

To: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: TWINNING: BRON	
From: HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES		
Date: 22 July 2010	Ref: JAF/IL	

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report advises of an initiative, by the Council's twin town, Bron, to convene a meeting of their twin towns, including North Lanarkshire, over the weekend 7-10 October – to coincide with an international arts exhibition 'United for a New Europe' – and of associated invitations received.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Municipality of Bron was originally twinned with the Burgh of Cumbernauld and North Lanarkshire Council has maintained those twinning links. As part of those twinning links Madame Bourdais, Chairperson of the Bron-Cumbernauld Twinning Association and Madame Spaggiari-Meynet, Depute Mayor with responsibility for twinning, visited Cumbernauld in October of last year – and from that visit – and visits to Bron's other twin towns – has emerged the proposal for this weekend.

3. Invitations

- 3.1 Letters have been received by the Provost and by the Council's Learning and Leisure Services inviting North Lanarkshire to participate in the arts exhibition in which it is hoped that works by artists from Bron's four twin towns (including North Lanarkshire) will be on display. Two artists from each twin town have been invited.
- 3.2 In addition a personal letter has been received by the Provost from the Mayor of Bron inviting the Provost and a delegation of two other people to participate in the events of the weekend. A particular feature of the weekend will be a discussion of twinning projects, and the request has been made that North Lanarkshire Council provide, at that meeting, information on the 2011 Children's Games.

4. Consideration

- 4.1 Having regard to the important decisions facing the Council and the heavy workload attendant thereon, it is considered that the Provost will be unable to attend this event in person. To that extent it is suggested that the invitation be declined.
- 4.2 It is, however, recommended that, if through the auspices of Learning and Leisure Services appropriate artists and works of art can be identified, approval be given, in principle to providing assistance from the Council's twinning budget towards the costs of attendance by the artists and transportation of the works of art.

5. **Recommendation**

- 5.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the invitations received and give consideration to the foregoing proposals.

J. Fleming

Head of Central Services

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