

## APPROVAL FOR MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT EVENTS/VISITS

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

Name of Member(s) travelling: Cllr Kevin Bentley

None

Name of officers also attending (if any)  
(to allow the Committee to make a full  
assessment of ECC representation)

28 February and 1 March to speak at East  
of England European Partnership Brexit  
Event

Details of the visit/event (incl. dates):

Estimated cost of the visit: £ TOTAL COST TO ECC: £0

Cllr Bentley will self-fund visit

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.

### **Accommodation:**

Cllr Kevin Bentley - self funded Hotel 1 night (paid for by Cabinet Member)

### **Travel:**

St Pancras to Brussels return Self-funded by Cabinet member

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

Essex County Council is a member of the East of England European Partnership, which is setup to assist partner organisations to improve their access to EU Funding. They do this by

- Finding a path of opportunity for partners through the EU institutions and legislation;
- Providing intelligence and advance warning of EU policy and funding developments;
- Raising the profile of individual partners in particular and the East of England in general with key policy makers in the EU and organisations across the EU;
- Creating links through networking and partner searches with other European regions in support of transnational project development.

The purpose of the visit is for Cllr Bentley, as chair of the Europe and International Panel, to chair a workshop on the impact of Brexit. The workshop will provide participants and speakers with an opportunity to discuss the possible implications of Brexit on the EU's regional policy and the UK's own regional development. Indicative speakers include Vicky Ford MEP (ECR, East of England), Martina Anderson MEP (GUE / NGL, Northern Ireland), Serafin Pazos-Vidal (Convention of Scottish Local Authorities), Michael Barnes (Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP), Jens Geier MEP (S&D, DE), Lambert van Nistelrooij (EPP, NL) and other representatives from European Countries.

Although the trip is funded directly by the Cabinet Member, the workshop, as with all work of the Europe and International Panel, promotes Essex County Council as a thought-leader and provides opportunities to network with senior politicians and policy makers.



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Comments of the Chief Executive

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Comments of the Section 151 Officer

Approved - no cost to the Council and no contravention of any of its policies.

Margaret Lee 26/1/17

To be completed after travel and submitted by email to [governance@essex.gov.uk](mailto:governance@essex.gov.uk):

Actual total cost of visit: £