

REPORT OF THE LEADER

'LESSONS FROM SREBRENICA' DELEGATION TO BOSNIA – 20-23 MARCH 2016

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval for the involvement of the Chair of Community Safety Committee (Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle) in a delegation to Bosnia organised by the charitable organisation Remembering Srebrenica.

Information and Advice

2. Remembering Srebrenica is dedicated to raising awareness and learning lessons from the genocide committed at Srebrenica in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1995. The charity's overall aim is to teach current and future generations about the consequence of hatred and intolerance.
3. Part-funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), the charity runs a sizeable education programme called 'Lessons from Srebrenica'. This involves taking delegations of 'key influencers' to Bosnia to engage with key political and religious figures, as well as the survivors of the genocide and the mothers of those killed, in order to learn how a seemingly integrated society imploded.
4. Remembering Srebrenica covers all costs of these delegations (airfare, accommodation, travel, food) exclusive of those incurred within the UK. In return the charity asks that participants make a pledge to do something concrete here in the UK on their return to tackle intolerance and discrimination and promote social cohesion, such as commemorative memorial events or educating young people about the genocide.
5. Last year, a number of Council leaders and lead members were taken in such delegations to Srebrenica and all came back to hold civic events which brought communities together to remember the victims of genocide. Councils involved previously include the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, Birmingham City Council, Hammersmith and Fulham London Borough Council, Leeds City Council, Lewes District Council, Bradford Metropolitan District Council.
6. The next delegation takes place on 20-23 March 2016 and confirmation of involvement is needed in early February (ahead of the next meeting of Community Safety Committee on 1 March 2016).

Other Options Considered

7. To not involve the Chair of Community Safety Committee in this delegation but that would prevent the Council from sharing learning about this genocide in order to help better promote community cohesion and tolerance within Nottinghamshire.

Reasons for Recommendation

8. The Chair of Community Safety Committee is the most appropriate Member to be involved in this delegation in light of the Committee's remit.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

10. The only potential cost to the Council will be in relation to the Member's travel from home to Heathrow Airport and back, which will be met from the relevant Member Support budget. All other costs of the delegation are covered by the charity as detailed in paragraph 4 above.

RECOMMENDATION

That approval be given for the Chair of Community Safety Committee to be involved in the 'Lessons to Srebrenica' Delegation to Bosnia on 20-23 March, organised by the Remembering Srebrenica charitable organisation.

COUNCILLOR ALAN RHODES
Leader of the Council

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Keith Ford, Team Manager, Democratic Services Tel. 0115 9772590 keith.ford@nottscc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (SLB – 01/02/16)

Policy Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (RWK – 01/02/16)

The financial implications are set out in the report at paragraph 10

Background Papers

- E-mail invitation from Remembering Srebrenica to Councillor Glynn Gilfoyle dated 25 January 2016.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All