

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

**APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE
TWINNING ASSOCIATION**

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To consider an application for financial assistance towards the cost of representatives of North Lincolnshire Twinning Association visiting Luneburg, Germany to progress further communications and associated work to re-establish formal twinning links.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At its meeting held on 18 June 1997, the council's former Policy Committee agreed that the council's approach in respect of twinning/linking should be to adopt an "arms-length" relationship (minute 946 refers). That committee also agreed that the former Tourism and Linking Sub Committee should consider applications for informal linking activities being beneficial across North Lincolnshire. The maximum grant available was set at £200 and on 21 July 1997 that sub-committee had also approved criteria in respect of grant applications for linking activities which demonstrated and encouraged mutual, cultural and social awareness (minute 978 refers).
- 2.2 An application has now been received from the North Lincolnshire Twinning Association for assistance towards the costs a small delegation from the association visiting Luneburg to progress further communications and work already being carried out so the re-establishment of a formal twinning link with Luneburg can be achieved. A delegation of the association visited Luneburg earlier this year to establish initial contacts and commence discussions. It was previously expected to take a longer period of time to achieve the progress made to date, and further financial support was thought not to be required until the next financial year. However, significant progress has been made and a further visit is required in December 2016, with a likely delegation from Luneburg visiting North Lincolnshire next year to re-establish formal twinning links.

2.3 Bearing in mind the progress made to date and given the wish to re-establish a regular link with Luneburg, it is proposed that due to exceptional circumstances, and in addition to the maximum grant of £200 had been given in any one year, this be waived, and that a further grant of £200 be made towards the costs involved in re-establishing the link.

2.4 The application meets the criteria set out in minute 978 referred to above.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 To grant, or not grant the application.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)

4.1 There are no staffing, property or IT implications associated with the report, and in relation to the financial implications limited finances are available to support links of this kind, subject to approval.

5. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

5.1 Not Applicable.

6. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

6.1 On going consultations and discussions are taking place and there are no conflicts of interest.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 That a grant of £200 be made to the North Lincolnshire Twinning Association towards the costs involved in further work to re-establish the twinning link with Luneburg, Germany.

DIRECTOR OF POLICY AND RESOURCES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report -

Application received from the North Lincolnshire Twinning Association.