

Report to: **Executive**
Date: **Tuesday 10th January 2006**
Report of: **Executive Member for Community and Culture**
Subject: **Town Twinning, Easington - Baesweiler**
Ward: **All**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1** To consider a request from the administration in Baesweiler for the District Council to attend the Annual Karneval and Kirmes celebrations.

2. Consultation

- 2.1** In preparing this report I have consulted with the Chief Executive and the Senior Regeneration Officer (Finance & Management).

3. Position Statement

- 3.1** I have been advised that the dates for these visits are as follow:-

Karneval - Wednesday 22nd February - Thursday 2nd March 2006

Kirmes - Thursday 8th June - Saturday 17th June 2006

- 3.2** The administration has invited the Council to participate in these annual celebrations and have invited the following:-

Councillor Mrs J. Maitland	-	Chair of the Council
Councillor C. Walker	-	Vice Chair of the Council
Councillor J. Goodwin	-	Executive Member for Community and Culture
Ms J. Johnson	-	Chief Executive
Mr M. Kipling	-	Senior Regeneration Officer (Finance & Management)

4. Policy, Financial, Legal and Risk Implications

4.1 Policy Implications

- 4.1.1** It has been the policy of the Council for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council, at the time of the individual visits, together with the Twinning Officer to attend on these occasions. In addition approval has also been given for the Chief Executive to visit Baesweiler in order to generate closer links with counterparts in Baesweiler.

- 4.1.2** As the Chief Executive has already participated on two visits it is proposed that other members of the Management Team become involved and make links with their counterparts in and around Baesweiler to develop links and gain an insight into service provision in Germany. It is therefore suggested that the Director of Community Services participate in the 2006 Kirmes visit to Baesweiler on behalf of the Chief Executive and that a number of study visits relating to street cleaning, refuse, recycling, community safety and leisure be built into his programme.

4.2 Financial Implications

- 4.2.1** There are no financial implications as a budget provision is in place to cover existing policy. Funding to cover any additional attendees is found from existing departmental

budgets.

4.3 **Legal Implications**

4.2.1 There are no legal implications

4.4 **Risk Implications**

4.4.1 A risk assessment has been completed and the necessary actions required to manage the identified risks have been/will be implemented.

5. Communications

5.1 The administration in Baesweiler will be advised of the decision. In addition details of the visits have been included in info-point and circulated to previously interested parties via mailing lists.

6. Recommendations

6.1 It is **recommended** that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council together with the Twinning Officer officially attend both visits in 2006 and that the Director of Community Services participates in the Kirmes visit with a suitably arranged programme.

Background Papers/Documents Referred to in Preparing this Report:-

District of Easington Risk Assessment

Letter from the administration in Baesweiler dated 12th December 2005

J. Goodwin Executive Member for Community and Culture