

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**Provost's Sub-Committee of Strategic Policy and Resources Committee****17 April 2013****Proposed Twinning Visit to Aschaffenburg, Germany – June 2013****Report by Head of Democratic Services****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

This report advises of an invitation extended to the Provost and a Council delegation to attend a conference to explore the establishment of pupil exchange visits and to attend the opening weekend of the annual Folk Festival in Aschaffenburg, Germany from 13 to 17 June 2013.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1 Perth and Kinross Council's twinning link with Aschaffenburg, Germany dates back to 1956.
- 1.2 The twinning link is very active with numerous reciprocal visits taking place each year between the Friends Organisations in Perth and Kinross and Aschaffenburg.
- 1.3 Klaus Herzog, the Oberbürgermeister of Aschaffenburg has extended an invitation to the Provost, Chief Executive and Head Teachers of the Council to visit Aschaffenburg from 13 to 17 June 2013, to attend a conference with a view to exploring the establishment of pupil exchange visits and to celebrate the opening weekend of the 86th Aschaffenburg Folk Festival.
- 1.4 The purpose in establishing the pupil exchange visits would be to give young people an insight into a different culture, broadening their understanding and encouraging them to be strong European citizens and ambassadors. It is also hoped the visits will create enthusiasm among the younger generation for the twinning relationship between Aschaffenburg and Perth.

2. PROPOSALS

- 2.1 It is proposed that the Provost's Sub-Committee agree to accept the invitation and approve the visit to Aschaffenburg, Germany from 13 to 17 June 2013, with the Council being represented by the Provost and the Chief Executive, supported by the Council Officer.
- 2.2 It is also proposed that Councillor Bob Band, Depute Provost and the Convener of the Lifelong Learning Committee; the Head Teacher from Perth High School and a teacher from Perth Academy accompany the Provost and the Chief Executive, to explore the establishment of school exchange visits for pupils.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Perth – Aschaffenburg twinning link continues to be very active, with reciprocal visits taking place each year. Accepting the invitation to visit Aschaffenburg demonstrates the depth of the twinning relationship that has developed over the last 57 years and our commitment to sustaining the twinning relationship through the younger generation of both Perth and Aschaffenburg.
- 3.2 It is recommended that the Provost's Sub-Committee:
- (a) Agrees that the invitation to the Provost and a delegation to visit Aschaffenburg, Germany from 13 to 17 June 2013 be accepted;
 - (b) Agrees that the Council is represented by the Provost, the Chief Executive and Councillor Bob Band, Depute Provost and Convener of the Lifelong Learning Committee, supported by the Council Officer; and
 - (c) Notes that the Head Teacher of Perth High School and a teacher from Perth Academy will also travel to Aschaffenburg.

Author

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Rosemary Hughes	Senior Civic and Members' Services Officer	01738 475058

Approved

Name	Designation	Signature
Bernadette Malone	Chief Executive	Bernadette Malone
Date: 10 April 2013		

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Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The undernoted table should be completed for all reports. Where the answer is 'yes', the relevant section(s) should also be completed

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	Yes
Workforce	No
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	No
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	No
Strategic Environmental Assessment	No
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	No
Legal and Governance	No
Risk	No
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	No
Communication	
Communications Plan	No

1. Strategic Implications

1.1 Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

The draft Perth and Kinross Community Plan 2013-2023 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

1.2 Corporate Plan

Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2013-2018 sets out five strategic objectives. The proposals in this report support the achievement of these objectives.

2. Resource Implications - Financial

2.1 The Oberbürgermeister has indicated that Aschaffenburg will meet the costs of accommodation during the twinning visit for the official Council delegation.

2.2 The Civic costs associated with the visit are anticipated to be :

Flights for Provost, Council Officer, Councillor Band	£ 840
Airport transfers	£ 190
Civic Gifts	£ 200
Total Civic costs	<u>£1,230</u>

- 2.3 This sum will be met from the 2013/2014 twinning budget.
- 2.4 The Chief Executive will travel to Aschaffenburg as part of the delegation, and will meet the cost of her air travel.
- 2.5 Education and Children's Services will meet the cost of the Teachers' travelling expenses.
- 2.6 Councillor J Coburn will also travel to Aschaffenburg, and will meet the cost of his travelling and accommodation expenses.
- 2.7 The Head of Finance has been consulted on the financial implications for the proposals and has indicated his agreement.

3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

The Provost, the Chief Executive and the Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) have been consulted during the preparation of this report.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 2.1 Letter of invitation from the Oberbürgermeister of Aschaffenburg, Germany.