

FOI Release
Information released under the Freedom of Information Act

Title: Away days and team building exercises since May 2010

Date of release: 7 October 2013

Information request

How much money have you spent on civil service away days and team building exercises since May 2010?

How often are these away days and/or team building exercises?

Who takes part in these away days and/or team building exercises?

What kinds of activities take place on these away days and/or team building exercises?

Information released

We are able to provide details of away days from May 2010 to September 2013. Our response covers all team away days, which include planning events which take place within our own premises, undertaken during that period.

With one exception, all awaydays undertaken are directly linked to business planning and/or capability building and development. They do not involve social activities. The one exception focussed on team building through volunteering.

Training, planning and performance improvement are essential for the long term success of any organisation, and Government is no different.

A change of environment can help teams to focus on the objectives of the day, to ensure they are successful. Officials at all levels of the Department make every effort to ensure that all such spending is clearly value for money for the taxpayer.

The total amount spent by the department during that period is £300,244.09.

Details of events are shown below.

BIS Awaydays and Team building events from May 2010 to September 2013

May to December 2010

Location	London
Numbers	23 staff
Cost	£110
Function	Team planning and capability building event

Location	Swindon
Numbers	28 staff
Cost	£3030.99
Function	Merging two teams to maximise their productivity

Location	Camberley
Numbers	10 staff
Cost	£1650
Function	Building a team to create effective outcomes

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£309.50
Function	Work with other government departments to build a joint understanding

Location	Stamford
Numbers	20 staff
Cost	£3427.92
Function	Senior Civil strategic planning session

Location	London
Numbers	8 staff
Cost	£500
Function	Strategy and review and planning

Location	Bournemouth
Numbers	50 staff
Cost	£4700
Function	Away day for staff in a new team, preparing them for the transition to the new structure and training in new ways of working

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£3194
Function	Executive Team strategic planning session

Location	London
Numbers	60 staff
Cost	£3086.50
Function	Directorate session as the result of a merger of two groups into one to set future strategic direction

Location	London
Numbers	13
Cost	Nil
Function	Stakeholder and Ministerial Engagement Team planning and identifying effective ways of working

Location	London
Numbers	71 staff
Cost	£3602.63
Function	Build understanding of the coalition's high level priorities

Location	London
Numbers	50 staff
Cost	£962
Function	Capability and Team Building Event in light of changes to the group, personnel and organisation

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£3458
Function	Executive Team strategic planning event

Location	London
Numbers	60 staff
Cost	£400
Function	Preparing for departmental organisational change

2011

Location	London
Numbers	190 staff
Cost	£838
Function	Introductory event to introduce new Director General and Strategy group

Location	London
Numbers	7
Cost	Nil
Function	Stakeholder and Ministerial Engagement Team planning and review

Location	London
Numbers	16
Cost	£2,922.30
Function	Capability and Team Building Event in light of changes to personnel and organisation

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	Nil
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team Event

Location	London
Numbers	17 staff
Cost	£234
Function	Team planning and development event

Location	London
Numbers	21
Cost	Nil
Function	Team leader Away Day business planning and career development

Location	London
Numbers	30
Cost	£1,400.00
Function	Post restructure planning

Location	London
Numbers	50
Cost	£956.50
Function	Team Leader planning session for newly formed Directorate

Location	London
Numbers	Approximately 100 staff
Cost	£3,335
Function	Development event focusing on business planning and the people strategy for the new group.

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	Nil
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team Event

Location	London
Numbers	53 staff
Cost	£1.278.60
Function	Directorate all staff event: business planning, team building and networking

Location	London
Numbers	20 staff
Cost	£325.00
Function	SCS strategy session, Market Frameworks Group

Location	London
Numbers	15
Cost	Nil
Function	Business and capability planning and review event- Innovation Infrastructure & Impact Team

Location	London
Numbers	180
Cost	Nil
Function	Financial & Commercial Group Event – all staff event

Location	London
Numbers	24
Cost	£1,400.00
Function	Post Restructure planning

Location	London
Numbers	100
Cost	£1,800.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	1 Victoria Street
Numbers	60
Cost	£1,800,00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	£1,800.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	50
Cost	£1,800,00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	13
Cost	Nil
Function	Stakeholder and Ministerial Engagement Team session

Location	Oxford
Numbers	104
Cost	£1,838.70
Function	HR Directorate planning session

Location	London
Numbers	16
Cost	£949
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	90
Cost	£3,000.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	35
Cost	£2,400.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	80
Cost	£4,746
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	60
Cost	£5280
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	44 staff
Cost	£7,154
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	20
Cost	Nil
Function	Research Funding Unit business planning day, including HMT

Location	London
Numbers	40
Cost	£2,400.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	34 staff
Cost	Nil
Function	RDA closure project review

Location	London
Numbers	90
Cost	£3260.19
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	6
Cost	£210
Function	Senior leadership team event

Location	London
Numbers	76 staff
Cost	£746.50
Function	Directorate all staff event: planning, team building and networking

Location	London
Numbers	80
Cost	£2,400.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	50
Cost	£4,400.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	16
Cost	£2,400.00
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	50
Cost	£5,406
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	90
Cost	£2,560.
Function	Post Restructuring planning

Location	London
Numbers	5 staff
Cost	£3703.88
Function	Senior Management Team capability building event.

Location	London
Numbers	9
Cost	£2,845.70
Function	Senior team building and development event following the restructure of the directorate

Location	London
Numbers	9
Cost	£63.14
Function	SCS business planning session

Location	London
Numbers	65
Cost	£297
Function	Information Strategy and Business Change Team Event

Location	London
Numbers	23 staff
Cost	£2,818.10
Function	Change programme follow up event bringing together teams to implement new ways of working.

2012

Location	London
Numbers	12
Cost	Nil
Function	Corporate Services Portfolio Team Event

Location	London
Numbers	7 staff
Cost	£390
Function	Strategy and review and planning

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	Nil
Function	Heads of Section Strategy and review and planning

Location	London
Numbers	20 staff
Cost	£300.00
Function	SCS business planning, Market Frameworks Group

Location	London
Numbers	36
Cost	£3,400
Function	Press Office development day

Location	London
Numbers	20
Cost	£700
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team Event

Location	London
Numbers	90 staff
Cost	£2050.56
Function	Shareholder Executive planning and development day

Location	London
Numbers	82 staff
Cost	£732
Function	Cross team working on the growth agenda

Location	Coventry
Numbers	16 staff
Cost	248.64
Function	Improving cross team working on the Midlands economic agenda

Location	London
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Numbers	60 staff
Cost	£1259.70
Function	HR planning, review and team development event

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£9,155.96
Function	Board Programme

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£4814.68
Function	Board Programme

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£4814.68
Function	Board Programme

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£4596.46
Function	Board Programme

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£4879
Function	Board Programme

Location	London
Numbers	9 staff
Cost	£4424.08
Function	Board Programme

Location	Sheffield
Numbers	13
Cost	£3066.25
Function	Team planning event bringing together a team based in 2 sites; input to Sheffield City Council economic scrutiny committee on SME support; networking with local business forums including MADE, the national entrepreneur festival

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	£4390
Function	Bringing a team that work on five sites across Britain to work on how we can communicate and work more effectively.

Location	Sheffield
Numbers	90 staff

Cost	£2928.33
Function	Bringing together a team based in 5 sites; and Business Networking with Entrepreneurs/SMEs to inform policy development and improve knowledge sharing

Location	Sheffield
Numbers	24 staff
Cost	£619.62
Function	Bringing together a team based on 2 sites and working across 2 Directorates; Forward planning & thinking ahead to future work demands/pressures; communications planning

Location	London
Numbers	25 staff
Cost	£546.80
Function	EMCPR Unit - Volunteering Event: conservation

Location	Warwickshire
Numbers	85 staff
Cost	£3516
Function	Planning day combined with a College Outreach visit

Location	London
Numbers	30 staff
Cost	£828
Function	Team Leadership and Business Planning Event

Location	London
Numbers	300 staff
Cost	£3990
Function	Set out the vision for the future Civil Service

Location	London
Numbers	135 staff
Cost	£2972.11
Function	Planning event

Location	Leicester
Numbers	135 staff
Cost	2333.50
Function	Planning event

Location	London
Numbers	40 staff
Cost	£2055
Function	Senior Civil Servant Leadership Programme; focus on staff engagement

Location	London
Numbers	150 staff
Cost	£10832
Function	Senior Civil Servant Leadership Programme, focusing on staff engagement (follow up from previous event with wider SCS audience)

Location	London
Numbers	40 staff
Cost	£2140
Function	Senior Civil Servant Leadership Programme, focusing on the Industrial Strategy

Location	London
Numbers	150 staff
Cost	£7658
Function	Senior Civil Servant Leadership Programme focusing on economic growth

Location	London
Numbers	40 staff
Cost	£1608
Function	Senior Civil Servant Leadership Programme focusing on Civil Service Reform

Location	London
Numbers	150 staff
Cost	£21986
Function	Senior Civil Service Leadership Programme focusing on talent management

Location	London
Numbers	15
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Planning and team development day

Location	London
Numbers	16 staff
Cost	£433.33
Function	Planning and Team development day

Location	Teddington
Numbers	5
Cost	£79.50
Function	Planning and Team development day

Location	Exeter
Numbers	10 staff
Cost	£1000
Function	Forward work planning session

Location	London
Numbers	25 staff
Cost	£28

Function	Strategy and Operations branch session - focused on business planning and future team priorities, cross team working, team identity, and ways of working
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Location	London
Numbers	14 staff
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Statistical Analysis team- planning, team development, effective ways of working

Location	London
Numbers	14 staff
Cost	£900
Function	Statistical Analysis Team: Communications strategy for statistics

Location	London
Numbers	8 staff
Cost	£35
Function	Event to discuss the strategic way forward for the Better Regulation agenda over the next eighteen months and to review the past year.

Location	London
Numbers	5 staff
Cost	£3703.88
Function	Senior management team capability building event

Location	London
Numbers	8 staff
Cost	£175.96
Function	Director and DDs strategic planning

Location	London
Numbers	100 staff
Cost	£3335
Function	Development event focussing on business planning and the people strategy for the new group

Location	London
Numbers	23 staff
Cost	£2818.10
Function	Change programme follow up event bringing together teams to implement new ways of working

Location	Coventry
Numbers	55 staff
Cost	£1550
Function	Planning and Team development

Location	London
Numbers	70
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Planning and Team development Event

Location	London
Numbers	30
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Financial Planning and Analysis Team

Location	London
Numbers	20
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Shared services

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	£1,420
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	£1,420
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	£1,420
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team

Location	London
Numbers	18
Cost	£1,420
Function	Financial Planning & Analysis Team

Location	London
Numbers	12
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Portfolio Office

Location	London
Numbers	35
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Information Strategy and Security

Location	London
Numbers	160
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Finance and Commercial group and people comms and corporate effectiveness group joint event

January 2013 to September 2013

Location	London
Numbers	15
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Half-Day Business Planning Away day

Location	London
Numbers	16
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Team Away day

Location	London
Numbers	60
Cost	£2,200
Function	All Staff Meeting

Location	London
Numbers	60
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	All Staff Meeting

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	All Staff Meeting

Location	London
Numbers	60
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Directorate Strategy & Operations Away day

Location	London
Numbers	110
Cost	£151.80
Function	All Staff Meeting

Location	London
Numbers	13
Cost	£15.96
Function	SMT Away day

Location	London
Numbers	23
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Team building and external relationship building with key stakeholders.

Location	London
Numbers	80
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	All Staff Team Building Event

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Senior Team Strategic Planning

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Senior Team Strategic Planning

Location	London
Numbers	25
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Senior Team Strategic Planning

Location	London
Numbers	5
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Team Planning Event

Location	Brighton
Numbers	8
Cost	£148.10
Function	Team Learning Event

Location	London
Numbers	14
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Team Building with external stakeholder

Location	London
Numbers	170
Cost	£3,000
Function	Team Planning Session

Location	London
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Numbers	150
Cost	£5850
Function	All Directorate Event to discuss future planning, cross group networking, focus on achievements and initiatives.

Location	Conference Centre, 1 Victoria Street
Numbers	150
Cost	None
Function	All Staff Event

Location	London
Numbers	8
Cost	£12
Function	Organising a new team

Location	London
Numbers	16
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Team Awayday

Location	London
Numbers	120
Cost	£42
Function	Inaugural Financial Management Awards

Location	London
Numbers	60
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	IT Directorate Awayday

Location	London
Numbers	14
Cost	Nil Cost
Function	Shared Services Ways of Working Workshop

Location	London
Numbers	8
Cost	£110 (Travel only)
Function	Finance Corporate Volunteering Day in a School

Location	London
Numbers	10
Cost	Nil cost
Function	Governance Team Workshop