

## For Decision

<b>Twinning</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> March 2016</b>
<b>Corporate Policy and Resources Committee</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Leader and Champion
<b>Outcome</b>	Building relationships and sharing cultural experiences
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Stephen McMaw
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	£14,700

## 1.0 Background

1.1 Each of the four Legacy Councils had a Twinning relationship with other towns, aimed at promoting friendship and understanding. The relationships were managed through Twinning Associations. The Legacy Councils offered varying degrees of Financial, Officer and Elected Member support as detailed in the table below:

<b>Legacy Council</b>	<b>Twinning Town(s)</b>	<b>Financial contribution</b>	<b>Other Support</b>
Limavady Borough Council	Vigneux Sur Seine (France) Westport Co Mayo	£2,700	Mayor and 2 Elected Members sit on the Twinning Association
Coleraine Borough Council	Municipality of La Roche-Sur-Yon (France)	£5,000	One Officer and 4 Elected Members sit on the Twinning Association
Ballymoney Borough Council	Vanves (France) Isle of Man	£5,000	4 Elected Members sit on the Twinning Association
Moyle District Council	Pourrieres (France) Ballinasloe	£2,000	None

## **2.0 Twinning post 2015**

- 2.1 The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (the Council) agreed that the Twinning arrangements relating to the Legacy Councils should be rolled over to the new Council for 2015/2016.
- 2.2 The Twinning relationships have been developed over many years. The convergence of the four Legacy Councils has created a degree of uncertainty with the various Twinning Associations as to the future commitment of the Council. At this stage each of the Associations is in the process of planning activities for 2016/2017 and will require clarification on Council funding.
- 2.3 As part of the 2016/2017 estimates process, the funding allocation for the four Legacy Council Twinning Associations has been carried over. Subject to Council approval this funding is available.
- 2.4 Currently, Council Officers have been tasked with compiling information in relation to the various projects undertaken by the Twinning Associations. This information will assist in assessing the longer term approach for Council.
- 2.5 In terms of the 2016/2017 financial year, funding has been allowed for as part of the budget process and this will enable the Twinning Associations to plan their in year projects. A report on the longer term approach will be presented to the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee prior to the 2017/2018 estimates process.

## **3.0 Recommendation**

**It is recommended** that the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council approve the transfer of the Legacy Council Twinning arrangements into the 2016/2017 financial year.