

## **Appendix A – Deputation Supporting Statement**

Deputation Lead: Seyyare Beyzade

### Supporting Statement:

We would like to bring a deputation on behalf of the Turkish Cypriot community in Barnet with particular reference to Barnet's Town Twinning programme with Morphou.

Morphou, a town which is now known as Guzelyurt, is located on the northern side of the partition line originally established in 1964, and now consists entirely of Turkish Cypriots.

British citizens of Turkish Cypriot descent here in Barnet are concerned that the twinning programme, which is financed by all Barnet citizens, has only involved the Greek Cypriot community so far and is thus unrepresentative of reality: there are two major communities that coexist on the island. We therefore request that Barnet residents of Turkish Cypriot descent are equally involved in the organisation of the programme, in keeping with Barnet Council's claims to serve its many ethnic minorities without discrimination, according to the UK's Human Rights legislation.

At the moment, the Town Twinning programme seems to represent exclusively the views of Greek Cypriots. We need to ensure that both sides are equally represented; so that, the Turkish Cypriot rights are just as respected as Greek Cypriot, and that accounts of history are clearly and correctly interpreted so as to ensure no bias or discrimination occurs to cause misinformation or division amongst future generations of Barnet residents.

*Note: The deputation has been supported by the signatures more than five citizens or representatives of local organisations or businesses in Barnet.*