

CIVIC RELATED VISITS

DEPARTMENT /REPRESENTATION	DESTINATION	DURATION	PURPOSE OF VISIT	TOTAL COST
Councillor Anne Underwood – Finance & Governance Lord Mayor Lord Mayor's Consort 1 Officer	County Sligo, Ireland	26-29 March 2018	<p>To further strengthen the links between Birmingham and Ireland and to finalise arrangements for exhibiting the Banada Peace Tapestry Birmingham as part of a UK tour.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cabinet agreed that the Banada Peace Tapestry, a growing tapestry of ties donated by notable figures supporting the Northern Ireland Peace Process, should be exhibited in the Library of Birmingham for a 4 week period as part of a national tour. The visit brought together all stakeholders, including the Directors of the Banada Development Agency, the Chief Executive and Mayor of Sligo County Council. A date is now being agreed the Library of Birmingham for the exhibition to be staged early in 2019. 	<p>£914.14 Flights £454.2 Accommodation £349.72 Subsistence £110.22 Authorised by Councillor Ian Ward</p>

NETWORK RELATED VISITS

DEPARTMENT /REPRESENTATION	DESTINATION	DURATION	PURPOSE OF VISIT	TOTAL COST
Councillor Ian Ward – Finance and Governance	Washington, USA	23-25 January 2018	<p>To take part in the UK Mayors and Leaders Delegation to Washington DC and represent Birmingham at the International Mayoral Round Table on Building resilient and Inclusive Cities.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <p>The meeting provided elected officials from the UK, U.S., Germany and Canada to discuss city leadership in building inclusive, tolerant and resilient communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Leader of the Council was able to share best practice in dealing with violent extremism from Birmingham with international colleagues further consolidating Birmingham's role as a lead in this field. The meeting also looked at how Cities could work together to prevent terrorism; <p>As a result of this meeting BCC commitment and role within the SCN and as a leader in countering violent extremism was further consolidated.</p>	<p>£32.00 for subsistence. FLIGHTS AND ACCOMMODATION COSTS MET BY THE INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC DIALOGUE Authorised by Councillor Brigid Jones</p>
Councillor Ian Ward – Finance and Governance	Ghent, Belgium	1-2 February 2018	<p>Attend the Light Festival Ghent - including meetings with President of EUROCITIES (Mayor of Ghent) and Vice Mayor of Ghent, responsible for Tourism, Culture and Events.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <p>During the visit a number of meetings and activities were undertaken in the capacity of Chair of the Eurocities Culture Forum. This included;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attending the flagship Ghent Light Festival with a range of associated visits/meetings linked to this including the Ghent Design Museum and with the Ghent 'Hello Robot' Expo. 2. A meeting with the Vice Mayor of Ghent to discuss the role of cities in tourism, culture and events 3. A meeting with the Mayor of Ghent (who is also the President of Eurocities) to progress the work of the Eurocities Executive Committee with its Democracy campaign including the planning of its launch and activities in 2018. 	<p>£188.20 Flight £145.45 Train £29.05 Accommodation costs covered by organisers Subsistence £13.70 Authorised by Councillor Brigid Jones</p>

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Councillor Ian Ward European and International Affairs – 1 Officer	Brussels, Belgium	19 February 2018	<p>The UK Core City Leaders/Mayors to meet with the EU chief negotiator Michel Barnier to discuss the implications for Brexit and try to make it a success.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <p>This visit included 8 of the 10 UK Core City Leaders and Mayors and was a visit in the context of Brexit. The Leaders had meetings arranged with Michel Barnier, Chief negotiator for the EU and Guy Verhofstadt Chief negotiator for the European Parliament. The meetings allowed the Core Cities to set out very clear objectives with both negotiators with regards to expectations from the perspective of cities in terms of future relationships. This was felt necessary due to a reluctance of the UK government to discuss Brexit issues with Core City Leaders. The visit was covered by the BBC and featured on BBC national news. There was also a positive outcome from the meeting in that the Core Cities have been offered a “Hearing” in the European Parliament to set out their key concerns and core objectives for their future relationship with Europe.</p>	<p>£971.46 Flights: £955.02 Subsistence: £16.44 Authorised by Waheed Nazir</p>

PARTNER CITIES RELATED VISITS - None

PROFESSIONAL, FUNDING AND SPECIFIC PROJECTS RELATED VISITS

DEPARTMENT /REPRESENTATION	DESTINATION	DURATION	PURPOSE OF VISIT	TOTAL COST
Strategic Services – 2 Officers	Milan, Italy	16-17 January 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To go through the pilot activity following the City4Age Project Annual Review.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed development of the intervention process to support older people to increase their physical, social and mental activity - types of messages; scheduling and content Agreed additional data to be collection on daily living activities linked to social care through questionnaires and geriatrician assessment Discussed proposal to support new bid funded bid using wearables and smart technologies to support ageing workforce Invited to submit further proposal to receive additional funding to undertake a feasibility study on the future exploitation of city4age services in Birmingham looking at the challenges and opportunity to deliver at scale in an ethnically diverse city with high levels of deprivation. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert</p>
European and International Affairs – 1 Officer	Brussels, Belgium	23-25 January 2018	<p>To attend 3 meetings: EUROCITIES Executive Committee, Executive Cohesion Policy Working Group and EU Urban Agenda working group.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes: This visit fulfilled four key aspects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A meeting with staff in the Greater Birmingham Brussels Office, including 1:1 meetings and planning for the February visit of Core City Leaders, MEPs and the BBC. A meeting of the Eurocities Executive Committee (Officers) which prepares the agenda and papers for the subsequent meeting of Leaders and Mayors of the Executive Committee. A meeting of the Eurocities EU Urban Agenda Working Group which is co-chaired by Birmingham. This Group oversees the policy input into the wider governance of the Urban Agenda overseen in partnership between Member States, European Parliament and European Commission. A meeting of the Eurocities Cohesion Policy Working Group which is also co-chaired by Birmingham. This Group oversees Eurocities lobbying and policy input into the review of EU Cohesion Policy which is the policy that contains the key EU funding instruments such as ESF and ERDF. Greater Birmingham currently has €278m of these funds and this Group seeks to influence improvements in its management and implementation. 	<p>£761.53 Flight £372.74 Accommodation £297.47 Subsistence £91.32 Authorised by Waheed Nazir</p>

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Strategic Services – 1 Officer	Genoa, Italy	29-31 January 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To get involved in PURE COSMOS, a project which aims to exchange good practices on the role that public authorities can play in enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs by improving the business climate and support in which they operate.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes: This Study Visit looked at how Italy uses a National Platform for use by all Local Authorities when dealing with payments from Citizens. This was interesting in that the UK has a mixture of payment systems at National, Regional and Local Levels and economies of scale would make it easier for UK to adopt a similar process.</p> <p>There is a potential that this could be done using the WMCA as the main portal, linking a number of local authority payments together. Not only would this from a data perspective see an overall picture of the region, but this this would enable authorities to work together and upscale transactions making them cheaper and more efficient giving citizens value for money in times of austerity.</p> <p>Birmingham is holding an import workshop in June to see how different platforms, methodology can work to reduce the overall administrative burden of the region and their interactions with the local authority.</p>	ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert
Policy and Programmes – 1 Officer	Budapest, Hungary	6-8 February 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To link priorities of the Council Vision Priorities 2017 in particular “Jobs and Skills”, delivering on the sustainable driver of change.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Lead Partner, BCC chairs the projects’ Steering Committee; the partnership includes representatives from UK International Synergies, IVACE & Aidimme, Valencia Spain, Emilia-Romagna & Aster, Bologna, Italy and HOI & IFKA, Budapest, Hungary. The steering meeting discussed future tasks; deliverables achieved so far; and the current budgetary information. Decisions were made around Good Practices from different regions and the production of draft Action Plans which will influence each regions policy around the development of Industrial Symbiosis. The Interregional meeting entailed presentations on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Circular Economy Business models Circular economy businesses in Hungary Financial Instruments Synergies with other European projects 	ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Waheed Nazir

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Strategic Services – 2 Officers	Pavia, Italy	20-23 February 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To attend a PULSE meeting, a partner project aimed to exploit the value of Big Data in local authorities. Birmingham is especially focused on the theme of Type 2 Diabetes and mobilities linked to air quality.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review progress on Birmingham pilot, which is recruiting citizens to take part in PULSE focused on helping to increase participants' physical activity and encourage healthier lifestyle to reduce the risk of diabetes. Further development of the pilots looking at the recruitment protocols, focus groups, public health scenarios and ethics and privacy. Further development of the PULSair app, which will collect information and data on participants' health & wellbeing through questionnaires; wearables and open data Evaluation of portable air quality sensors which will be used to collect additional data on particulates; NO2 from local neighbourhoods Communications plan agreed to promote the opportunities of the project to key stakeholders 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert</p>
Children and Young People, Education – 4 Officers	Jakarta, Indonesia	24 February – 2 / 3 March 2018	<p>To engage in a programme to establish international school links between Indonesia and the UK in the theme of Diversity and promote tolerance and international collaboration among young people of different backgrounds.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invitation to Birmingham schools to engage with our Focus on Indonesia programme (universal and targeted levels) has stimulated quite some interest, including the Catholic Primary Partnership. Meeting with Cityserve colleagues was successful and we will follow this through with a request for chef training and hope to plan this into menus for exchange school meals in July and universally in September Suggested date for teacher exchange from UK to Indonesia first mid July for introduction, partnership development and co-construction of shared curriculum resource Contacts being made with Indonesian students at Birmingham University and we already have offers of speakers to go into our schools to capture interest so this will form part of the offer Online platform for student collaboration to be developed based on the outcome of teacher exchange and curriculum content, themes to follow 	<p>Flights £1,088.68 (for 2 Officers only) Authorised by Graeme Betts</p>

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Strategic Services – 1 Officer	Barcelona, Spain	26-28 February 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To attend a PULSE meeting, a partner project aimed to exploit the value of Big Data in local authorities. Birmingham is especially focused on the theme of Type 2 Diabetes and mobilities linked to air quality.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on Birmingham's development of citizen data driven activities linked to key projects of PULSE and City4Age • Recognition of work that is already being undertaken by Birmingham City Council in the development of citizen driven services to support predictive, preventative healthcare • Arranged an adult and social care workshop to showcase some of the emerging technologies through ECH Alliance on 4 April 2018 looking at smart technology enabled platforms - e.g. behaviour change models and technologies (AI technology and a multi-channel communication, digital tools e.g. app, web. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert</p>
European and International Affairs – 1 Officer	Lisbon, Portugal	6-9 March 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: Attend a partner meeting in Lisbon for the Interreg Europe Urban Manufacturing project.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The partner meeting agreed a marketing strategy for the each city; agreed the financial position; agreed the timescales for the action plan; agreed the dates for the next policy meetings including Birmingham and discussed how to engage with local stakeholders more effectively. • The policy meeting encompassed three study visits to: Fablab Lisboa; Crafts Market and Fabrica Moderna. • The idea Birmingham brought back was to explore whether there is appetite to renovate a disused central location to develop a fab lab similar to the Lisbon example(where there is a range of equipment which can be used free of charge for prototyping). This could be enhanced by using the Community engagement programme provided at Fabrica Moderna whereby courses are put on for different local groups to address a particular need or issue e.g. to help young people overcome some psychological problems through creativity. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Waheed Nazir</p>

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Councillor Ian Ward Economy – 2 Officers European and International Affairs – 1 Officer	Cannes, France	12-16 March 2018	<p>To attend MIPIM 2018 (European property exhibition) to promote the city's investment opportunities on the world stage as a competitive location in the world marketplace for investment.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham was a key part in the Midlands UK pavilion that welcomed 4,700 visitors on to the stand over the 4 days of MIPIM and contributed to the 50 on-stand events. The Birmingham city council team held 55 separate 1:1 meetings with investors, developer and funds over the 3 main working days of the conference discussing current or possible investment and development in to Birmingham housing and commercial/employment space The Birmingham city council team took part in 16 speaking engagements, showcasing the city to a wide range of new global investment partners. Birmingham was awarded fDi's European Cities and Regions of the Future Award were it won the Best FDI Strategy for a Large City. The city council used the MIPIM 2018 conference, the largest property event in the world, as a backdrop to announce the development partner in the Peddimore site and the new purchasing partner of the Innovation Birmingham campus. The Leader of the city council met with the President and Mayor of Lyon and the Mayor of Grenoble to forward current sister city engagement activity. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY ENTERPRISE ZONE FUNDING Authorised by Waheed Nazir</p>
Strategic Services – 1 Officer	Loule, Portugal	18-20 March 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To attend the final meeting of Vital Cities where Urbact are satisfied that all plans have been produced and that each partner city has met their objectives.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The event allowed us to present and BCC work around the skills and capacities of urban professionals to manage Local Groups and develop Integrated Action Plans. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert</p>

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Strategic Services – 1 Officer Economy – 1 Officer	Oslo, Norway	21-23 March 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To represent BCC and present its sustainability project at the 2 day CEPPI Study Visit and Consortium Meeting in Oslo.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The seminar provided the opportunity to connect, exchange and share knowledge and experience on implementing sustainable and innovative procurement. The CEPPI Project team is producing a “PPI Guide for Low Energy Cities” which will be launched shortly. This links to the Councils “drivers for change”, priorities and vision for the future (will be writing part of this report). The CEPPI meeting tied up the energy savings of the EU funded CEPPI work being carried out in the partner cities of Birmingham, Budapest, Castelló, Valencia and Wrocław. As a result of knowledge gained from the conference and CEPPI project, circular procurement and sustainable procurement is being added to BCC’s procurement strategy. <p>As a result of this meeting BCC was invited to join a further partnership of local authorities working towards the use of circular procurement.</p>	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Angela Probert / Waheed Nazir</p>
Councillor Lisa Trickett	Geneva, Italy	26-27 March 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: Birmingham is involved in two relevant EU funded projects on the subject of this Conference (TRIS – Transition Regions towards Industrial Symbiosis and BASIS – Birmingham and Solihull Industrial Symbiosis). To attend a High-level Conference organised by the United Nations to explore how cities and nations have developed “Innovative partnership for sustainable Consumption and Production”.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Birmingham sharing experience from 2002 to date in adopting a proactive industrial symbiosis approach to develop a strategy for sustainable economic development. Over the period 2002 to date, Bcc has developed TEEZ, Big City Plan, an Energy Park, the European Bioenergy Research Institute and hosted delegations from over 20 countries across the world. Policy discussion of successful practices in circular production and consumption at a regional, national and city level. The meeting was used as a platform to influence ERDF spend to support the circular economy. 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Councillor Ian Ward</p>

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European and International Affairs – 1 Officer	Bologna, Italy	27-29 March 2018	<p>Existing EU Funding Project: To visit Bologna as part of the Transition Regions towards Industrial Symbiosis (TRIS) project where Birmingham is the lead partner.</p> <p>Practical Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadened working partnership with International Synergies Limited – with whom we have a contractual and mutual aims working relationship on EU funded projects including TRIS and the ERDF funded BASIS project. • Researched further practical ideas on Waste to Energy plants (re the Tyslely plant and the forthcoming main operating contract). • Gain insight into working practices – SME assistance networks (using ERDF) and compare to BCC/local methods 	<p>ALL COSTS MET BY EUROPEAN FUNDING Authorised by Ian MacLeod</p>

Total Cost of visits = £3,956.01

No of visits by Members = 6

No of visits by Officers = 14

No of visits at No Cost to the City = 11

Total cost of visits undertaken between

Date	No of visits	Cost
1 January 2018 – 31 March 2018	17	£3,956.01
Totals	17	£3,956.01

Costings Info for the previous period, 2014-2017:

Date	No of visits	Cost
1 April 2017 – 30 June 2017	17	£13,788
1 July 2017 – 30 September 2017	7	£2,634
21 September 2017 – 14 December 2017	22	£7,026.18
Totals	46	£23,448.18

Date	No of visits	Cost
1 April 2016 – 30 June 2016	25	£16,989
1 July – 30 September 2016	12	£5,133
1 October – 30 December 2016	36	£9,112
1 January 2017 – 31 March 2017	24	£14,839
Totals	97	£46,073

Date	No of visits	Cost
1 April 2015 to 30 June 2015	36	£8,648
1 July – 30 September 2015	32	£18,740
1 October – 30 December 2015	42	£15,910
1 January 2016 - 31 March 2016	25	£16,687
Totals	135	£59,985

Visits summary 2014/2015

Date	No of visits	Cost
1 April 2014 to 30 June 2014	28	£21,966
1 July – 30 September 2014	16	£7,833
1 October – 30 December 2014	39	£14,659
1 January 2015 to 31 March 2015	21	£9,540
Totals	104	£53,998