

**Report to** Twinning committee

**Item**

15 March

**Report of** Director of business services

**5**

**Subject** Twinning Fund – Financial Position

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### **Purpose**

This report informs the committee of the income and expenditure of the committee in respect of twinning activities for the period of 22 September 2017 to 26 February 2018.

### **Recommendation**

To:

- (1) note the balance of the twinning fund is approximately **££2,001.50**;
- (2) ask that twinning associations and members submit requests for funding for twinning events to be funded from the 2018-19 budget as soon as possible so that these can be considered at the June meeting of the committee.

### **Corporate and service priorities**

The report helps to meet the corporate priority to provide a prosperous and vibrant city. The twinning associations contribute to the council's service plan priority by promoting and fostering links and exchanges of all kinds between people of Norwich and the twin cities.

### **Financial implications**

There are sufficient funds within the twinning account to cover this request.

**Ward/s:** Not applicable

**Cabinet member:** Councillor Packer, health and wellbeing

### **Contact officers**

Stuart Guthrie, democratic and elections manager

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### **Background documents**

None

## Report

### Twinning fund – financial position

1. The transactions since 1 June 2017 are as follows: Opening balance: **£3,296.69**
2. Expenditure transactions in from 22 September 2017

Date	Transactions	£
2 November 2017	Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association	250.00
5 January 2018	Civic visit to Novi Sad (Day of the City)	1,045.19

Closing balance: **£2,001.50**

3. The committee agreed to fund the expenses for the Lord Mayor's visit to the Day of the Cities in Novi Sad. The committee also granted the Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association £250 to support the Annual Paul Cross Memorial Concert which is shown in the table above.
4. The Lord Mayor and consort will be attending the 40<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the twinning agreement between Norwich and Koblenz in April. Transport arrangements and additional insurance for the civic chains have yet to be arranged.
5. A visit of leading politicians from Novi Sad is being planned for early summer. This will require funding from the twinning fund.
6. There may be also be some outstanding payments for twinning activities which have not yet been assigned to the twinning fund. These will be reported with the next statement.
7. The twinning budget for 2018-19 is £2,060.00 and will be allocated to the committee from 1 April 2018. The balance from 2017-18 will be carried over into the next financial year.
8. Members of the committee are reminded that applications for grants for twinning related activities can be made by completing a form and contacting the city council. The committee may also wish to put aside funding to support twinning associations to hold special events to celebrate anniversaries in Norwich or to visit twinned cities.
9. We recommend that all associations submit a request for funding for twinning activities in 2018-19 which can be considered at the June meeting. This way we can plan expenditure for events and ensure that there is a fair distribution of funding.