabinet Member for Libraries, Communities and Planning) to attend the opening event for Fort Duffel (near Antwerp) on 29/30 April at a total cost to the Council of £160 (£320, of which 50% could be reclaimed from the EU). The application was supported by the Chief Executive and the S151 Officer. The Committee noted that unfortunately, due to a change in circumstances, Councillor Jowers was no longer able to be present at the event and no-one else was available to attend in his place. It was therefore agreed that, although the Council's representation at this type of event was recognised to be beneficial, no-one would attend on this occasion.
- 3.2 Following the meeting, Councillor Jowers indicated that he would be able to represent the Council at Fort Duffel after all. Members of the Committee were consulted via email and expressed unanimous support for this, and agreement for Councillor Jowers' attendance, together with the associated expenditure, was subsequently confirmed by the Chairman of the Committee, again via email, on 29 April.