



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

T: 03459 33 55 77 or
08459 33 55 77
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Our ref: RFI 7220
Date: 11 February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION: Expenditure for Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss's visit to China

Thank you for your request for information, which we received on 19 January 2015, asking for a breakdown of expenditure, including transport, flights classes, accommodation and associated costs for the Secretary of State's visit to China. We have we have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The visit occurred from 11-16 January 2015. The Secretary of State was accompanied by four officials, including Defra's first Agriculture and Food Counsellor. The purpose of the visit was developing our relationship with China on food and drink, agriculture, agri-tech and animal health, which has the potential to unlock more than £800 million in trade for UK business over five years and support more jobs across the country.

A breakdown of the costs is below. This covers data held at the time of your request. UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) funded some aspects of the visit but that information was not held at the time of your request. You should contact UKTI for further information (enquiries@ukti.gsi.gov.uk).

The group stayed for two nights at the Rosewood Beijing and two nights at the Portman Hotel, Shanghai. The hotels cost £172.50 and £148 per person per night, respectively. There were five return flights to Beijing, three were Business Class at £5369.36 per person and two were Premium Economy at £3905.86 per person.

Remaining expenditure for the visit:

- UK meat and dairy-themed lunch at Residence with key figures from the pork/dairy industries at residence, 35 ppl = £735.
- Breakfast meeting with British environment companies doing business in China at Residence, 16 ppl = £128.
- Breakfast with key Illegal Wildlife Trade NGOs at Residence, 15 ppl = £120.
- Reception at CityShop Supermarket with Chinese food importers = £800.
- Dinner with Chinese investors into the UK = £960.
- Miscellaneous : interpreters: £2550; car / coach travel: £348; internal flights from Beijing to Shanghai: 3 First Class at £335.30 per person and 2 Economy at £136.30 per person.


I attach Annex A that explains the copyright that applies to the information being released



to you. I also attach Annex B giving contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact the address below.

Yours sincerely,


Defra FOIA and EIRs Team
InformationRequests@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Annex A

Copyright

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by copyright. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs or logos) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

Most documents produced by Defra will be protected by Crown Copyright. Most Crown copyright information can be re-used under the [Open Government Licence](#). For information about the OGL and about re-using Crown Copyright information please see [The National Archives website](#).

Copyright in other documents may rest with a third party. For information about obtaining permission from a third party see the [Intellectual Property Office's website](#).

Annex B

Complaints

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request you may make a complaint or appeal against our decision under section 17(7) of the FOIA or under regulation 18 of the EIRs, as applicable, within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please write to [REDACTED] Head of Information Standards, Area 4D, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR (email: requestforinfo@defra.gsi.gov.uk) and he will arrange for an internal review of your case. Details of Defra's complaints procedure are on our [website](#).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, section 50 of the FOIA and regulation 18 of the EIRs gives you the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted Defra's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF