

PARLIAMENTARY TRAVEL

Executive summary

1. The Corporate Body is invited to note forthcoming parliamentary travel overseas relating to the attendance by two MSP's at the 2013 British Islands and Mediterranean Region Conference. Members are asked, 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.

Issues and Options

2. The attached table at Annex A provides details of the attendance of two MSP's at the British Islands and Mediterranean Regions (BIMR) Conference which is being held in the Falkland Islands from 11 to 15 February 2013. As the Corporate Body will know, advance 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. The costs shown also include those incurred by any parliamentary staff, if accompanying Members.

Resource Implications

3. The costs of attendance at the 2013 BIMR Conference will be met from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) budget, which is allocated annually by the SPCB to the UK & International Relations Office (UKIRO) and agreed in a forward resources plan with the CPA Scotland Branch Executive Committee.
4. A breakdown of costs is contained within Annex A. The overall estimated costs of the attendance by the delegation at the conference are £6,010.

Publication Scheme

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

Decision

6. The Corporate Body is invited:

¹ As required by Section 2.7 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Scottish Parliament in force from 3 May 2007.

- To note the attached table at Annex A detailing the visits on behalf of the Parliament; and
- 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 other costs associated with the visits set out in the Annex.

UK & International Relations Office
December 2012

Annex A

VISIT DATE	DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES	TIME	DESTINATION	PARTICIPANTS	APPROX. COSTS TO SPCB
11 to 15 February 2013	<p>The 2013 BIMR Conference, being held in the Falkland Islands from 11 to 15 February 2013, will be structured around the theme of 'Self-Determination and its Role in Self-Government and Devolution'.</p> <p>The CPA Scotland Branch Executive Committee has selected two MSP's to attend this conference. The MSP's are Margaret Mitchell MSP and Stuart McMillan MSP. In addition, one official will accompany the MSPs.</p>	6 days	Falkland Islands	Margaret Mitchell MSP and Stuart McMillan MSP	Flights: £5,084 Taxis: £200 Taxes: £66 Miscellaneous: £660 Total (estimated): £6,010