

# COVENTRY

Population 345,385

[www.coventry.gov.uk](http://www.coventry.gov.uk)

Lord Mayor: Cllr. Ann Lucas

Coventry was the first city to twin with Cork. The decision to twin with Coventry was a result of the number of Cork people who had emigrated to Coventry to find work and later chose it as a place to settle.

Given such a strong local base with immediate connections to Cork, it was clear that twinning would be successful. Some of the twinning activities which have taken place include:-

- Lord Mayor of Cork pays an annual visit to Coventry to attend the Irish Association Dinner, [www.Coventryirishsociety.co.uk](http://www.Coventryirishsociety.co.uk)
- Shamrock is sent every year from Cork City to the Coventry Irish Society for their St. Patrick's Day events.
- Poetry exchange between Cork and Coventry poets has been taking place for a number of years. This twinned city poetry exchange enriches O'Bheál's annual programme of events and is supported by the council's twinning grant programme.
- For the past number of years, athletes from Coventry have travelled to Cork to take part in the Cork City marathon and half marathon.
- Cork musicians visit Coventry and Warwick on an annual basis and Coventry bands pay a return visit to Cork for the Cork Folk. These visits are supported by the Council's Twinning Grant Programme.
- The Irish Heart, Coventry Home exhibition launch at the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum in Coventry took place on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and was attended by Cllr. Kieran McCarthy. This project was a 15 month history project which was conducted by the Coventry Irish Society where they explored the history of the Irish Community in Coventry. The exhibition ran in the Herbert Art Gallery & Museum until April 10<sup>th</sup>. The Exhibition then travelled to Cork where it was on display in the City Hall atrium from September 17<sup>th</sup> to October 12<sup>th</sup> and was officially launched by the Lord Mayor on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from the Coventry Irish Society travelled to Cork for the launch.



*Pictured L – R. Cllr. Kieran McCarthy, Cork City Council, Simon McCarthy, Coventry Irish Society, Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Mick Finn, Kay Forrest, Coventry Irish Society and Ciaran Davis, Project Co-Ordinator at the launch of the exhibition Irish Heart, Coventry Home.*