

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 31 JANUARY 2001

EAST AYRSHIRE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Report by the Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to ask the Sub-Committee to consider a request for civic hospitality and financial assistance from the East Ayrshire Twinning Association in respect of a visit by families from Joué-lès-Tours from 24-28 May 2001.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 International Partners

- 2.1.1 East Ayrshire Twinning Association is an amalgamation of the two Twinning Associations which operated in the former Cumnock and Doon Valley and Kilmarnock and Loudoun District Council areas. The Association, whose membership is composed of representatives from both of the former Associations, was formed in 1996.

- 2.1.2 East Ayrshire are twinned with Kulmbach (Germany), Santa Colma de Gramenet (Spain), Alès (France), Herstal (Belgium) and Joué-lès-Tours (France).

2.2 Proposed Visit

- 2.2.1 The East Ayrshire Twinning Association are organising an exchange visit between families from Joué-lès-Tours and East Ayrshire.

- 2.2.2 The families will arrive on Thursday 24 May 2001 and return home on Monday 28 May 2001. During the visit various events will be arranged ie

Thursday 24 May - Buffet and welcome with host families.

Friday 25 May - Tour of Ayrshire, packed lunched or lunch at Culzean

Saturday 26 May - AM - Shopping with families; PM - Sporting (Galleon); evening - Civic Reception with ceilidh.

Sunday 27 May - Visit to Dean Castle.

3. ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

3.1 Civic Hospitality

- 3.1.1 The Twinning Association propose to hold an evening Civic Reception with a buffet and a ceilidh to be held in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock on 26 May 2001.

3.1.2 There will be approximately 60 to 70 people attending the reception comprising of families from Joué-lès-Tours and their host families, members of East Ayrshire Twinning Association and representatives from the Council.

3.2 Financial Assistance

3.2.1 The Twinning Association estimates that the total cost of the visit will amount to approximately £2,110, in order to meet the cost of transport, excursions, food and the expense of the buffet, ceilidh band and hire of the hall for the planned reception. The Group has requested a contribution of £1,610 from East Ayrshire Council to help meet their aforementioned costs.

3.3 Previous Support

3.3.1 The Twinning Association received financial support from the Council in the past. This has included a grant of £1,000 awarded by the Civic Ceremonial Sub-Committee of the Policy and Resources Committee on 13 May 1997 (Item 1, Page 2228), for administrative and related expenses. At the same meeting, it was agreed that the Association could apply for further funds for use in connection with specific events organised in conjunction with the Council.

3.3.2 The Twinning Forum visit in May 1998 was also awarded £1,675.10 for civic hospitality, financial assistance and assistance in kind which was approved by the Members' Services and Civic Ceremonial Sub-Committee on 20 April 1998 (Item 1, Page 3453).

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The cost of the Civic Reception planned for 26 May 2001, would be approximately £1,000.

4.2 The further financial assistance requested by the Twinning Association to cover transport, excursions and food is £610.

4.3 The overall cost of meeting the Twinning Association's request for assistance, would be approximately £1,610.

5. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS - Nil

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to consider:-

- (i) that the request for a civic reception be approved;
- (ii) that the Council provide a grant of £1,000 towards the cost of all activities; and

- (iii) in the event that a civic reception is held to remit the necessary arrangements to the Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Chair.

Fiona Lees
Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources

CB/SM
22 January 2001

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Application for Civic Hospitality from East Ayrshire Twinning Association.
2. Application for Financial Assistance from East Ayrshire Twinning Association.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers relative to this report should contact Christine Baillie, Trainee Administrative Officer, on Tel No (01563) 576129. Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager, on Tel No (01563) 576135.

Implementation Officer: Christine Baillie, Trainee Administrative Officer

AGENDA