

## REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE		Subject: TOWN TWINNING: SAINT-DENIS
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 7 February 2003	Ref: JAF/IL	

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report advises the Committee of correspondence received from the municipality of Saint-Denis regarding the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this year, of the inauguration of the twinning links and of an invitation to the Council to participate in the World Sports Forum to be held in Saint-Denis to coincide with the World Athletic Championships.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 The Provost has received a letter from the Mayor of Saint-Denis referring to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, this year, of the inauguration of twinning links between the Burgh of Coatbridge and the municipality Saint-Denis. In that letter the Mayor expresses the hope that appropriate arrangements can be made to mark that anniversary.
- 2.2 This matter has been discussed with the Chair and the Honorary President of the Saint-Denis Twinning Association and, on their initiative, a committee of local people has been set up to identify ways of marking this occasion. It is understood that the committee is investigating the possibility of tracing local people who, as school children, participated in early twinning trips with a view to organising an anniversary twinning trip. The Council will liaise closely with both the Association and the special committee and further reports will be submitted to the Committee on progress made.

3. **Invitation**

- 3.1 The Provost has also received, from the Mayors of Saint-Denis and Villetaneuse, a letter inviting the Council to send a party of around twelve people, of whom seven should be young sportspeople, to participate in the World Sports Forum. The World Sports Forum is to be held in Saint-Denis to coincide with the World Athletic Championships which are to be held, in the Stade de France, in August of this year. Given the coincidence of this event with the anniversary of the inauguration of the twinning links, it is considered appropriate that the Council respond positively to this invitation and that the Director of Administration, in liaison with the Directors of Education and Community Services, investigate the possibility of identifying suitable participants.

4. **Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Committee determine the Council's response to the invitation received and, otherwise, note the contents of this report.

*J. A. Fleming*  
 Director of Administration

Members seeking further information on the contents of this report are asked to contact John Fleming, Head of Central Services on Extension 2228.