

FOI Request 638/2020: TaxPayers' Alliance - Overseas trips

InformationGovernance <InformationGovernance@angus.gov.uk>
 To: "harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com" <harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com>

10 September 2020 at 11:58

Dear Mr Fone

Request for Information

Thank you for your request for information dated 14 August 2020 (received by the Council that same day) which has been passed to me for attention.

You have requested the following information:

For the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:

1. How much money has the council spent in total on overseas trips for council staff?

2019/2020 - £5,727.92
 2020/2021 - Nil

2. How much money has the council spent in total on overseas trips for councillors (elected members)?

Nil

3. If time permits, I would be grateful for a breakdown of spending:

- Cost of any flights / ferries / coaches / taxis etc
- Class of travel purchased (e.g. economy, business, first)
- Cost of hotel stays and names of hotels
- Cost of subsistence (e.g. restaurant bills, drinks expenses)
- Any other fees / or costs incurred
- Reason for trips

Please see table below.

Date	Cost of flights/taxis etc	Class of travel	Cost of Hotel	Name of Hotel	Cost of Subsistence	Any other fees	Total Cost	Reason for Trips
Oct 2019	£1,221.38	Economy	£1934.89	Martini Hotel, Groningen, Netherlands	£13.00	£194.07	£3,363.34	Interreg, North Sea Region-Project Like! Final conference
Oct 2019	£356.22	Economy	£610.00	Savoy Le Grande Marrakesh	£99.74	£39.59	£1,105.55	International Golf Travel Market
Feb 2020	£640.00	Economy	£471.59	DGI Huset, Herning	£111.96	£35.48	£1,259.03	Danish Golf Show

In compiling responses to information requests we invariably use information which is routinely published on the [Council's website](#) or through its [Publication Scheme](#). If you require further information please first check that the information you want is not routinely published as any such information is exempt from release in terms of Section 25 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 or Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

I hope that this information is of some help to you. Please note that the information contained in this reply is believed to be accurate as of today's date (unless otherwise indicated) but no warranty is given. Further, Angus Council does not accept liability for any loss, injury or damage which arises from the use of the information contained in this reply either by you or by any other party. Please refer to the information set out below which explains your right to complain if you are unhappy with how the Council has dealt with your request. If you have any queries, please contact me on 01307 491752 or e-mail InformationGovernance@angus.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,
 Brenda Angus

Brenda Angus | Business Support Assistant | Angus Council | Tel: 01307 491752 | Email: angusbm@angus.gov or legdem@angus.gov.uk | www.angus.gov.uk

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From: InformationGovernance
Sent: 14 August 2020 16:43
To: 'harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com' <harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com>
Subject: FOI Request 638/2020: TaxPayers' Alliance - Overseas trips

Dear Mr Fone

Thank you for your information request dated 14 August 2020 (received by Angus Council that same day).

If we are unable to provide you with a response within 20 working days, we will advise you of this in writing.

Please refer to the information below which explains your right to complain if you are unhappy with how the Council is dealing with your request.

If you have any queries, please ask for me on 01307 491752 or email InformationGovernance@angus.gov.uk

Yours sincerely
Brenda Angus

Brenda Angus | Business Support Assistant | Angus Council | Tel: 01307 491752 | DX 530678 FORFAR | Email: angusbm@angus.gov.uk or legdem@angus.gov.uk | www.angus.gov.uk

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 2002
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004
INSPIRE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2009

Your Right to Request a Review by the Council

If you are dissatisfied with the way in which Angus Council has dealt with your request for information under any of the above statutory instruments, you have a right to ask the council to review its actions and/or decisions regarding your request. If you wish to do this, you should make your request to the Director of Legal & Democratic Services, Angus Council, Angus House, Orchardbank Business Park, Forfar DD8 1AN or e-mail InformationGovernance@angus.gov.uk within 40 working days.

Your request must:

- be in writing (or recordable format);
- give your name and address for correspondence;
- give details of the information which you originally requested from the council; and

- give the reasons why you are dissatisfied with the way in which your application for information has been dealt with.

Your application for review will then be considered by the council's review panel. The review panel will write to you informing you of its decision not later than 20 working days after receipt of your request for a review. The review panel will also provide you with a statement of its reasons for arriving at the decision it has made.

Your Right to Appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner

If you are dissatisfied with a decision of the council's review panel (or where the review panel has not provided you with a response), you have the right to apply to the Scottish Information Commissioner for a decision as to whether your request for information has been dealt with by the council in accordance with the above statutory instruments.

Your application to the Scottish Information Commissioner must:

- be in a recordable format (letter, e-mail, audio tape etc);
- give your name and address for correspondence.
- give details of the request for information which you originally requested from the council;
- give details of why you were dissatisfied with the council's response to your original request;
- give details of why you were dissatisfied with the decision of the council's review panel.

In the case of an EIR or FOI request your application to the Scottish Information Commissioner must be made within 6 months of receipt of the decision of the council's review panel (or within 6 months of the date that the review panel should have responded). No such time limit applies under the 2009 Regulations.

Appeals to the Commissioner can be lodged online through the following hyperlink:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx> or by contacting:

Scottish Information Commissioner, Kinburn Castle, [Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, Fife, KY16](#) 9BS; Telephone - 01334 464610; Fax - 01334 464611; Email - enquiries@itspublicknowledge.info

From: harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com [<mailto:harry.fone@taxpayersalliance.com>]

Sent: 14 August 2020 13:50

To: LEGDEM <LEGDEM@angus.gov.uk>

Subject: Freedom of information request: overseas trips

Dear FOI team,

Please would you provide me with the following information:

For the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21 to date:

1. How much money has the council spent in total on **overseas trips** for **council staff**?
2. How much money has the council spent in total on **overseas trips** for **councillors** (elected members)?
3. If time permits, I would be grateful for a **breakdown** of spending:
 - Cost of any flights / ferries / coaches / taxis etc
 - Class of travel purchased (e.g. economy, business, first)
 - Cost of hotel stays and names of hotels
 - Cost of subsistence (e.g. restaurant bills, drinks expenses)
 - Any other fees / or costs incurred
 - Reason for trips

My preferred format is to receive this information electronically. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me either by email or

phone: 07759 151 066.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this request as soon as possible.

Kind regards,

Harry Fone, Campaign Manager (Grassroots)

TaxPayers' Alliance, [55 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3QL](#)

+44 (0) 20 7998 1450

24-hour media line: 07795 084113 (No texts)

www.taxpayersalliance.com

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