

12th October 2009

Your ref: Letter dated 10th September 2009

Our ref: R00166

Freedom of Information Request – Speakers at Functions and Events

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Request, dated 10th September 2009, concerning speakers at functions and events organised by SEEDA.

Your request to SEEDA is:

“Please could you provide me with a list of people your Agency has hired to speak and appear at functions and events organised in each of the last three years, how much they were paid and the nature of the event”.

Subsequently you have clarified on 22nd September with ONE, on behalf of all RDAs, that:

- *You are not interested in our previous information supplied under FOI.*
- *Person means – any person – not interested if it's a celebrity or personality wanted more/wider than that - meaning any person but not an employee of the RDA such as a Chairman, Chief Executive, Directors. The use of the word person is deliberate.*
- *3 years is the previous tax years.*

It was accepted that the “Clock had Stopped” from 15th September when the request was received until 21st September when clarification was received.

Further clarification was obtained by ONE on 25th September that:

- *Fees – its any fees, no limit.*
- *Want individual fees – not a total amount.*

Information Requested

SEEDA has examined in detail all payments to individuals engaged to speak at SEEDA functions and events over the last three Financial Years 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09.

The majority of individuals engaged are well known personalities or public speakers, however a number are less well known and they should not be identified without seeking their consent. Similarly fees and expenses paid to individuals should not be disclosed without consent. This will take a considerable effort, and time, and is unlikely to be given in all cases.

Therefore SEEDA is using the Section 40 exemption of the Freedom of Information Act to withhold the names of persons not recognised as well known personalities, or public speakers, and the amount paid to any individual person. Instead we have given the total amount paid on an annualised basis, including VAT. The figures provided include appearance fees and associated expenses.

Person	Description of Engagement
2006/07 Total - £33,524	
Sally Gunnell and Guest Speaker	Speaking at Regional Olympic Conference 2 nd May 2006.
Charlotte Hawkins	Hosting Adult Learner's Week Awards Ceremony, Denbies Vineyard Dorking, 23 rd May 2006.
Design Consultant	Speaking at South East Design Champions Club, Bexhill, 13 th June 2006.
Water Resources Consultant	Speaking at South East Water Resources Forum 22 nd June 2006.
Roger Harrabin	Keynote Address at South East Water Resources Forum 22 nd June 2006.
Charles Leadbeater	Speaking at the SEEDA Cultural Learning Curve Conference 28 th June 2006.
Johnny Ball	Speaking at Dartford School Biosciences Fair 11 th to 12 th July 2006.
Charlotte Hawkins	Involvement in SEEDA's Sustainable Business Awards, Invoice dated 19 th July 2006.
Michelle Mone	Speaking at the SEEDA Cultural Shift South East Social Enterprise Conference 27 th Sept 2006.
Consultant	Speaking at South East Design Champions Club meeting at BedZED, 18 th Sept 2006.

Syed Ahmed	Key note speech at Final awards ceremony for the Edge Competition, for young entrepreneurs, held at the London Stock Exchange, Dec 2006.
Peter Day and Luke Johnson	Hosting and Speaking at SEEDA Enterprise Hub Showcase Event at QE II Conference Centre 22 nd Feb 2007.
Richard West	Keynote address at the International Trade Awards Dinner, Mercedes Benz World, Brooklands, 22 nd March 2007.
2007/08 - Total £26,361	
Charlotte Hawkins	Hosting Adult Learner's Week Awards Ceremony, Denbies Vineyard Dorking, May 2007.
Johnny Ball	Official Opening of the SEEDA Garden at the Chelsea Flower Show 21 st May 2007.
David Bellamy	Official Opening of the Fowlmead Country Park on the former site of the Betteshanger Colliery 27 th May 2007.
John Prescott MP	Contribution to speaking fee at Chartered Institute of Housing South East Conference. Hilton Metropole Hotel, Brighton 4 th to 6 th March 2008.
Mishal Husain	Hosting SEEDA Business Awards, Ascot Race Course 6 th March 2008.
2008/09 - Total £24,329	
Jacque Beltrao	Hosting Adult Learners Week Award Ceremony, Slough, 14 th May 2008.
Nicholas Owen	Speaking at HST Final event on 22 nd May 2008 at Church House Conference Centre.
Mark Goyder	Speaking at the launch of the South East Corporate Cabinet, Windsor Castle 27 th June 2008. The Corporate Cabinet is a collaborative working between corporate companies, SEEDA, public and voluntary & community sector organisations to improve the quality of life in the areas of greatest need in the South East.
Guest Speaker	Keynote Speech, invoice dated 8 th July 2008.
Guest Speaker	Key note speech at the Raising Our Game Graduation Ceremony held at Stansted Park, July 2008.

Josephine Fairley	Speaking about Business and Environmental issues at Lib Dem Party Conference Fringe Meeting, Bournemouth, 16 th Sept 2008.
Pooran Desai	Speaking about Environmental and Business Issues at Labour Party Conference Fringe Meeting, Manchester, 23 rd Sept 2008.
Guest Speaker	Speaking about Satellite communications at Conservative Party Conference Fringe Meeting, Birmingham, 30 th Sept 2008.
Zac Purchase and Mark John Hunter	The aim of this event at Wentworth Golf Course, on 12 th Dec 2008, was to celebrate the success of the Olympic and Paralympic athletes from the South East region and to engage local organisations, such as local authorities, to get involved with the South East's effort to win real benefits from the 2012 legacy.
Ten Olympian and Para Olympian medallists	Personal Appearances at SEEDA Celebrating Success Event, Wentworth Golf Course, on 12 th Dec 2008.
Bob Sherwood	Facilitation at SEEDA Regional Economic Strategy Partners Conference in Guildford 29 th Jan 2009
Guest Speaker	Presentation at Our View Day, 19 th Feb 2009.
Peter Sissons	Peter Sissons was the facilitator at SEEDA's 'Beyond the Crunch: Building a Stronger South East' regional conference on the 25 th March 2009. The conference was attended by over 200 leading figures in the construction and development industry together with relevant public agencies and held at the QEII conference centre in London. Peter Sissons was asked to: facilitate and encourage questions from the floor; act as chair for sections of the event; manage the voting session; and to host the question time style panel debate in the afternoon. The payment was for one full day facilitation and 2 half day briefings on the audience, topic and role.