

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:

Cllr Sue Lissimore

Details of the visit (incl. dates):

To Jiangsu Province, China.

Dates: 24th March – 5th April 2014

ECC receives fees that cover the costs of the China trade and investment promotion work. The target for 2013-14 is to again cover all of 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 looking at on target to achieve £85,000 income in 2013/14. This covers all costs of the China office plus the costs included in this travel approval request.

Purpose of the visit

The Economic Growth Strategy highlights the role that the Essex-Jiangsu link plays in attracting new inward investment to Essex and helping Essex businesses to find new export markets. The strong inter-governmental links provide Essex County Council and Essex businesses with privileged access to senior decision-makers in Jiangsu. On this visit we will target meeting 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.

Cllr Sue Lissimore will have a full schedule of pre-prepared and targeted meetings to:

- Promote inward investment opportunities direct to senior managers of major Jiangsu businesses
- Promote the East of England as a key inward investment location for the Life Science Sector
- Chair an ECC led conference highlighting the key sector offers in the Life Science Sector in the East of England
- Promote further links between universities and key institutions in the Life Science Sector

Cllr Lissimore would be accompanied by up to two officers: the Head of International Trade (Peter Manning) and the International Trade Coordinator (Ms Ge Jing). Peter Manning is planning on arriving 4 nights early of the group to have some time with the colleagues in the ECC China office and to make final arrangements for the conference.

Estimated cost of the visit: £ **Based on 1 Member and 2 Officers travelling**

Flights

Economy Flights x 3 @£600ea.= £1800.00

Accommodation incl. breakfast):

Cllr Sue Lissimore: 7 nts @ av. £95 = £665

1 x Officer 7 nts @ av. £95 =£665

1 x Officer 11nts @ av. £95 = £1045

Subsistence

Some meals will be provided by our hosts. In addition:

Cllr Lissimore

Lunch x 4 @£10 ea. = £40

Dinner x 4 @£20 ea. = £80

1 Officer (7 nights)

Lunch x 4 @ £10ea. x2= £40

Dinner x 4 @ £20ea x2 =£80

1 Officer (11 nights)

Lunch x 8 @ £10ea. x2= £80

Dinner x 8 @ £20ea x2 =£160

Customary gifts to exchange £120

Visas £250 for 2 people

Transfers

1. To and from airports

Breakdown of transfers:

To Heathrow out (3persons) x 2 taxi

£229

From Shanghai airport

Cllr Lissimore & 1 Officer £88

1 x Officer £88

To Shanghai return

Cllr Lissimore £88 & 2 Officer

From Heathrow on return

Cllr Lissimore £135 & 1 Officer

1 Officer £94

2. Surface travel by train/bus/taxis

Estimated at 5 rail/bus journeys @£20.00pp ea x3 =

£300

Estimated at 15 local China taxi journeys @ £1.50 ea =

£22.50

Incidentals (e.g. bottled water, other minor expenses)

Estimate: £30

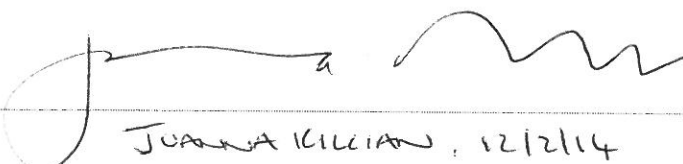
Total £6099.50 (£2033.16pp average).

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

As per the report above. The purpose of the visit is to attract inward investment in the Life Science sector to the East of England

* Please note you will need to demonstrate that in accordance with the Members' Allowances Scheme three quotes have been obtained before booking foreign hotels.

Comments of the Chief Executive



JOANNA KILIAN, 12/12/14

The visit fits within the Economic Growth Strategy approved by the Council and members and Officers are all involved in the delivery of that. Approved.

Comments of the Section 151 Officer

Margaret Lee
12/12/14

