

REPORT

To: CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE	Subject: TWINNING: ANNIVERSARIES	
From: HEAD OF CENTRAL SERVICES		
Date: 15 January 2013	Ref: JAF/IL	

1. **Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The report submits recommendations regarding the commemoration of the anniversaries of the establishment of twinning links with Schweinfurt, Saint Denis and Les Marches.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 The formal Twinning Agreement between the Burgh of Motherwell and Wishaw and the Municipality of Schweinfurt was signed in Schweinfurt in 1962 and in Motherwell in 1963 and representatives of the Council participated as guests of the Municipality of Schweinfurt in a commemoration event in July 2012.
- 2.2 The formal Twinning Agreement between the Burgh of Coatbridge and the Municipality of Saint Denis was signed in Saint Denis in 1963 – and it is anticipated that representatives of the Council will be invited to participate in a commemoration event, this year, in Saint Denis.
- 2.3 The formal Twinning Agreement between North Lanarkshire and the Municipality of Les Marches was signed in Les Marches in 2002 and in North Lanarkshire in 2003 – and representatives of the Council participated in a commemoration event in Les Marches in September 2012 as guests of the Municipality of Les Marches.

3. **Proposal**

- 3.1 It is proposed that, to coincide with a bürgerreise visit this year from Schweinfurt to North Lanarkshire, the Council organise a formal event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Twinning Agreement in Motherwell – and that the Council invite the Oberbürgermeister and representatives of the Municipality of Schweinfurt to visit North Lanarkshire as guests of the Council and participate in that commemoration.
- 3.2 It is understood that the Municipality of Saint Denis propose to organise an event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Twinning Agreement between the Burgh of Coatbridge and the Municipality of Saint Denis – and to invite representative of North Lanarkshire Council to participate in that event. It is recommended that, in the event of such an invitation being received, the Council accept the invitation.
- 3.3 It is suggested that it would be appropriate that the Council organise an event to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the signing, in North Lanarkshire, of the Twinning Agreement between North Lanarkshire and the Municipality of Les Marches to coincide with a twinning visit to North Lanarkshire from Les Marches – and invite representatives of the Municipality of Les Marches to visit North Lanarkshire, as guests of the Council, and participate in that event.

4. **Recommendation**

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

~~4.0 Year~~
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.