

Report to Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers	FTC/03/15
Date of meeting: 21 April 2015	
Report of action taken since last meeting – Approval for Officer Foreign Travel	
Report by: Committee Services Manager	
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1. Purpose of the Report

To confirm action taken since the last meeting regarding proposed foreign travel to Italy by an officer of the Council.

2. Recommendation:

That the action taken since the last meeting of the Committee to approve foreign travel to Italy by Alex Creecy, Technical Manager in Integrated Waste Management from 14 – 16 April to attend a workshop on Innovative Technologies and Participatory Strategies in Naples, at a total cost of £372.40, be confirmed.

3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 Following the last meeting of the Committee, an application was received from Alex Creecy, Technical Manager in Integrated Waste Management, to travel to Italy from 14 – 16 April, where he would represent Sonia Davidson-Grant at a workshop on Innovative Technologies and Participatory Strategies to be held in Naples. The total cost of the trip would be £372.40.
- 3.2 The workshop formed part of the Materials Advanced Recovery Sustainable Systems (MARSS) Project, which is a demonstration project, funded by the EU, which aims to produce and test a useful renewable biomass fuel from mixed municipal solid waste after biological and mechanical processing. Project results were to be announced at the event. It is hoped that MARSS technology may provide European countries with an alternative to incineration and landfilling of waste. Attendance at the event was of particular relevance to the Council as it concerned the greater understanding of available technologies/approaches to reduce the costs of waste management. The strategy for dealing with residues from the mechanical and biological treatment

facility at Basildon is currently being developed and consideration needs to be given to maximising resource recovery.

- 3.3 In accordance with the process for approving foreign travel by officers, the relevant Director (in this case Sonia Davidson-Grant, Executive Director for Place Commissioning) had indicated her support for the application.
- 3.4 Given that the workshop was due to take place before today's meeting, the Chairman agreed that the application should be circulated to all Members of the Committee for immediate consideration.
- 3.5 Upon being consulted by email, all Members of the Committee expressed their support for the application