

Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers	FTC/06/15
Date: 22 September 2015	
Confirmation of action taken since last meeting - Approval for Member and Officer Trade Visit to Jiangsu, China	
Report by: Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer	
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1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To confirm the action agreed in principle since the last meeting regarding proposed foreign travel to China by one member and two officers.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the action agreed in principle since the last meeting of the Committee to approve foreign travel to China for Councillor Kevin Bentley and two Officers (Peter Manning and Ge Jing) to participate in a trade and investment promotion visit to Jiangsu Province, between 23 and 31 October 2015, at a total estimated cost of £7044.50, be confirmed.

3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 Following the last meeting of the Committee, the attached application was received regarding foreign travel to China for Councillor Kevin Bentley and two Officers (Peter Manning and Ge Jing) to participate in a trade and investment promotion visit to Jiangsu Province, between 23 and 31 October 2015, at a total estimated cost of £7044.50. The purpose of the visit is to meet with businesses considering outward investment and those seeking to buy Essex technologies. The relationship also helps achieve other ECC corporate objectives through exchanges in the fields of culture, education and tourism. The full application is attached to this report.
- 3.2 ECC receives fees that cover the costs of the China trade and Investment promotion work. The target for 2015-16 is again to cover all these costs and this visit is a key means of achieving this, whilst also promoting economic growth for Essex and for our partners in Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils. Currently we are on target to achieve £105,000 income for 2015/16. This

covers all costs of the China office plus the costs included in this travel approval request.

- 3.3 Given that travel arrangements needed to be made before today's meeting, the Chairman agreed that the application should be circulated to all Members of the Committee for agreement in principle subject to confirmation at this meeting.
- 3.4 Upon being consulted by email, the majority of Members of the Committee expressed their approval in principle for the application.