
Swindon City of Sanctuary Meeting

Town Twinning Network

6th June 2018

Author: Director of Law and Democratic Services

Ward: All

Parishes Affected: All

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 To consider what questions to pose and who to invite to the special meeting to be held in July with the Swindon City of Sanctuary.

2. Recommendations

The Town Twinning Network is recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider what questions it would like to put to representatives of the Swindon City of Sanctuary at the special meeting about its role in the community.
- 2.1 Consider what local cultural and community groups with an interest in developing friendship links with Swindon it would like to invite to attend the special meeting and to give a brief 5-10 minute presentation concerning the work they undertake in Swindon.

3. Detail

- 3.1 At its meeting on the 25th April 2018, the Town Twinning Network made the following resolutions:

(1) That a special meeting be held on or around the 30th July 2018, to tie in with the International Day of Friendship and representatives from the Swindon City of Sanctuary be invited to give a presentation to explain how the organisation promote a culture of welcome, inclusion and support for everyone in Swindon.

(2) That the Network, at its next scheduled meeting on the 6th June 2018, consider a series of questions that can be put to representatives of the Swindon City of Sanctuary at the special meeting about its role in the community.

(3) That local cultural and community groups with an interest in developing friendship links with Swindon be invited to attend the special meeting and to give a brief 5-10 minute presentation concerning the work they undertake in Swindon.

- 3.2 Swindon City of Sanctuary aim to promote a culture of welcome, inclusion and support for everyone in Swindon, with a focus on those seeking sanctuary. In practical terms, they do this by bringing people and organisations in our community together, providing practical support through projects, running community events, raising awareness and campaigning for social justice, therefore, contributing to the wider, national movement that is City of Sanctuary. For further information please see: [Swindon City of Sanctuary](#)
- 3.3 City of Sanctuary is a movement committed to building a culture of hospitality and welcome for all, especially for refugees seeking sanctuary from war and persecution. The movement began in 2005 in Sheffield, which became the first City of Sanctuary in 2007. Today, the network constitutes over 90 local groups including boroughs, towns and cities across the UK and Ireland, all committed to building this culture of welcome across society.
- 3.3 It is suggested that the special meeting be held on the 24th July 2018 at 6.00pm.
- 3.4 The Network is invited consider what questions it would like to ask at the special meeting and which cultural and community groups it would like to invite to the meeting.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The Network could decide not to hold a special meeting.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment, and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications relating to this update. Any future activity that has financial implications would be subject to a separate report.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 This report has no specific legal or human rights

All Other Implications (Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 This report has no specific implications relating to staff, sustainability, health, rural, crime and disorder.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.4 A Diversity Impact Assessment has not been completed for this report. This is because it relates to verbal updates from Town Twins and Links present at the meeting, with no changes to staffing, budget or service eligibility criteria.

Risk Management

- 5.5 A risk assessment has not been carried out.

6. Consultees

6.1 The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted on all reports.

7. Background Papers

7.1 None

8. Appendices

8.1 None.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Iain Tucker on (01793) 463605 or itucker@swindon.gov.uk