

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: *John Jowers*

Details of the visit (incl. dates):

Travel to Antwerp on 23 September 2014, attend the Floodcom Final Conference on the 24th September and travel back on the 25 September 2014.

Estimated cost of the visit: £ 440. *All costs re-imbursed by EU at 50%. Therefore cost to ECC = £220*

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.

Flights: £130 (City Jet from London City to Antwerp)

Other Travel: £40 (trains to London City)

Accommodation: 2 nights in Lindner Hotel £250

Subsistence: £20 (meal on first night, all other food provided)

All costs re-imbursed by EU at 50%. Therefore cost to council = £220

The conference is being held in the Lindner Hotel, Antwerp with all activities and meals provided at the hotel. We will be applying for a block booking discount with the venue for all delegates staying in the hotel.

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

Floodcom is a 2Seas Programme EU funded project dealing with flood alleviation schemes and community engagement on flooding issues with a total budget of €4.5 million.

Essex is lead partner and there are also partners from Belgium, France and the Netherlands. This three year project closes with a final conference in Antwerp on 24 September where we will celebrate its achievements, including an innovative education activity developed by Essex.

As lead partner we would like Cllr Jowers to represent us at a senior level and participate at the conference as host. Given the prestige of the project, we feel that representation from a councillor level is necessary. 50% of all costs will be reimbursed from the EU as a project expense.

Comments of the Chief Executive

Approved - 

Comments of the Section 151 Officer

Approved - conference is relevant to ECC business and costs are in line with ECC travel and subsistence policies.

Marguerite 1/4/14

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