

## REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE	Subject: TWINNING: SAINT DENIS	
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 19 February 2004	Ref: JAF/IL	

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report seeks homologation of action taken by the Council to submit, in collaboration with the municipality of Saint Denis, an application for European funding for an international project developing education through sport.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 In discussions with the municipality of Saint Denis, a number of possibilities were canvassed regarding future twinning activities involving the two areas: of these, one centred round the possibility of a multi-national development of the use of sport to advance education and promote citizenship among young people: it was identified, also, that such a project would be eligible for European funding.
- 2.2 Against that background, a project has been developed envisaging four international events: two in Saint Denis, one in North Lanarkshire and one in Sesto San Giovanni (Italy) involving young people and education/sports professions. The estimated cost of the project is 108,007 Euros of which, if successful in attracting European funding, the European Commission contribution would be 50% (€59,003.5). The remainder of the cost will require to be borne by the three participants with the contribution of the municipality of Saint Denis being €25,000 and that of North Lanarkshire Council and the municipality of Sesto San Giovanni being, in each case, €17,001.75.

3. **Action Taken**

- 3.1 After consultation confirmation has been given for the purpose of application, of North Lanarkshire Council's participation and the application for funding has been lodged with the European Commission. Given the twinning origin of this project and the corporate nature of the activity, it would be appropriate that the Council's contribution be borne from the twinning budget.

4. **Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Committee homologate the action taken to submit to the European Commission an application for financial assistance for the project on integration and social inclusion through sport and agree that, if successful, the match funding contribution requiring to be borne by North Lanarkshire Council be borne from the twinning budget.

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