



Newcastles of the World Conference, Shinshiro 2018: Joint Communiqué

Delegations from fifteen different Newcastles gathered in Shinshiro, Japan, from the 3rd October to the 8th October. Following the original initiative of Shinshiro City, Japan, we have continued to exchange views and have deepened understanding, friendship and solidarity among us. We have succeeded in establishing and maintaining an international network connecting our towns and cities for the mutual benefit of our citizens.

On behalf of our respective Newcastles, we met at this the 20th Anniversary Conference and renewed commitment. We discussed how to take our Alliance forward, looking to the future, collaborating in particular in the fields of Culture, Education, Tourism and Business. In parallel to the main conference a youth conference was held – Today's Youth: Tomorrow's Newcastles. The youths presented their agreed actions to the main conference.

We agreed to use our best endeavours to progress the following programme:

1. To develop a number of achievable, concrete projects on the key conference themes. The Secretariat was tasked with having a co-ordination role, working with members, facilitating and providing support in taking the projects forward during the period leading to the next bi-annual conference (see Annex II).
 - a. We recognise that not every project will be able to embrace each member, and encourage collaboration between individual members, including town twinning.
2. To work together to promote the Newcastles Passport, our existing scheme, designed to increase opportunities for tourism between our Newcastles, encouraging opportunities to experience each other's cultures, languages and places.
3. To support our young people in progressing specific project development following the idea to create a youth tourism app, which was generated at the first global youth conference, held by Shinshiro in December 2017.
4. To support and develop a small number of initiatives, designed to create more youth-friendly Newcastles.
5. To raise awareness of the Alliance in pupils from a young age.
6. To encourage our members to agree that all delegations to future conferences should include youth delegates, with a guideline of at least 25% of the delegation numbers.
7. To support services that recognise an ageing population, meeting their needs but recognising the experience that older people have and the contribution that they can make.
8. To pursue opportunities for collaboration in applying for EU and international funding, commencing with the EU Europe for Citizens programme, under the Network of Towns category.
9. To develop a stronger focus on sharing information, knowledge and best practice.
10. To improve communications between us by:
 - a. Having nominated contact points among officers, politicians and relevant individuals and agencies who guarantee to take initiatives, provide information and respond promptly and positively.
 - b. Creating greater content and functionality in our online presence with clear links from our municipality websites to Newcastles of the World.
 - c. Sharing a range of appropriate promotional material that can be used in our individual information centres, online and for exhibitions.
11. To adopt the attached proposal regarding membership of Newcastles of the World (see Annex I).
12. To welcome and accept the invitation extended by Neuchâtel, Switzerland, to host the twelfth conference in 2020.
13. To approve the invitation extended by Nyborg, Denmark, to host the thirteenth conference in 2022.

Annex I

In accordance with the Alliance's aims to promote friendship between the members and to develop projects of mutual benefit, and in order to strengthen the Alliance and ensure its durability, the following is agreed as a definition of membership:

1. Members who pay fees are regarded as core members, and those who do not pay a fee are associate members. Core members are: Shinshiro, Neuchâtel, Neuburg, Jaupils, Nové Zámky, Nyborg, Nové Hradky, Newcastle Canada, Newcastle South Africa, Newcastle upon Tyne.
2. Core members where leadership and support of the municipality is guaranteed will have two votes on business issues. Core members without municipal support will have one vote, and associate members will not have a vote on business issues.
3. The admission of any new core members in the future must be agreed by a two third majority of those who make up the core members at the time of an application.
4. No more than two additional associate members will be admitted at each conference.

Annex II

Throughout the sessions, we agreed on the following top two projects in each conference theme that we would like to implement:

1. Culture – Project I: Promote exchange of artists
2. Culture – Project II: Promote exhibitions among the different Newcastles
3. Tourism – Project I: Hold a Newcastles of the World day
4. Tourism – Project II: Hold a Newcastles Festival (Food and beverages)
5. Education – Project I: Create an online platform to facilitate communication and co-operation, leading to exchanges of teachers, students, pupils
6. Education – Project II: 'Learning from other Newcastles', commencing with the creation of a YouTube Channel, a school project led by Nyborg, Denmark.
7. Business – Project I: Promote our local companies through the organization of a Business fair at each Conference and by keeping an online database with their details.
8. Business – Project II: Organizing exchanges of trainees, employees and students through a project approach.
9. Business – Project III: Provide bespoke business and cultural tourism travel packages for the visitors to and from other newcastles.

Moreover, we agree to accept the findings of the Youth Conference, details of which will be circulated afterwards.

穂積 亮次

Shinshiro City, Japan

Wagsall

Newcastle, New South Wales,
Australia

Willie Wong

Village of Newcastle, Clarington,
Canada

Nyborg

Nyborg, Denmark

Holter Frievald

Neuburg an der Donau, Germany

S. Jaitu

Jaupils, Latvia

Kota Bharu

Kota Bharu, Malaysia

Herceg Novi

Herceg Novi, Montenegro

Katarina Farkasova

Nové Zámky, Slovakia

Newcastle

Newcastle, South Africa

Neuchâtel

Neuchâtel, Switzerland

S Wilson

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK

Kelly

New Castle, Indiana, USA

New Castle

New Castle, Pennsylvania, USA