

Department: International Relations
Our ref: MGLA090118-9940

By email

Date: 22 January 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

Freedom of Information request

Thank you for your email, which was received by the Greater London Authority on 9 January. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked for:

- All costs associated with the Mayor's trip to Paris in August 2016, including but not limited to: travel costs, accommodation costs, and food costs.
- All costs associated with the Mayor's trip to the USA & Canada in September 2016 including but not limited to: travel costs, accommodation costs, and food costs.
- All costs associated with the Mayor's trip to Brussels and Paris at the end of March 2017 including but not limited to: travel costs, accommodation costs, and food costs.
- All costs associated with the Mayor's trips to India & Pakistan in December 2017 including but not limited to: travel costs, accommodation costs, and food costs.
- If anyone else associated with the Mayor of London and City Hall travelled with the Mayor of London on these trips and how much was spent on their costs, including but not limited to: travel costs, accommodation costs, and food costs.

Our response to your request is as follows:

On 25 August 2016 the Mayor visited Paris. During the visits, he highlighted existing business successes, promoted the LondonIsOpen Campaign to political and business leaders, reinforced London's leading role in climate change initiatives, and strengthened economic and city-to-city ties between London and Paris.

On this occasion the Mayor visited Paris with three accompanying members of GLA staff. The total cost for the entire delegation was £1,223.00 – representing costs of return Eurostar tickets.

Over three days between 27-29 March 2017, the Mayor visited Brussels and Paris with four members of GLA staff. Due to the terrorist attack in London in the days immediately before departure, arrangement for this trip had to be altered at very short notice. The total cost for the GLA delegation, including travel by Eurostar, train between Brussels and Paris, two nights accommodation and local transport costs was £5,548.15.

Between 14-19 September 2016, the Mayor visited Montreal, Chicago and New York during which he shared platforms with heads of states and senior business and political leaders. He also met with community and faith representatives, attended cultural events and visited various business and redevelopment projects. The Mayor was accompanied in Chicago and New York by a delegation of 30 tech entrepreneurs based in London supporting the delegates in securing investment to help scale their businesses internationally. The visit demonstrated that London remains open for business and a key destination for investment and tourism following the EU referendum.

There are eight delegates in the GLA official delegation including the Mayor. The total cost for the GLA delegation, including flights, accommodation, local transport and miscellaneous costs was £32,339.27.

We do not yet have the full cost for the Mayor's trip to India and Pakistan in December 2017, which is still being finalised. We are still waiting for some charges and expenses to be submitted to the GLA before we can finalise the total. You may wish to resubmit this part of your request later. Once the GLA has received all outstanding bills and submissions, we will be able to provide the full cost of the trip per person as above. We would also encourage you to refer to the Mayor's expenses (<https://www.london.gov.uk/people/mayoral/sadiq-khan/expenses>) in the coming months for further updates on this particular trip.

There are no costs incurred to the Authority by other agencies or individuals associated with the Mayor and the City Hall.

If you have any further questions relating to the information provided, please contact me, ensuring that you quote the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely


International Relations

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at: <https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>