

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL**PROVOST'S SUB COMMITTEE – 3 DECEMBER 2008****INVITATION TO THE MAYOR AND DEPUTE MAYOR OF ASCHAFFENBURG**

Report by Head of Democratic Services

ABSTRACT

This report relates to a proposal to invite the Mayor and Depute Mayor of Aschaffenburg to visit Perth in April/May 2009.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 An invitation be extended to the Mayor and Depute Mayor of Aschaffenburg and their respective wives to visit Perth in April/May 2009.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Perth & Kinross has been twinned with Aschaffenburg, Bavaria for over 50 years. The link has been highly successful with a wide range of exchanges taking place since its inception.

3. PROPOSAL TO INVITE THE MAYOR AND DEPUTE MAYOR TO VISIT PERTH IN APRIL/MAY 2009

- 3.1 Provost Hulbert and a small delegation visited Aschaffenburg in June of this year. The visit offered an opportunity to discuss the way forward for the link with key officials, including the Mayor and Depute Mayor.
- 3.2 The visit also allowed the Provost to meet with the Friends of Perth and to visit some of the local attractions and businesses.
- 3.3 In order to show the Council's continued commitment to the twinning link and to take forward the discussions on the future of the link, it is proposed that an invitation be extended to the Mayor and Depute Mayor of Aschaffenburg, and their wives, to visit Perth and Kinross in April / May 2009.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The Chief Executive has been consulted on this report.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The cost of hosting the Mayor, Depute Mayor and their wives is estimated as follows:

Transport from Edinburgh Airport to Perth Return	£160
Civic Gifts	£100
Hotel accommodation for 4 night stay for 4 people (2 couples)	£600
Meals	£200
Civic Dinner	£250
Entertainment and visits to local attractions	<u>£300</u>
TOTAL	£1,610

Subject to the availability of resources, this sum will be met from the 2009/2010 twinning budget.

6. COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN OBJECTIVES 2006 - 2010

- 6.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2006 – 2010 lays out five objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. The proposal in this report relates to all aspects of those objectives.

7. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 7.1 The proposal contained in this report was considered under the Corporate Equalities Assessment Framework and assessed in relation to the Race/Disability/Gender Equalities Assessment. Consequently, it was determined there were no further actions needed at this time.

8. STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a legal requirement under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that applies to all plans, programmes and strategies, including policies (PPS)
- 8.2 The information presented in this report was considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2006. Perth & Kinross Council has determined that the implementation of the proposal will not have significant environmental effects on any of the areas defined in the SEA Guidance.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The Perth & Kinross – Aschaffenburg twinning continues to be active. An invitation extended to the Mayor and Depute Mayor of Aschaffenburg will reinforce the Council's commitment to this link and will offer an opportunity for the Mayor of Aschaffenburg and the Provost of Perth & Kinross to discuss the future of the link as part of a wider international strategy.

GILLIAN TAYLOR
Head of Democratic Services

Contact Officer: Judy Harris, 75058, jdharris@pkc.gov.uk
Address of Service: Council Building, 2 High Street, PERTH, PH1 5PH
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