

Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and foreign travel by Officers

10:15*	Tuesday, 21 February 2017	Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex
---------------	--------------------------------------	---

***Please note:** This Committee will commence at the time shown above, or on the rise of the Cabinet meeting to be held that morning, whichever is the later.

Quorum: 3

Membership:

M Danvers
D Finch
M Mackrory
D Madden
J Reeves

For information about the meeting please ask for:

Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer

Telephone: 033301 31332

Email: jennifer.reid@essex.gov.uk



Essex County Council

Essex County Council and Committees Information

All Council and Committee Meetings are held in public unless the business is exempt in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1972.

Most meetings are held at County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1LX. A map and directions to County Hall can be found on the Council's [website](#).

There is ramped access to the building for wheelchair users and people with mobility disabilities.

The Council Chamber and Committee Rooms are accessible by lift and are located on the first and second floors of County Hall.

If you have a need for documents in the following formats, large print, Braille, on disk or in alternative languages and easy read please contact the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. If you have specific access requirements such as access to induction loops, a signer, level access or information in Braille please inform the Committee Officer before the meeting takes place. For any further information contact the Committee Officer.

Induction loop facilities are available in most Meeting Rooms. Specialist head sets are available from Duke Street and E Block Receptions.

The agenda is also available on the Essex County Council website, www.essex.gov.uk. From the Home Page, click on 'Your Council', then on 'Meetings and Agendas'. Finally, select the relevant committee from the calendar of meetings.

Please note that in the interests of improving access to the Council's meetings, a sound recording is made of the public parts of many meetings of the Council's Committees. The Chairman will make an announcement at the start of the meeting if it is being recorded. The recording/webcast service is not guaranteed to be available.

If you are unable to attend and wish to see if the recording/webcast is available you can visit this link www.essex.gov.uk/Your-Council any time after the meeting starts. Any audio available can be accessed via the 'On air now!' box in the centre of the page, or the links immediately below it.

Part 1

(During consideration of these items the meeting is likely to be open to the press and public)

		Pages
1	Apologies for Absence	
2	Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 January 2017	5 - 6
3	Declarations of Interest To note any declarations of interest to be made by Members in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct	
4	Member Travel to Florence, 25-26 April 2017	7 - 10
5	Member Travel to Brussels, 28 February and 1 March 2017	11 - 14
6	Date of Next Meeting To note that the next meeting of the Committee will take place on Tuesday 21 March 2017 at 10.15am or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to be held that morning, whichever is the later.	
7	Urgent Business To consider any matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.	

Exempt Items

(During consideration of these items the meeting is not likely to be open to the press and public)

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of an agenda item on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as specified in Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 or it being confidential for the purposes of Section 100A(2) of that Act.

In each case, Members are asked to decide whether, in all the circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption (and discussing the matter in private) outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

8

Urgent Exempt Business

To consider in private any other matter which in the opinion of the Chairman should be considered by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

Minutes of the meeting of the Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and foreign travel by Officers, held in Committee Room 1 County Hall, Chelmsford, Essex on Tuesday, 24 January 2017

Present:

Councillors:

Michael Danvers
David Finch Chairman
Mike Mackrory
Dick Madden

The following Officer was in attendance throughout the meeting:

Jennifer Reid Committee Officer

1 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 December 2016 were approved as correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2 Officer Travel to Berlin 1-3 March 2017

The Committee considered report FTC/01/17 requesting approval for David Wilde, Executive Director for Place Operations and Chief Information Officer to travel to Berlin to attend the Information Security Governance in Public Institutions Conference between 1 -3 March 2017. David Wilde was in attendance to answer questions.

Members noted that there would be no cost to Essex County Council and that the Executive Director intended to take annual leave to cover the duration of the trip. As the trip would include some leisure time, Members recommended that the final arrangements regarding his absence from work during the Conference should be subject to agreement between Mr Wilde and the Chief Executive as his line manager.

Resolved:

1. That foreign travel for David Wilde, Executive Director for Place Operations and Chief Information Officer, to attend the Information Security Governance in Public Institutions Conference in Berlin between 1 – 3 March

2017, at no cost to the Council, be agreed.

2. That the arrangements in respect of his absence from work during the Conference be subject to agreement between the Executive Director and his line manager.

3 Date of the next meeting

The Committee noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Tuesday 21 February 2017 at 10.15am or on the rising of the Cabinet meeting to held that morning, whichever is the later.

Chairman

Report title: Member travel to Florence, 25-26 April 2017	
Report to: Committee to Approve Foreign Travel by ECC Officers and Members	
Report author: Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer	
Date: 21 February 2017	For: Information
Enquiries to: Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer	
County Divisions affected: All Essex	

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To note self-funded foreign travel to Florence, Italy, by Cllr Stephen Canning on 25-26 April 2017 to attend the Impacts of Civic Technology Conference 2017.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That foreign travel by Cllr Stephen Canning to attend the Impacts of Civic Technology Conference 2017 in Florence on 25-26 April 2017, at no cost to Essex County Council, be noted.

3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 An application has been received from Cllr Stephen Canning regarding travel to Florence to attend the Impacts of Civic Technology Conference 2017 Florence on 25-26 April 2017. This visit will incur no cost to Essex County Council as the trip is self-funded.
- 3.2 As there is no cost to the Council, approval by the Committee is not required and this report is for information only.

Appendices

1. Application for Member foreign travel to Florence, Italy

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:

Stephen Caning

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

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

Attendance at The Impacts of Civic Technology Conference 2017

Tuesday, 25 April 2017 at 09:30 - Wednesday, 26 April 2017 at 17:00 plus travel time

Palazzo dei Congressi (Villa Vittoria)
Firenze Fiera,
Piazza Adua, 1
50123 Florence
Italy

£100 ticket cost
£200 Accommodation
£200 Flight
TOTAL: £500

Nil cost to Council as Cllr Canning self-funding this trip

Estimated cost of the visit: £ 500

Nil cost to Council as Cllr Canning self-funding this trip

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.

I am using cheapest available flights via SkyScanner and the recommend most affordable accommodation via the organisers.

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

To attend a conference that gives an insight and understanding of organisations facing similar challenges engaging citizens through digital technology. I intend to propose to speak at said conference to share thought leadership in the area and build relationships.



Comments of the Chief Executive

Comments of the Section 151 Officer

Approved - no cost to the County Council.

Margaret Lee 20/1/17

To be completed after travel and submitted by email to governance@essex.gov.uk:

Actual total cost of visit: £

Report title: Member travel to Brussels, 28 February and 1 March 2017	
Report to: Committee to Approve Foreign Travel by ECC Officers and Members	
Report author: Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer	
Date: 21 February 2017	For: Information
Enquiries to: Jennifer Reid, Committee Officer	
County Divisions affected: All Essex	

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To note self-funded foreign travel to Brussels by Cllr Kevin Bentley on 28 February and 1 March 2017 to speak at the East of England European Partnership Brexit Event.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That foreign travel by Cllr Kevin Bentley to speak at the East of England European Partnership Brexit Event in Brussels on 28 February and 1 March 2017, at no cost to Essex County Council, be noted.

3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 An application has been received from Cllr Kevin Bentley regarding travel to Brussels to speak at the East of England European Partnership Brexit Event in Brussels on 28 February and 1 March 2017. This visit will incur no cost to Essex County Council as the trip is self-funded.
- 3.2 As there is no cost to the Council, approval by the Committee is not required and this report is for information only.

Appendices

1. Application for Member foreign travel to Brussels

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.



Comments of the Chief Executive

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:

Actual total cost of visit: £