

Report

Report to:	Hamilton Area Committee
Date of Meeting:	14 May 2008
Report by:	Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

Subject:	Twinning Grant Applications
----------	------------------------------------

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

obtain formal approval of the following applications which have been assessed as meeting the relevant criteria:-

- ◆ Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) for a twinning hosting grant to host 40 participants from Jouy-en-Josas, France between 21 and 25 May 2008.
- ◆ Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) for a twinning travel grant for 30 participants (5 under 26 years of age) travelling to Jouy-en-Josas, France between 23 and 26 May 2008.
- ◆ Hamilton Rugby Club for a twinning hosting grant for 44 participants (36 under 26 years of age) from Chatellerault, France who visited between 17 and 20 April 2008.

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that a twinning hosting grant of £800 be awarded to Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) for a social/sporting exchange involving 40 participants from Jouy-en-Josas, France between 21 and 25 May 2008;
- (2) that a twinning travel grant of £850 be awarded to Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) for a social/sporting exchange involving 30 participants (5 under 26 years of age) travelling to Jouy-en-Josas, France between 23 and 26 May 2008;
- (3) that a twinning hosting grant of £880 be awarded to Hamilton Rugby Club for a social/sporting exchange which involved 44 participants (36 under 26 years of age) from Chatellerault, France between 17 and 20 April 2008; and
- (4) 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 Applications

- 5.1. The details of the current applications by Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) and Hamilton Rugby Club for twinning grants are as follows:-

5.1.1. Applicant

Bothwell Twinning Association

Dates of Visit:	21 to 25 May 2008
Twin Town Link:	Jouy-en-Josas, France
Type of Grant:	Twinning Hosting Grant
Purpose of Exchange:	Social/sporting
No of Participants:	40 people
Grant Allocation:	£800

5.1.2. Applicant

Bothwell Twinning Association

Dates of Visit:	23 and 26 May 2008
Twin Town Link:	Jouy-en-Josas, France
Type of Grant:	Twinning Travel Grant
Purpose of Exchange:	Social/sporting
No of Participants:	30 (5 under 26 years of age)
Grant Allocation:	£850

5.1.3. Applicant

Hamilton Rugby Club

Dates of Visit:	17 to 20 April 2008
Twin Town Link:	Chatellerault, France
Type of Grant:	Twinning Hosting Grant
Purpose of Exchange:	Social/sporting
No of Participants:	44 (36 young persons under 26 years of age)
Grant Allocation:	£880

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. None

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. A total budget allocation for 2008/2009 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. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 9.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 9.2. Appropriate consultation has taken place with Hamilton District Twinning Association and Bothwell Twinning Association.

Robert McIlwain
Executive Director (Corporate Resources)

14 April 2008

Link(s) to Council Objectives
People Focused

Previous References
None

List of Background Papers

Bothwell Twinning Association (BTA) and Hamilton Rugby Club Grant application forms

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Margaret Armstrong, Administration Officer

Ext: 3661 (Tel: 01698 453661)

E-mail: margaret.armstrong@southlanarkshire.gov.uk