

PARLIAMENTARY TRAVEL

Executive summary

1. The Corporate Body is invited to note parliamentary travel overseas and, in accordance with paragraph 2.7.2 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament¹, in relation to receipt by Members of travel, hospitality etc, to approve the details of the travel and other costs associated with it. The travel will take place on 12 and 13 January 2014 and the Corporate Body is asked to approve this parliamentary travel.
2. The SPCB is asked to approve the travel by Michael McMahon MSP to a meeting of Committee D (Environment and Social) of the British Irish Parliamentary Assembly (BIPA) which will take place in Dublin as part of an inquiry the Committee is undertaking on 'travelling communities'.

Issues and Options

3. The attached table at Annex A details the travel by Michael McMahon MSP to the Committee D meeting in Dublin.
4. Michael McMahon MSP is our BIPA Member of Committee D (Environment and Social). Confirmation of the arrangements for the meeting and Michael's travel arrangements were obtained just prior to the Christmas recess and therefore the details of the meeting were not known prior to the SPCB's last meeting in 2013. You are invited to agree this specific request for parliamentary travel by correspondence as the travel will take place in advance of the next SPCB meeting, on 22 January 2013.
5. As the Corporate Body will know, approval for any such visit programme means that travel on parliamentary business is not regarded as a registrable interest under the terms of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Resource Implications

6. The cost of return flights to Dublin is £52.68 and the cost of hotel accommodation is £83.10. In addition, Michael McMahon MSP may incur some incidental expenses associated with attending the committee meeting. Budgetary provision of £60 has been estimated to meet any expenses. The total cost to the SPCB of attendance at the BIPA Committee D meeting in Dublin, on 12 and 13 January 2014, is currently £195.78.

¹ As required by Volume 2, Section 2.4 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament.

Publication Scheme

7. This paper will be published as part of the SPCB's Publication Scheme.

Decision

8. The Corporate Body is invited:

- To agree the attendance by Michael McMahon MSP at the BIPA Committee D meeting in Dublin on 12 and 13 January 2014.
- In accordance with paragraph 2.7.2 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament, in relation to receipt by Members of travel, hospitality etc, to approve the details of the travel and the associated costs as set out in the paper.

**UK and International Relations Office
7 January 2014**

Annex A

VISIT DATE	DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	TIME	DESTINATION	PARTICIPANTS	APPROX. COSTS TO SPCB
12-13 January 2013	Attendance at a meeting of BIPA Committee D	2 days	Dublin, Republic of Ireland	Michael McMahon MSP	Flights - £52.68 Accommodation - £83.10 Expenses - £60 Total - £195.78