



Rutland County Council

Rutland County Council

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17 July 2017

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – 843/17

Dear Sir/Madam

Your request for information has now been considered and the information requested is provided below.

Request:

From 01 January 2016 to the day this request is processed, I would like to know the number of overseas trips council officials have taken in the course of conducting council business.

For each overseas trip, please provide the following information:

1. The date and duration of the overseas trip, as well as the country/city that was visited?
2. The full name, title and position of the council official who went on the overseas trip?
3. The reason or reasons why the council official went on the overseas trip?
4. The cost of the overseas trip (please provide a breakdown of travel costs, accommodation costs and expenses)?
5. Please state whether the council met the costs of the overseas trip, or whether an individual, group, company, consortium, charity or another organisation met the costs?
6. Please provide the full name of the individual, group, company, charity or organisation that met the costs. If it is a group or consortium, please state who or what composes the group or consortium?



Response:

During the period 1 January 2016 to 14 July 2017, Mrs H Briggs, Chief Executive took 3 overseas trips on Council Business and Gill Curtis; Head of Lifelong Learning took 1 overseas visit. The purpose of all visits was to engage with Military families and to support the transition of families rebasing to the county of Rutland in 2017. All visits were at the invitation of the Regiment's Commanding Officers/Welfare Teams.

Trip 1

16 - 19 October 2016 (3 nights) - Mrs H Briggs flew from Luton to Paderborn in Germany. This was zero cost to Rutland County Council as a Military Flight was used and the Chief Executive stayed in the Officers Mess. If there were any costs involved these were met by 1 Military Working Dogs Regiment.

Trip 2

29th October to 2nd November 2016 (4 nights) - Mrs H Briggs flew from Luton to Larnaca to visit The Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment based in Dhekelia, Cyprus. The cost of this trip was paid for by Rutland County Council and expenses incurred were £272.33 for the flight and £166 for hotel accommodation.

Trip 3

22nd January to 25th January 2017 (3 nights) - Mrs H Briggs and Mrs G Curtis flew from Birmingham to Larnaca to visit the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment for further engagement work with the families preparing them for their move back to the UK. This trip particularly focussed on ensuring that all arriving children had school places, that any Special Educational Needs could be met and also to provide advice on local employment opportunities for wives/partners coming back to the UK. Two return flights to Larnaca cost £390.98 (£195.49 each). Accommodation was provided in the Officers Mess and therefore zero cost to Rutland County Council.

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If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Head of Corporate Governance, Rutland County Council, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HP
You can also complain to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water lane
Wilmslow, Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545700

Yours faithfully

FOI Administrator
Corporate Support Team, Rutland County Council