

PARLIAMENTARY TRAVEL

Executive summary

1. The SPCB is invited to note forthcoming overseas parliamentary travel and, in accordance with paragraph 2.4.2 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 other costs associated with it.

Issues and options

2. The attached table provides details of three visits expected in the next six months. As the SPCB is aware, advance approval for such visits means that travel on parliamentary business is not regarded as a registrable interest under the terms of the Code of Conduct. The costs shown include those incurred by any parliamentary staff, if accompanying Members.

Resource implications

3. The travel costs for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Cameroon conference will be met by the UK and International relations Office (UKIRO) while hotel costs will be met by the CPA (Cameroon Branch). The Flemish Parliament/Flanders Field travel costs will be met from the UKIRO budget while hotel and internal transport costs are being met by the Flemish Parliament. Travel costs for the Auschwitz/Birkenau visit will be met on this occasion by the Scottish Government as part of its Lessons from Auschwitz project run by the Holocaust Educational Trust. Other costs (hotel) will be met by UKIRO.

Publication scheme

4. This paper should be published as part of the SPCB's Publication Scheme.

Decision

5. The Corporate Body is invited to note the attached table detailing visits on behalf of the Parliament and, in accordance with paragraph 2.4.2 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament, approve the details of the travel and other costs associated with these visits.

**Fergus D. Cochrane
UK & International Relations Office
September 2014**

VISIT DATE	DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	TIME	DESTINATION	PARTICIPANTS	APPROX. COST TO SPCB
2-10 October 2014	CPA Annual Conference: Travel costs associated with attendance by Tavish Scott MSP and Patricia Ferguson MSP (attending as Vice Chair of the CPA Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Steering Group) at annual CPA conference in Cameroon	9 days	Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tavish Scott MSP • Patricia Ferguson MSP 	£2,310
VISIT DATE	DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	TIME	DESTINATION	PARTICIPANTS	APPROX. COSTS TO SPCB
7 October 2014	Holocaust Educational trust Lessons from Auschwitz project: DPO will visit Auschwitz and Birkenau along with schoolchildren and HET staff as part of the next schools visit and consider what role there might be for further Scottish Parliament involvement in this project	1 day	Auschwitz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elaine Smith MSP, Deputy Presiding Officer ▪ One official 	£120
VISIT DATE	DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	TIME	DESTINATION	PARTICIPANTS	APPROX. COSTS TO SPCB
16-18 October 2014	Visit, at invitation of the Flemish Parliament, to the Parliament and Flanders Field as part of the commemoration of World War I	3 days (inclusive of travel)	Brussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John Scott MSP, Deputy Presiding Officer ▪ One official 	£450