

Departmental spend on away days and team-building events since May 2010. The information provided covers the period 1 May 2010 to 11 February 2011.

I am able to provide you with the following information:

- There has been no Ministerial away day during this period
- There was one corporate away day for the Senior Civil Service in the Department for Communities and Local Government which incurred cost. Details of this are set out in the table below.

Grade	Date	Venue	Room Hire/Accommodation	Refreshment	Other Facilities
SCS session at Civil Service Live 2010	6 July 2010	Olympia	No cost to DCLG. (Civil Service Live was arranged by Cabinet Office, who asked all Departments to run a session for their SCS cadre during the 3 days of the overall event.)	£660.35 (including staffing)	No cost identified

As individual divisions have allocated budgets to cover this kind of expenditure we would need to approach individual Senior Civil Servants and Team Leaders. In a previous letter to you dated 7 June 2010 which was issued in respect of a similar FOI request, you were advised we would need to approach Departmental Training Co-ordinators to gather this information. As the Department is currently under-going a restructuring programme following the Spending Review, the role of the Departmental Training Co-ordinators is being reviewed. As a consequence of this, we would need to approach all Senior Civil Servants and Team Leaders within the Department to ask them to assist in locating, retrieving and extracting the information. We have 126 Senior Civil Servants and 551 Team Leaders within the Department (as at 31 January 2010). We have estimated they would each spend a minimum of 1 hour in carrying out these activities. As a result the total cost of providing such information would significantly exceed the £600 limit in the FOI Fees Regulations (this is based on the £25 per hour rate regardless of rank or position of the officials concerned).

It may be possible to provide you with some additional information within the £600 limit if you were, for example, to limit your request to specific business areas of the Department.