

Exploration Society appeal for Winter Tour funding

Problem: We wrote our Winter Tour application 1 week before the deadline; however, this application was not received by CSPB due to a mistake on our behalf. Thus, we have not been allocated any funding.

Exploration Society would like to request funding for Winter Tour travel either from contingency or Winter Tour roll-over money.

Background: A winter tour application was written on Eactivities 1 week before the deadline. It was submitted, and then after re-editing the final version the application was not re-submitted. This is a huge oversight on my behalf.

Last year, CSB received and approved late summer tour proposals at the CSPB meeting. The tour approval system has since changed in that clubs do not need to be present at the meeting where tours are approved. This information, though in the tour policy, was not communicated directly via email nor a list of clubs with pending tour applications sent out. This meant I was not aware of any problems and thus unable to represent the Exploration Society for late tour application to CSPB. I would like to highlight further, that a list of approved tour proposals was not made available post approval, making it impossible to detect that there was even a problem until recently.

We would like to request funding for Winter Tour travel at 30%, totalling £598 (Details of costs are included in the table below).

There are three possible funding options either:

1. Contingency
2. Winter Tour roll-over money.
3. Summer Tour roll-over (academic yr 2012-2013)

Contingency would guarantee our members a set sum, and would make pricing the trip clear, and not risk the clubs finances.

An alternative would be to use the Winter tour roll-over money, which is a result of some clubs not using their allocated money. Normally this is put in the Spring Tour funding pot. This is already larger than the Winter Tour pot and so we propose that we could use this money instead. The disadvantage of this is we would not know how much is available until after the Winter Tour period. Potentially risky to the members and the clubs finances

We still have £274 from summer tour funding. The final option, could be to keep this funding to use on the winter tour and supplement with £324 from either contingency or Winter Tour roll-over

Transport costs for our winter tour are listed in brief in the table below. We expect 8 attendees and the cost per student would be £249.25 for travel. We request 30% travel subsidy, totalling £598.

Travel Budget (8 ppl)	Cost
Flights to Norway (Ryanair x8)	£800
Car hire x2	£734
Car fuel x2	£300
Airport transfers	£160
Total	£1,994

In summary, the tour application was made in earnest earlier than the deadline, this application was not received by CSB due to an honest mistake, and limited communication between CSB and clubs has meant the mistake wasn't picked up until now. This is unforeseen event; we had planned our tour application in good time, and it was a truly honest mistake that has caused this problem.

Our tour is quite costly and we wish to make it as accessible as possible to student club members. We receive no other travel funding from the annual grant system; thus, it would be impossible without tour funding.