

<b>Twinning Association Grants Programme Update</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> October 2018</b>
<b>To: The Leisure and Development Committee For Information</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Leader and Champion
<b>Outcome</b>	We will establish key relationships with Government, agencies and potential strategic partners in Northern Ireland and external to it which helps us to deliver our vision for this Council area
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Funding Unit Manager
<b>Cost:</b> (If applicable)	Budget previously agreed (£20k)

**The purpose of this report is to update members on the implementation of funding arrangements to the 4 legacy Twinning Associations for the 2018-19 period.**

### **Background**

Following the establishment of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council in 2015, Council agreed to transfer legacy twinning arrangements and contributions in 2016/17 and subsequently in 2017/18.

Council also set up a Twinning Association Sub-Committee consisting of 5 Elected Members nominated by d'Hondt to progress a review of legacy twinning arrangements.

In April 2018 Council considered a report from the Twinning Sub-Committee and considered options for future arrangements.

Council agreed Option 3, to continue to provide funding to the 4 legacy Twinning Associations with the funding to be administered through Council's Funding Unit on a project by project basis. The maximum grant to any one twinning Association within a financial year shall not exceed £5,000.

### **Progress**

Corporate Services are administering the process for the 2018-19 period. Specific criteria and an application process have been put in place to administer the fund for this financial year. This is step one in the process of transitioning the fund into a full grant-award programme for the 2019-2020 period. It allows the legacy arrangements to be phased out and facilitates a period of adjustment for the applicants.

Council's Funding Unit has developed a full grant programme with criteria for application and assessment which will be discussed at the Annual Review of Grant Programmes Workshop for Elected Members to be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at 7.00pm in Cloonavin. The new Twinning Association Grant Programme will be presented to Council in November 2018 for approval along with all grant programmes for the incoming year.