



Coventry City Council

5b)

Public report

REPORT BACK ON CONFERENCE/SEMINAR

REPORT TO: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee
REPORT OF: Lord Mayor, Councillor Tim Sawdon
TITLE: Civic Visit to Cork, Ireland, for Cork City Marathon
DATE: 3rd – 4th June 2012
VENUE: Cork, Ireland

1. Recommendation

1.1 The Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee is recommended to endorse the report of the Lord Mayor's civic visit to Cork for the Cork City Marathon.

2. Background

2.1 The purpose of my visit, as the Lord Mayor of the City of Coventry, was to maintain links with one of our twin cities and to support a Coventry athlete, Kyza Derby, who was taking part in the Cork Marathon.

2.2 The Lady Mayoress and the Lord Mayor's Support Officer accompanied me on the visit.

3. Cost of attending

3.1 The costs for attending were as follows:

Flights Birmingham to Cork for LM and LMSO:	£ 495.94
Currency expenses for refreshments	£99.15
Total	£595.09

3.2 Costs were covered by the Lord Mayor's Hospitality Budget. The costs of accommodation and meals were funded by the City of Cork. The Lady Mayoress paid for her own costs.

4. Benefits

4.1 Through my visit as Lord Mayor, I was able to reinforce the twinning links between Coventry and Cork that go back to 1960. The visit consisted of an overnight stay on the 3rd June and starting the Marathon, together with the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Terry Shannon. Following the Marathon, we had lunch with the Lord Mayor and his successor, Councillor John Buttimer, who was due to take office a few days later, and other local politicians. We discussed the Irish economic situation and shared thoughts on the impact of the cuts on our respective local authorities.

- 4.2 During the Marathon, our host, Noreen Mulcahy, took us to Blarney Castle, but we were on the finishing line to congratulate Kyza Derby on finishing his first marathon in the amazing time of 3 ¼ hours.
- 4.3 We also had the pleasure of meeting up with the former Council Leader and Lord Mayor of Coventry, Nick Nolan, who showed us some of the local sights in Cork.
- 4.4 In conclusion, whilst the visit was for less than 24 hours, it is important to recognise that, with a large Irish community in Coventry, it is valuable to keep a good link with one of our more accessible twin cities.

List of background papers

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Papers open to public inspection

Description of paper:	Location
Civic Visit to Cork documents	Lord Mayor's Office, Room 36, Council House

Approved by the Cabinet Member (Community Safety and Equalities) on:
 29th May, 2012 - Report: Authority for Attendance at Conferences