

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOI-17-1286 - Events
Date: 03 October 2017 11:58:15
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your information request of 6 September 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

- 1. Over the past 10 years how many times have your council purchased seats, a table or tables at business, community and charity functions? In this instance functions should cover balls, fundraising events, award dinners and similar events.**
- 2. Please provide a list of the events including dates, the organisations hosting the events and the cost of each event paid by your council.**
- 3. Please provide details of the councillors who attended event of these events.**
- 4. Please provide details of any additional expenses over and above the cost of the seats and tables.**
- 5. Please provide an itemised account for the additional expenses incurred at these events.**

Please note, as per Aberdeen City Council's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule, Financial records are only held for 6 years after which time they are destroyed.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **over the past 10 years how many times have your council purchased seats, a table or tables at business, community and charity functions, a list of the events including dates, the organisations hosting the events and the cost of each event paid by your council, the councillors who attended event of these events, details of any additional expenses over and above the cost of the seats and tables and an itemised account for the additional expenses incurred at these events** as it is not held by ACC. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 17 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that this information is not held by it.

There is no central record for this information held by Aberdeen City Council. To provide information for the last 6 years, ACC would have to contact each service and ask them to search through any recorded information they hold and extract any relevant information. ACC officers in each service would have to scrutinise historic financial records for the last 6 years.

ACC is unable to provide you with information on **over the past 6 years how many times have your council purchased seats, a table or tables at business, community and charity functions, a list of the events including dates, the organisations hosting the events and the cost of each event paid by your council, the councillors who attended event of these events, details of any additional expenses over and above the cost of the seats and tables and an itemised account for the additional expenses incurred at these events** as the cost of providing it has been calculated as being in excess of the statutory maximum (£600). To explain this, as the information requested is not collated in one location and therefore several sources would have to be investigated, it would involve an ACC Officer going through in excess of 120 MasterCard credit card files plus all travel applications and financial ledgers, including any information held by Schools. This has been calculated at 90 minutes per Credit Card file alone, which equates to 180 hours, at the cost of £1,980 plus at least another 120 hours to investigate the other sources giving a conservative total of £3,300. In relation to educational establishments, this has been calculated at 15 hours of work for each year per establishment. This equates to approximately 5,400 hours of work at the cost of £65,500 in total.

In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby give notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 12 - Excessive Cost of Compliance -

of the FOISA.

ACC would be happy to discuss ways in which you may refine your request, so we can provide some information of interest to you within the maximum cost limits. Please do contact the Information Compliance team, who will be happy to advise you, if this is something you would like to pursue.

In relation to Museums and Galleries staff, we are able to provide the following. There was 1 event in 2011 and 4 more events were recorded in 2016/17.

Events - Museums and Galleries					
DATE	ROLE	PLACE	EVENT	EXPENSE ITEM	COST
16-17/03/2017	Curator	Edinburgh	Scottish Thistle Awards	Travel	£137.56
				Accommodation	£25.00
16-17/03/2017	Exhibition Manager	Edinburgh	Scottish Thistle Awards	Travel	£72.50
				Accommodation	£70.49
				Expenses	£20.40
16-17/03/2017	Curator & Exhibition Manager	Edinburgh	Scottish Thistle Awards	Event Ticket	£110.00
25/11/2016	Curator & Exhibition Manager	Aberdeen	Scottish Thistle Awards	Event Ticket	£80.00
04/07/2011	Table of 9 Staff	Aberdeen	Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums Friends Midsummer Fundraising event	Table for 9	£585.00

It may also be helpful for you to look at the Statement of Allowances & Expenses for Elected Members:

<http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/nmsruntime/saveasdialog.asp?IID=75972&SID=14639>

Please note, this doesn't detail each event.

We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Information Compliance Team

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

ACC handled your request for information in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under FOISA.

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*03000 numbers are free to call if you have 'free minutes' included in your mobile call plan.
Calls from BT landlines will be charged at the local call rate of 10.24p per minute (the same as 01224s).

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