

APPROVAL FOR VISITS MADE BY MEMBERS

involving travel abroad / individual costs exceeding £500 / aggregate costs for more than one member of £1,000

Name of Member(s) travelling: Cllr David Finch; Cllr Kevin Bentley; Cllr Dick Madden; Cllr M Mackrory and Cllr J Young

Officers attending:
Margaret Lee, Executive Director for Corporate and Customer Services

Details of the visit (incl. dates):

County Councils Network (CCN) Annual Conference – 15 – 17 November 2015, at Radisson Bu Edwardian, Guildford, Surrey

Estimated cost of the visit:	Attendance	£3720 plus VAT
	Travel	£262.80 for 6 off peak returns

Rationale for the estimated cost:

* Please note you will need to demonstrate that in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme three quotes have been obtained before booking foreign hotels.

The CCN provides accommodation for the conference.

The conference fee per delegate is £620 (plus VAT). This includes accommodation for the Sunday 15th and Monday 16th November and all meals.

Off peak rail fares Chelmsford – Guildford at current prices is £43.80 per person.

The total cost for the entire conference (accommodation, conference fee and travel) is therefore £3982.80 approximately.

Purpose of the visit and anticipated value to the County Council:

The County Councils Network (CCN) is a cross party special interest group of the Local Government Association which speaks, develops policy and shares good practice for the County group of local authorities, whether unitary or upper tier.

The CCN Annual Conference brings together members and officers over a 2 day period providing a unique opportunity to reflect on the challenges facing local government, to share experience and to find solutions to common issues

The Conference is an opportunity for senior ECC Councillors to meet with senior leaders at other county councils and with senior government ministers.

Approved by Dave Hill – 10th September 2015

Comments of the Head of Paid Services

Approved by Nicole Wood – 10th September 2015

Comments of the Section 151 Officer