

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
REPORT**

To: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: TOWN TWINNING: SCHWEINFURT
From: HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES	
Date: 7 April 2011	Ref: JAF/IL

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The report advises of the anniversary of the Schweinfurt twinning – and of a Bürgerreise visit to North Lanarkshire in 2011 – and submits recommendations.

2. Background

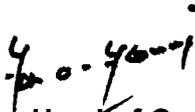
- 2.1 The twinning arrangement between the Burgh of Motherwell and Wishaw and the Municipality of Schweinfurt was negotiated in 1961 culminating in the signing of a formal twinning agreement in 1962. Since then, there have been regular Bürgerreise visits alternating between visits to Schweinfurt and visits to North Lanarkshire. A Bürgerreise visit involving a large party from Schweinfurt is to take place in September of this year.
- 2.2 The guidelines for twinning assistance involve assistance with twinning visits to North Lanarkshire. In addition it is normal practice to recognise anniversaries of twinning links through an invitation to the Civic Head and a number of the Councillors of the twinning authority.

3. Considerations

- 3.1 While the anniversary of the formal signing of the twinning agreement does not fall until 2012, it has been the practice for previous anniversaries to issue invitations to coincide with Bürgerreise visits. Against that background it is suggested that it would be appropriate that the Council invite the Oberbürgermeister of Schweinfurt and a number of his colleagues to visit North Lanarkshire in September 2011 at a time that coincides with the Bürgerreise visit.
- 3.2 It is considered appropriate, also, that assistance in terms of the Council's policy on twinning be provided to the Schweinfurt Twinning Association in respect of their hosting of the Bürgerreise visit.

4. Recommendation

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to give consideration to the foregoing proposals.


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.