



Community Leadership & Libraries Committee

11 May 2023

Title	Mayoralty, Civic Events and Town Twinning
Report of	Cllr Sara Conway – Chair of the Community Leadership and Libraries Committee
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix – Mayoralty, Civic Events and Town Twinning Update Report
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Summary

This report is to update the Committee on Mayoral engagements, civic events and town twinning activity which took place between May 2022 to May 2023.

Officers Recommendation

That the Committee note and comment on the update on the civic events and the mayoralty as set out in the Appendix.

1. Why this report is needed

- 1.1 The Committee has within its terms of reference responsibility for civic events and the mayoralty.
- 1.2 The Mayor is the first citizen of the borough and ultimately the face of the council to the public.

- 1.3 To establish areas where there may be a requirement for Member and/or officer support in the delivery of civic events and the Mayoralty.
- 1.4 To provide a service to the Mayoralty and a programme of civic events contributing to the delivery of all corporate priorities and objectives as set out in the Barnet Plan.
- 1.5 Increase awareness of the Mayoralty and highlight the benefits civic events and the Mayoralty have to the Council, its partners and the community by providing visual reminders of how important it is to have a figurehead who appreciates the community efforts in all aspects.
- 1.6 Strive to ensure all those engaging with the Mayoralty have a memorable and good experience. Whilst delivering new and innovative ways of working, ensure the office delivers an exceptional service embracing any changes necessary. This includes the promotion and value of the Mayoralty in the borough with very limited resources, celebrating diversity, collaborating with our partners and sharing best practice.
- 1.7 To enable a smooth transition of the change of mayoralty every May at the Annual Council meeting, advise on expectations for the year ahead and manage the programme, often with changes and additions at short notice.

Background and Context

- 1.8 The Mayor's Office is a team of three who manage and deliver a comprehensive annual programme of civic events and support the mayoralty. Staff time from other departments is occasionally necessary to deliver large events and relies on comms and media for promotion.
- 1.9 The Mayor's Office gain insight into best practice through a regular and comprehensive review of best practice in other boroughs and participation in the National Association of Civic Officers (NACO) network.

2. Reasons for recommendations

- 2.1 As set out above.

3. Alternative options considered and not recommended

- 3.1 None. The Council must provide support the mayoralty and civic events via the Mayor's Office.

4. Post decision implementation

- 4.1 None

5. Implications of decision

Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1 The Barnet Corporate Plan: Caring for people, our places and the planet: our plan for Barnet 2023 – 2026 was adopted by Council on 28 February 2023. Providing excellent support to the mayoralty and civic events supports delivery of all corporate plan priorities.

Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2 The budgets for Mayoral Services and Civic Events were £243,125 for 2022/23 and will remain at that level for 2023/24.

Legal and Constitutional References

- 5.3 Council Constitution, Article 7, Terms of Reference of Committees – The Community Leadership and Libraries Committee has within its terms of reference responsibility for civic events and the mayoralty.

Insight

- 5.4 N/A

Social Value

- 5.5 N/A

Insight

- 5.6 N/A

Risk Management

- 5.7 The Mayoralty carries a huge reputational risk to the council.
- 5.8 If the council is not represented by a figurehead (First Citizen of the Borough) this could have a negative impact.
- 5.9 If there is no promotion of the Mayoralty this may impact the service delivery and ultimately affect the community.

Social Value

- 5.10 N/A

Equalities and Diversity

- 5.11 The mayoralty and civic events celebrate the boroughs diverse communities.

Corporate Parenting

- 5.12 N/A

Consultation and Engagement

5.13 N/A

Environmental Impact

5.14 N/A

6. Background papers

6.1 None