

Question:

Under Freedom of Information regulations I would like to know:-

Please provide a breakdown of the cost of the Minister's visit to the US in March 2026.

Please state the:

1. Number of travellers (state in each case the number of civil servants/advisers/press officers)
2. A breakdown of all costs - hotels, flights, food/drinks, anything else for the trip
3. The name and star rating of the hotel which was used by travellers.
4. Please state the class of plane journey (e.g. business/economy) used by the 1) minister 2) each civil servant/adviser

Response:

1. 3 people (Minister, Special Adviser and Private Secretary). The Private Secretary is a Civil Servant. There were no press officers in attendance, and the Private Secretary covered this role.
2. See table below. The figures in the table are for 3 people.

2026	COST	
FLIGHTS	£4548.00	Minister, SpAd and the PS -Economy Including an internal flight in the USA from Washington to Nashville
ACCOMODATION 3 Nights Washington	£1878.00	Minister, SpAd and the PS -The River Inn
ACCOMMODATION 3 Nights Nashville	£2682.00	Minister, SpAd and the PS - Sheraton Grand
MEALS	£96.74	Minister, SpAd and the PS
TRANSPORT	£588.19	Uber and Metro Services
OTHER COSTS	£81.48	Minister, SpAd and the PS This was for luggage/checked in bags for internal flight to Nashville
TOTAL COST	£9,874.41	

3. River Inn, Washington and the Sheraton Grand, Nashville – both 4 Star accommodation.

4. Economy Class travel was used for all persons on all flights including the Minister.

Date response issued: 21/04/26
Reference Number: DOH/2026-0066