

## **EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL**

### **MEMBERS' SERVICES AND CIVIC CEREMONIAL SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 28 JANUARY 2004**

#### **INVITATION TO VISIT KULMBACH**

##### **Report by Depute Chief Executive/Director of Corporate Resources**

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1** The purpose of the report is to advise the Sub-Committee of an invitation received from the Mayoress of Kulmbach inviting East Ayrshire Council to visit Kulmbach from 18-20 June 2004 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the twinning link between Kilmarnock and Kulmbach.

#### **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1** As Members will be aware, following a review of arrangements of the organisation, East Ayrshire Council formed international partnerships with various towns, Kulmbach being one.

#### **3. PREVIOUS VISITS**

- 3.1** In July 1999 Provost Boyd and his wife along with Mary Morris, Chair of the East Ayrshire Twinning Association, visited Kulmbach, to celebrate Kulmbach receiving the European Flag of Honour.
- 3.2** Last August a tourist group of 98 from Kulmbach arrived in Kilmarnock for one week. A local travel agent arranged the bulk of the itinerary but the Council also arranged some visits. This included a visit to Dean Castle and a Civic Reception which took place in the Grand Hall, Kilmarnock on Tuesday 12 August. The group also visited Culzean Country Park, the Edinburgh Military Tattoo and the Highlands.
- 3.3** The Group was keen to visit Diageo but, since tours of the plant are no longer possible Diageo provided a "Brand Passion" products tasting at the start of the Civic Reception and this was deemed a great success.
- 3.4** The Group consisted of all age groups, including children, and we continue to receive good feedback.

#### **4. PROPOSED VISIT FOR 2004**

- 4.1** The thirtieth anniversary of the Town Twinning Link between Kilmarnock and Kulmbach will take place from 18-20 June 2004 with the finalised programme still to be received.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Financial implications are still to be quantified and a further report will be submitted to the Sub-Committee in due course giving more detailed costs.

## **6. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS – NIL**

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 The Sub-Committee is asked to:-

- (i) consider the request from Kulmbach for representatives of East Ayrshire Council to attend the thirtieth anniversary from 18-20 June 2004; and
- (ii) to remit the appropriate officers to liaise with officers from Kulmbach to discuss the proposed arrangements for the visit; and
- (iii) that a further, more detailed report be submitted to the Sub-Committee in due course.

Fiona Lees  
Depute Chief Executive/  
Director of Corporate Resources

CB/JW  
15 January 2004

## **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Letter dated November 2003 from the Mayor of Kulmbach.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers relative to this report should contact Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer, on telephone number (01563) 576129. Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Bill Walkinshaw, Administration Manager, on telephone number (01563) 576135.

**Implementation Officer: Christine Baillie, Administrative Officer**