

Committee to consider applications to undertake certain duties by Members and Foreign Travel by Officers	FTC/02/15
Date: 17 February 2015	
Approval for Member Attendance at the Local Government Chronicle Awards	
Report by: Committee Services Manager	
Enquiries to: Judith Dignum, 033301 34579	

The Chairman has agreed to the consideration of this report as an item of urgent business on the grounds that the event concerned will take place before the next meeting of the Committee.

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To consider an application (attached as an appendix to this report) for three members (likely to be the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Members for Adults and Children and Transformation and Corporate and Traded Services) to attend the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards in London on 11 March 2015. A number of officers will also be attending, as detailed in the appendix.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That approval be given/not given for three members (likely to be Councillors David Finch, Dick Madden and Derrick Louis) to attend the Local Government Chronicle Awards in London on 11 March 2015 at an estimated cost to the Council of £236/person (and a total combined cost for members and officers of £4479).

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:

Comms & Public Health

3 Officers

1 Chief Executive

2 Members (Cllr Madden and the Leader (TBC)

2 Staff from partnership Agency (Essex Police)

2 Staff from co-design partners The Training Effect

Information Services

Cllr Derrick Louis (to be confirmed)

2 Rissal employees (to be confirmed)

7 Officers

Details of the visit (incl. dates):

2015 Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards

London

11th March 2015

Estimated cost of the visit:

Communications & Public Health

Table: £2,000 (Plus VAT)- non alcohol table. Table for 10.

Information Services

Table: £2,100 (Plus VAT) – non alcohol table for 10 (late booking rate)

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.

Cost per person £200

Train costs

Off peak open return from Chelmsford £19 x 7 - £133

Off peak open return from Braintree £28 x 2- £56

Off peak open return from Chelmsford (to be confirmed) £19 x 10 - £190

Accommodation costs:

N/A

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

Essex County Council has been shortlist for 3 projects in 5 categories at the 2015 Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards. The Awards are to be held in London on 11th March.

The projects are, a new campaign approach to domestic abuse (Standing Together), an educational programme (Risk Avert) aimed at identifying and working with adolescents vulnerable to multiple risk taking, and information services modernisation projects (efficiency and driving efficiency through technology) involving over 8,000 staff are up for the awards and highlight the variety of innovative and vital work taking place across the county.

Over 650 entries were received from local authorities nationally across 19 categories and teams.

The LGC Awards will enable Essex County Council to

- Showcase the three projects in front of local government's most influential audience
- Benchmark achievements against the entire UK local government sector
- Help to drive the improvement of service delivery and performance
- Position ECC as the frontrunner in innovation and earn recognition from your peers
- Put the spotlight on the achievements of ECC officers and members and boost its morale
- Help LGC spread best practice and celebrate excellence through your profession
- Promote these projects to the wider public through promotion before and following the event

Comments of the Chief Executive

This will be reported at the meeting.

Comments of the Section 151 Officer

Approval confirmed by email, 16 February 2015