

Our Reference: FOI 2141

By email: [REDACTED]

Date: 08 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST – CORRIGENDUM TO FOI 2141**

Thank you for your email of 18 January 2018 seeking clarification on aspects of the FSA's response of 10 January 2018, specifically whether any other relevant foreign travel or costs had inadvertently been excluded. You asked the following:

*Please confirm whether the information you have provided is “**the total cost of foreign (i.e. outside of the UK) travel associated with the ROF programme**”. This would include all trips funded by the FSA including those undertaken by FSA board members or third parties. If there are costs that are not included in your original reply please can you provide these details. My original request asked for subsistence costs, which were not included in your response. Could you please provide the relevant costs per person, per travel?*

*Please can you confirm that “**all foreign travel visits (i.e. outside of the UK) associated with the ROF programme** have been included in your original response and that there have been no other visits omitted, for example visits to the Nordic nations and the USA.*

#### **FSA Reply**

We have carefully reviewed for accuracy the information contained in our response of 10 January 2018 and it has come to light that we omitted to include costs relating to a ROF associated trip to Norway that took place last October. This was clearly an omission on our part. Please therefore accept our apologies. This has now been rectified and information related to this trip has now been provided in the table below and used to calculate the total figure of foreign travel associated with the ROF programme. I can also clarify that individual subsistence costs (where applicable), have also been reflected in the Accommodation/Travel and Subsistence column.

You also specifically draw attention to any USA trips that may have been excluded from the original set of information provided. You may have been alluding to the FSA's attendance at a major international food safety conference in Houston, Texas, between 28 February 2017 – 2 March 2017. I would therefore like to clarify that the FSA's invitation to attend this event, along with our counterparts in other EU member states and third countries, was directly linked to the FSA's statutory role as the UK's Competent Authority for Food Safety and not specifically related to ROF programme business. Attendance at this event therefore remains outside the scope of this FOI request. There are no other ROF - related foreign trips undertaken either by FSA officials, FSA Board members or third parties that fall within the scope of your request. Please see following weblink link for published expenses information.

<https://www.food.gov.uk/about-us/data-and-policies/transparencydata/expenses-gifts-hospitality>

I can confirm the revised total cost of foreign travel funded by the FSA and directly associated with the ROF programme totals: **£14,030.57**.

If you have any further queries, please contact me on the details below. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not satisfied with the way the FSA has handled your request for information, you should write within two calendar months of the date of this letter to the Openness Team, and ask for an internal review. They will arrange for the Complaints Coordinator to conduct the review. Their address is Food Standards Agency, Floors 6-7, Clive House, 70 Petty France, London SW1H 9EX - (email: [Openness.team@food.gov.uk](mailto:Openness.team@food.gov.uk)).

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FSA. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliff House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or through the website at: [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Regulating Our Future Briefings Manager

Dates	Destination	Name of Staff Member	Purpose	Job Title	Travel Air	Travel Rail	Travel Car/Taxi	Accommodation/T&S	Total
9-28 November 2015	Australia/New Zealand	Nina Purcell	Explore other approaches to food regulation	Director of Regulatory Delivery & Wales	£3,009.07	N/A	£30.00	£2,576.62	£5,615.69
11-29 November 2015	Australia/New Zealand	Jason Feeney	Explore other approaches to food regulation	Chief Operating Officer	£4,267.01	N/A	£613.40	£2,095.26	£6,975.67
27-29 November 2016	Berlin	Nina Purcell	Explore other approaches to food regulation	Director of Regulatory Delivery & Wales	£244.73	N/A	£128.00	£283.36	£656.09
21 August 2017	Belfast - Dublin	Michael Jackson	General update on ROF Programme to Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Head of Regulatory Standards & Assurance	N/A	£20.00	N/A	N/A	£20.00
23- 26 September 2017	Berlin	Paul Turner	IBM Product Owner course	Senior Business Analyst	£272.28	£3.02	£59.64	£335.14	£670.08
24-25 October 2017	Oslo	Nathan Philippo	Presenting at Nordic Conference on risk assessment	Segmentation Workstream lead	*£299.60	£36.00	N/A	Accommodation paid by host: *£143.10 Subsistence: £57.04	£93.04

\* NB This denotes staff costs met by host and not funded by the FSA