

REPORT

To: GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE		Subject: TWINNING: SCHWEINFURT UNTERFRANKENSCHAU
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 25 April 2006	Ref: JAF/IL	

1. **Purpose of Report**

1.1 The report advises the Committee of an invitation to participate in the biennial Unterfrankenschau to be held in Schweinfurt in October 2006 and makes recommendations regarding participation.

2. **Background**

2.1 Correspondence has been received from the Municipality of Schweinfurt inviting the Council to participate in the Unterfrankenschau 2006 which is a general trade fair held every second year in Schweinfurt.

2.2 It had been the practice of the previous authority to participate in this event: for the last three Unterfrankenschaus, however, the Council has not itself participated but has, instead, supported the Schweinfurt Twinning Association in so doing. The Schweinfurt Twinning Association have indicated that this year, again, they are willing to participate and seek a grant to enable them to do so.

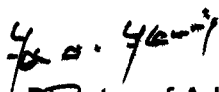
3. **Consideration**

3.1 There are undoubtedly economic benefits to North Lanarkshire in participating in this event and, in addition, there is the consideration of support of the twinning link. For those reasons it is suggested that it would be appropriate that the Council support the Twinning Association in participation.

3.2 A report will be submitted to the Economic Regeneration Committee proposing support for this event, but to enable participation, the Twinning Association require further support. For the 2004 event, the Committee agreed that a grant of £2,500 be made from the Council's twinning budget and it is considered appropriate that a like grant be made this year.

4. **Recommendation**

4.1 It is recommended that the Council agree to award the Schweinfurt Twinning Association a grant of £2,500 to support participation in the Schweinfurt Unterfrankenschau.



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.*