

# Report

Report to: **Hamilton Area Committee**  
Date of Meeting: **20 June 2007**  
Report by: **Executive Director (Corporate Resources)**

Subject: **Twinning Grant Application – Larkhall Twinning Association**

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ obtain formal approval of an application by Larkhall Twinning Association for a twinning travel grant which has been assessed as meeting the relevant criteria. The purpose of the grant is for a social/cultural exchange involving 17 participants (8 under 26 years of age) travelling to Seclin, France between 21 and 24 September 2007.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that a twinning travel grant of £585 be awarded to Larkhall Twinning Association for a cultural and social exchange involving 17 participants travelling to Seclin, France between 21 and 24 September 2007; and
- (2) that the Executive Director (Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair or Depute Chair, be authorised to vary the award to take account of the final number of participants involved in the twinning link

## 3. Background

3.1. At its meeting on 1 February 2000, the Corporate Resources Committee agreed that:-

- ◆ twinning grants for travel would remain at £45 for people aged 26 years and under and £25 for all others
- ◆ hosting grants would be £20 per visitor to local groups
- ◆ grants would only be available for visits between the Council's twin towns
- ◆ all requests would be submitted to the relevant Area Committee for approval

## 4. Criteria for Twinning Travel/Hosting Grants

4.1. Organisations applying for funding to participate in an exchange should meet the following criteria:-

- ◆ well established bona fide organisations, properly constituted with open membership
- ◆ bank account must be held in the name of the organisation
- ◆ organisation should have been in operation for at least one year

- ◆ non-profit making, voluntary organisation

4.2. Funding will be considered for contribution towards:-

- ◆ travel/insurance costs for outgoing exchanges
- ◆ programme of activity for visitors, incoming exchanges
- ◆ hosting costs (in-kind) for incoming exchanges, ie welcome pack in cases of need

## **5 Details of Current Application by Larkhall Twinning Association**

5.1 The details of the current application by Larkhall Twinning Association for a twinning grant are as follows:-

Dates of Visit:	21 to 24 September 2007
Twin Town Link:	Seclin, France
Type of Grant:	Twinning Travel Grant
Purpose of Exchange:	Cultural and social exchange to maintain links
No of Participants:	17 (8 young persons under 26 years of age)
Grant Allocation:	£585

## **6 Employee Implications**

6.1 None

## **7 Financial Implications**

7.1 A total budget allocation for 2007/2008 of £9,500 has been agreed to support twinning grant applications from groups throughout South Lanarkshire. The application can be funded from this allocation.

7.2 Final numbers of participants may, however, fluctuate between the time of application and the date of travel. Authority is requested, therefore, for the Executive Director (Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair or Depute Chair, to vary the award to take account of the final number of participants involved in the twinning link.

## **8 Other Implications - Conditions of the Twinning Travel/Hosting Grants**

8.1 On signing the application form, the group will agree to:-

- ◆ act as ambassadors for their home town and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner during the exchange
- ◆ spend any grant as detailed on the submitted application form
- ◆ complete and return the "Monitoring and Evaluation Form" to the local Twinning Association within 28 days of each exchange visit
- ◆ complete and return the "Financial Details Form" to the local Twinning Association within 28 days of the exchange
- ◆ make receipts available to identified Council officers on request

8.2 By completing and signing the application form, the organisation is agreeing to comply with the above conditions. Failure to comply with the conditions will be dealt with accordingly and future funding applications to South Lanarkshire Council will be jeopardised.

## **9 Consultation**

9.1 Appropriate consultation has taken place with Larkhall Twinning Association.

**Robert McIlwain**  
**Executive Director (Corporate Resources)**

25 May 2007

**Link(s) to Council Objectives**  
Supporting Our Communities

**Previous References**  
None

**List of Background Papers**  
Larkhall Twinning Association Travel Grant application form

**Contact for Further Information**  
If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-  
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