



Homes
England

Date: 30 September 2022

Our Ref: RFI4053

Tel: 0300 1234 500

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

Making homes happen

By Email Only

Information Governance Team
Homes England
Windsor House – 6th Floor
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Dear [REDACTED]

RE: Request for Information – RFI4053

Thank you for your request for information which was processed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You requested the following information:

Over the past 5 years and a breakdown in each year how much have you spent on:

- *staff travel*
- *staff accommodation*
- *staff expenses*
- *travel for meetings*
- *associated costs in relation to any of these including without limitation venue hire, catering.*

Please provide a figure for each year and broken down by department.

Please provide the total cost for the 2 day event in Coventry in June 2022.

What other venues have you got booked and associated costs for the rest of the year subsequent to Coventry.

Response

We can confirm that we do hold some of the requested information. We will address each of your questions in turn.

1. Over the past 5 years and a breakdown in each year how much have you spent on:

staff travel, staff accommodation, staff expenses, travel for meetings, associated costs in relation to any of these including without limitation venue hire, catering.

Please provide a figure for each year and broken down by department.

Please find attached as Annex A, a breakdown by financial year and department of expenditure on staff travel, staff accommodation, staff expenses, travel for meetings and associated costs. Please note that our data is recorded in

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financial years rather than by calendar year as stipulated in your request. Further, please also note that the data for 2023 is only part of the yearly costs, April to September, as the financial year has not ended yet.

2. Please provide the total cost for the 2 day event in Coventry in June 2022.

Please see table below which shows a breakdown of the costs for the two-day Coventry event. Please note that the below costs are also included within the total costs by directorate for 2022/2023 contained within Annex A.

	Coventry
STAFF TRAVEL	78,260
STAFF ACCOMMODATION	77,268
STAFF EXPENSES	3,275
ASSOCIATED COSTS - TEAM EVENT VENUE HIRE ETC	239,704
TOTAL	398,507

Advice and Assistance

We have a duty to provide advice and assistance in accordance with Section 16 of the FOIA. To comply with this duty we are able to advise that the event in Coventry was an all-staff conference, and the first opportunity in two years to bring the whole organisation together in person since the pandemic. For an organisation like Homes England, with colleagues spread across the country, being together in one place is rare but has significant benefits for organisational culture, morale and productivity.

3. What other venues have you got booked and associated costs for the rest of the year subsequent to Coventry.

We can confirm that there are currently no pre-planned events booked for the remainder of the 2022-2023 financial year.

Right to Appeal

If you are not happy with the information that has been provided or the way in which your request has been handled, you may request an internal review. You can request an internal review by writing to Homes England via the details below, quoting the reference number at the top of this letter.

Email: infogov@homesengland.gov.uk

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Your request for review must be made in writing, explain why you wish to appeal, and be received within 40 working days of the date of this response. Failure to meet this criteria may lead to your request being refused.

Upon receipt, your request for review will be passed to an independent party not involved in your original request. We aim to issue a response within 20 working days.

You may also complain to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) however, the Information Commissioner does usually expect the internal review procedure to be exhausted in the first instance.

The Information Commissioner's details can be found via the following link:

<https://ico.org.uk/>

Please note that the contents of your request and this response are also subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Homes England may be required to disclose your request and our response accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

The Information Governance Team
For Homes England

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