

7. ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL TWINNING UPDATE

The Council Executive considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Area Services seeking approval for financial assistance to be provided by the council to support the range of international activity planned between West Lothian Council and its twinning partners in financial year April 2015 to March 2016.

The Head of Area Services advised that West Lothian Council supported the West Lothian/Grapevine, Texas, USA, West Lothian/Hochsauerlandkreis, Germany, Linlithgow/Guyancourt, France and Bathgate/Cran Gevrier, France Twinning Associations.

The Grapevine and Hoshosaurlandkreis Twinning Associations were the official West Lothian twinned associations and were West Lothian wide associations. The Linlithgow and Bathgate Associations predominately addressed organisations in their geographical areas.

The aim of twinning was to promote mutual understanding through educational, cultural, sporting and recreational exchanges. West Lothian Council supported the twinning associations and encouraged these organisations to promote opportunities for individuals and community groups to participate in reciprocal exchange programmes with their twinning partners.

Attached to the report at Appendix 1 was details of the funding recommended for financial year 2015-16.

The Council Executive was asked to approve for financial assistance to be provided by the council in 2015-16 as follows :-

1. West Lothian/Grapevine, USA - £8,046
2. West Lothian/Hochsauerlandkreis, Germany - £8,046
3. Linlithgow/Guyancourt, France - £4,023
4. Bathgate/Cran Gervier, France - £4,023

Decision

To approve the terms of the report