

Mr R Shorrocks

request-3699-7ee395ea@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 8th December 2008

Our Ref: AJ-B/Legal

Dear Mr Shorrocks

Freedom of Information Request

I refer to your Freedom of Information Request dated the 21st October in which you requested the following information:

“Could you please provide me with a breakdown of expenditure incurred in providing corporate hospitality to members of the agency, partners, investors and clients during 2007\2008”

Firstly we would confirm that as a Regional Development Agency we do not routinely provide ‘corporate hospitality’ in the usual sense of paying for clients or partners to attend sporting or entertainment events, nor do we actively seek opportunities to provide ‘corporate hospitality’. We do from time to time pay for tickets or business events in order to take partners, or to purchase additional tables for partners at a business event the agency is sponsoring.

Our records show one example of this during 2007/8 in which £1256.70 was expended on a lunch table at which *emda*’s Chief Executive and Executive Director of Business Services hosted a meeting with four of the region’s local authority Chief Executive Officers, the Regional Director of Government Office East Midlands and local business leaders.

While corporate events may include elements of corporate hospitality it would be difficult to extract the level of detail you require within the statutory appropriate limit under the Act. In effect, the work involved would exceed the fees threshold, (18 hours at £25 per hour). As a consequence we are unable to provide any further information in this respect.

Yours sincerely,



Glen Harris
Executive Director Corporate Services



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