



# NORWICH City Council

**Committee Name:** Twinning

**Committee Date:** 14/03/2024

**Report Title:** Twinning fund –Update

**Portfolio:** Councillor Kendrick, cabinet member for resources

**Report from:** Interim head of legal and procurement

**Wards:** All wards

## **OPEN PUBLIC ITEM**

### **Purpose:**

To provide a financial update to the twinning committee.

### **Recommendation:**

To:

- 1) note the twinning fund financial position; and
- 2) consider a twinning grant application from the Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association.

### **Policy Framework**

The Council has five corporate priorities, which are:

- People live independently and well in a diverse and safe city.
- Norwich is a sustainable and healthy city.
- Norwich has the infrastructure and housing it needs to be a successful city.
- The city has an inclusive economy in which residents have equal opportunity to flourish.
- Norwich City Council is in good shape to serve the city.

This report helps to meet the corporate priorities of Norwich City Council is in good shape to serve the city and people live independently and well in a diverse and safe city.

## Report

1. The balance of the Twinning Fund on 14 March will be £5,065.97
2. This includes the council's annual twinning contribution of £2,060 for the current financial year.
3. The Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association have received a grant of £400 for the annual Paul Cross Memorial Concert.
4. The committee have also agreed, in principle to recommend to the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer), the annual grant of £200 to each of the following twinning association:
  - a. Norfolk and Norwich Koblenz Friendship Association
  - b. Norfolk and Norwich Novi Sad Association
  - c. Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association
5. A grant application has also been received from the Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association for £1280, to help with the costs of the football tournament that will be hosted by the Cringleford Junior Football Club. The committee will need to consider whether to recommend this to the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) for approval.
6. The twinning associations are encouraged to submit applications to the committee for consideration for any events planned.
7. Members of the committee are reminded that grant applications from twinning associations are made by completing a grant application form which is sent to democratic services. Any applications are then considered by the twinning committee. The committee will recommend any agreed grants to the Interim Chief Finance Officer (Section 151 Officer) for approval.
8. At its meeting in October 2022, the twinning committee recommended using the twinning fund to purchase new twinning boards to be displayed in the civic corridor at City Hall. The cost for 5 new boards was estimated at £150 and these costs have been approved. Democratic services encourages the associations to bring forward their wording and artwork. We will start the work removing the old boards shortly.
9. The friendship link between Norwich and Uru-Eu-Wau Wau indigenous people based in Rondônia, Brazil has been established. The agreement was signed by the Lord Mayor and an appropriate location for this to be hung is being sought.
10. The council has been in contact with the Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association about a football tournament including clubs from Rouen and Norfolk. The event is being held at Easton College. The association is very welcome to make a grant application to the committee to help support the event.

## Consultation

11. There has been no consultation on this report.

## Implications

### Financial and Resources

12. Any decision to reduce or increase resources or alternatively increase income must be made within the context of the council's stated priorities, as set out in its Corporate Plan and Budget.

13. The report sets out the financial position of the twinning fund. Any grant applications will be considered within existing budgets.

## Legal

14. There are no legal implications within this report.

## Statutory Considerations

Consideration	Details of any implications and proposed measures to address:
Equality and Diversity	None
Health, Social and Economic Impact	None
Crime and Disorder	None
Children and Adults Safeguarding	None
Environmental Impact	None

## Reasons for the decision/recommendation

15. The twinning committee is invited to note the financial position to enable grant applications to be considered throughout the year.

**Background papers:** None

**Appendices:** Appendix 1 – Twinning Grant Application Form

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## Application for Twinning Committee Grant

The aims of the Twinning Committee are to "promote and foster Civic links and exchange activities of all kinds with Rouen, Novi Sad and Koblenz and any other towns and cities abroad with which friendly associations are, from time to time, established". The policy of the Committee is to concentrate on making grants to assist visits by young people (excluding regular school exchanges), an initial visit to set up a new link and in cases of particular financial hardship.

1. Name and address of organisation/group/individual applying for the grant:

<b>Organisation:</b>	Norfolk and Norwich Rouen Friendship Association
<b>Name:</b>	Bert Bremner
<b>Address:</b>	12 Morello Close, Norwich
<b>Postcode:</b>	NR4 7NF
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:Norwich.rouen@gmail.com">Norwich.rouen@gmail.com</a>
<b>Phone:</b>	01603 471134
<b>Position within organisation:</b>	Chair

2. Please describe fully why you are applying for a grant and which city or town you are forming links with?

A very special International Youth Football Tournament 3rd & 4th August 2024 will be taking place organised by Cringleford Junior Football Club involving teams from Rouen and Koblenz, and taking place in Easton. The Norfolk & Norwich Rouen Friendship Association are involved as we want to promote links between Norwich and Rouen, and this event a wonderful chance to start links, and could lead to even more. How can Norwich help with this event which will open many opportunities for Twinning with Rouen and Normandy? I do understand the financial difficulties that all local governments are having, but I hope that Norwich could make a generous financial contribution to this very special event using the Twinning fund. With Rouen still being very keen to be very international after their failed bid to be European City of Culture 2028 it would be great to have a senior officer and Cabinet member to liaise directly with, especially as Rouen Metropole wants to continue to develop the connection.

Cringleford JFC are forecast to lose money from the tournament given the costs involved. While the tournament is not designed to be a money raiser (as the focus is on bringing teams together), they are struggling. On top of the costs of the pitch hire, car park hire, refs, St John's Ambulance, FA sanctioning, trophies, etc., (which they are hoping to recoup through entry fees from the UK teams plus some sponsorship), they are currently funding the entries for the Rouen and Koblenz teams (£95 per team), and the cost of the evening community party for the kids (£7.50 per player).

Rouen - The Rouen Metropole / Council confirmed that 4 Rouen teams will be entering across the U11, U12 and U13 age groups. They are funding the transport and most of

the accommodation. Cringleford are funding the team entries plus the remaining accommodation costs. Rouen are focusing on teams with players from disadvantaged backgrounds and are also supporting the administrative side (e.g. arranging passports for the players).

How this will further the aims of the Twinning Committee:

- 1) promote and foster Civic links and exchange activities of all kinds with Rouen, - Obviously this promotes and fosters links with Rouen, and has already assisted us make excellent links with various officers at Rouen City Hall!
- 2) The policy of the Committee is to concentrate on making grants to assist visits by young people - this certainly will assist visits by young people.
- 3) an initial visit to set up a new link - This will set up a new link aiming to make the connection long lasting and far reaching to the benefit of young people in Norwich and Rouen.
- 4) in cases of particular financial hardship. - Rouen are focusing on teams with players from disadvantaged backgrounds

3. If the grant is to help towards the costs of a visit, please answer the following questions:

<b>How many people will be in the group making the visit?</b>	I am assuming about 8 players per team plus 2 adults, but there could be more = 40+
<b>How many of these are under 18 years of age?</b>	Assuming 8 players per team I am assuming 32 but there could be more!
<b>How many people in your organisation/group live in the Norwich City Council area?</b>	This is NNRFA not the visitors! 51
<b>Has your organisation/group received any previous grant from the Twinning Committee? If yes, please say how much and when?</b>	Not within the current financial year
<b>What is the total cost of this visit?</b>	
<b>How much grant are you applying for?</b>	£1280 Breakdown of the cost: There are 4 x 5-a-side teams coming from Rouen and Norwich could fund the 4 x £95 entry fees. = £380 So that Norwich would cover the entry fee instead of Cringleford JFC - Below you will see that there will be

	<p>overall costs relating to the event but I have narrowed it down to the visitors from Rouen.</p> <p>I am assuming about 8 players per team plus 2 adults and 40 x £7.50 for the Community Party = £300 - <b>ASSUMING ONLY 40 FROM ROUEN</b></p> <p>Providing a gift for each of the kids that they can take away as a memory of the event would be nice. £5 x 40 = £200 <b>ASSUMING ONLY 40 FROM ROUEN</b></p> <p>Covering the remaining accommodation costs left after Rouen have already paid so much £10 x 40 = £400 <b>ASSUMING ONLY 40 FROM ROUEN</b></p>
<p><b>Are you applying for any other organisation or business for grants? If yes, please say who to and for how much?</b></p>	
<p><b>How will your organisation/group be paying for the visit?</b></p>	<p>Parts of the visit are funded by Rouen themselves and Cringleford Junior Football Club.</p>

4. It is a condition of the grant that your travel arrangements are made with a bonded travel company, which is a member of ABTA. Please confirm this requirement and give the name of your travel company

5. If the grant is for another purpose other than a visit, please give as much detail as you can by answering the following questions:

<b>What is the total cost of the project or activity?</b>	
<b>Has your organisation/group received any previous grant from the Twinning Committee? If yes, please say how much and when</b>	
<b>How much grant are you applying for?</b>	
<b>Are you applying to any other organisation or business for grants? If yes, please say who to and for how much?</b>	
<b>How will your organisation/group pay for the project or activity?</b>	

If you need any help, have any questions about completing the application or require the application in another format or language please contact Democratic Services at [DemocraticServices@norwich.gov.uk](mailto:DemocraticServices@norwich.gov.uk).