

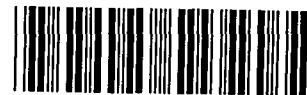
COUNCIL OF EUROPE ————— ————— CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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Strasbourg 10 January 1983

AS/Loc/Prix (34) 42

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



PACCOM063015

COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL PLANNING AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize and
the propagation of the European idea

EUROPE PRIZE

Candidature of NEATH BOROUGH COUNCIL
(South Wales) United Kingdom

- Replies to the questionnaire

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01.52

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Question 1: Membership in organisations of local authorities

Reply

International Union of Local Authorities

Question 2: Contribution to their activities

Reply

Not so far

Question 3: "Twinning activities"

Reply

a. Yes - within Council of Europe as below:

1. Esslingen am Neckar, Federal German Republic
2. Vienne - France
3. Udine - Italy
4. Schiedam - Netherlands

Youth exchanges - Esslingen, Vienne, Udine

Football team exchange - Schiedam

Choirs, Brass Band, Orchestras - Esslingen

Neath Male Voice Choir recently participated in the first Festival of the Schwabischer Sangerbund in Esslingen in which a Choir from Vienne also participated.

In addition the five partner towns of Neath, Vienne, Udine, Schiedam and Gelenje meet annually in one of the towns for a Twinning Conference where joint exchanges are discussed.

The guest of honour at the 1982 Mayoral Dinner was Dr Roland Luithle, Burgermeister of our twin town of Esslingen am Neckar.

Question 4: Other relations with municipalities abroad.

Reply

We have strong continuing relations with our associated twinning organisations in the other partner towns mentioned and promote the participation of specialised interests ie, the Neath Photographic Society will be involved in presenting a photographic exhibition from Esslingen in 1983.

The Neath Boys Club in Neath have strong links with the Club Leo-Legrance in Vienne

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Question 5: Exchange of persons

Reply

Yes, numbers of private exchanges have been arranged on a reciprocal basis and we are always pursuing such activities. Many such exchanges have resulted from our Youth exchange activities over recent years, but the friendships developed by Choirs, Bands etc, has also catalysed numerous individual or family exchanges of this kind.

The individuals concerned are from most stratas of society.

Question 6: Organisation of European events

Reply

To date hosting the International Exchange Conference between our partner towns.

Question 7: Europe Day (5 May)

Reply

Yes

Question 8: Support to European movements

Reply

Yes.

The borough is not large enough to provide facilities such as a reception centre.

Question 9: Propagation of the European idea

Reply

The West Glamorgan County Council are the Education Authority and are responsible for these arrangements.

Question 10: Actions of European solidarity

Reply

Yes to the Udine earthquake disaster

Question 11: Presentation

Reply

Indeed - we would make this an important civic occasion and view it as the high point in our attempts to foster European unity.

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Question 12: Other initiatives

Reply

In addition to the information given on the enclosed leaflets I would say that Neath has a population of 66,000 based on the ancient town of Neath which was the site of a Roman fort at a crossing of the River Neath. It developed as an industrial town in the 19th century based on the coal, steel and tinplate industries. More recently there have been important developments in the oil-based petro-chemical industries.

Neath is situate on the Bristol Channel, some 38 miles to the west of Cardiff and 8 miles from Swansea, which it adjoins on its western boundary.

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