

cc: Braam  
: archief

MINUUT

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Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames  
Mr Bruce McDonald, Chief Executive  
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Date  
4 September 2001

Delft

Our ref  
01/023415  
Your letter

Your ref.

Dear Mr McDonald,

Returning to my visit to Kingston upon Thames on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2001, I want to thank the mayor, you and the members of the council very much for the friendly reception I encountered (again).

Our talks about the future of the relationship between our two cities were open and sincere. We shared the mutual recognition of the history of our city link accepting at the same time, that times, reasons and backgrounds of the link have changed.

We both acknowledge that the civilian basis of the link has fallen apart in both cities after years of weak contacts. It is necessary therefore, that we reset our relationship. The mutual conclusion was that at this moment there could be further co-operation on a project base.

Delft still has 2 alternative ways for our city link, but they don't fit Kingston: a link based on the concept of helping a developing society or a full fledged economic link supported and implemented by the wishes of our local private businesses or institutions. Kingston is developing criteria for international co-operation, but does not have an alternative concept for future co-operation either.

So back to project based co-operation. It is clear that Kingston's approach for intra-European co-operation will be based on projects and that the network of cities involved in those (EU-) projects is flexible. For Delft this is a usable approach fitting in our international activities. We came to the conclusion that such a co-operation, that can be implemented and evaluated for specific and well defined projects offers a good chance in the future. This conclusion also implicates that our existing link dissolves and steps into a different phase.

Acknowledging this, we decided that 50 years of co-operation in a Europe, that needed repair, new friendships and mutual understanding, should come to an end with celebration.

The city's offices are a 5 minutes walk from  
the railway station Delft.

Date

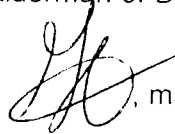
4 September 2001

Our ref.


It is a celebration our communities deserve, because our communities gave a local contribution to the Europe, that we know today. A prosperous Europe that has overcome those post war problems and works on a new and very different future.  
Let us plan the celebration!

Yours sincerely,

The Board of Mayor and Alderman of Delft,



, mayor



, city manager