

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 14 MARCH 2005
REPORT ON: LITERACIES ACTION PLAN – ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES 2005/2006
REPORT BY: HEAD OF COMMUNITIES
REPORT NO: 178-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This Report makes recommendations for the allocation of resources to deliver on the key elements contained in the Literacies Action Plan, which was approved by the Scottish Executive in March 2004.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 agree the allocation of Literacies Action Plan funding 2005/2006 recommended by the Community Learning Partnership (Literacies Sub Group) on 23 February 2005 as detailed in Appendix 1.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of the proposals is £231,392.32 which can be contained within the allocation to the Dundee Community Learning Partnership of £397,112, previously reported to Committee on 10 February 2003.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Report seeks to ensure that resources are used as efficiently as possible to achieve Departmental and Council agreed service priorities, and ensure a sustainable partnership approach to literacy provision.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The proposals will continue to reflect the commitment of the Council and the Community Learning Partnership to equal opportunities. The resources made available are targeted at the 23% of the population identified as having literacy needs and aim to provide equality of opportunities to learning.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 In July 2001 the Scottish Executive's Education and Lifelong Learning Department Circular (ELLD) 1/01 provided guidance on the role expected of local authorities in the drive to raise levels of adult literacy and numeracy.

The definition of what constitutes an appropriate level of literacy and numeracy for people is set out as follows:

“The ability to read, write and use numeracy, to handle information, to express ideas and opinions, to make decisions and solve problems, as family members, workers, citizens and lifelong learners”.

The Community Learning Strategies' and local authorities' duties are outlined as follows:

- Ensure that the partnership groups responsible for the Community Learning Strategy make effective use of the new resources allocated for adult literacy and numeracy.
- Co-ordinate and lead on the creation of clearly defined action plans on adult literacy as components of Community Learning Strategies

- 6.2 £51 million has been allocated nationally to adult literacy for the period 2001–2006 to underpin the national strategy aimed at raising levels of adult literacy and numeracy. Learners who can benefit from programmes delivered through these funds should have an ability level below intermediate level 1.

Year	Dundee's Total Allocation
2001-2002	£95,732 (part year)
2002-2003	£191,465
2003-2004	£368,747
2004-2005	£386,475
2005-2006	£397,112

- 6.3 Authority to recommend funding allocations under the Community Learning Partnership – Literacies Action Plan has been delegated to a Partnership Sub Group which comprises representatives from Dundee City Council – Communities Department/Education Department; Dundee College; Tayside Chamber of Commerce; Dundee Trades Union Council; Scottish Trades Union Council; Job Centre Plus; Scottish Enterprise Tayside and Dundee Voluntary Action.

- 6.4 The Partnership Sub Group has approved this award as detailed in Appendix 1.

- 6.5 The Action Plan submitted to the Scottish Executive outlined a broad-based and flexible delivery programme for the city targeting the following groups:-

- People with limited initial education, particularly young people (limited educational attainment – intermediate level one or below).
- Unemployed people and workers facing redundancy (this includes people who are on sessional/casual/temporary contracts, or in marginal employment).
- People with English as a second or other language.
- People who live in disadvantaged areas (areas designated by Scottish Executive, City Council or Scottish Enterprise Tayside).
- Workers in low skill jobs (requiring minimal or no pre and on job training).
- People on low incomes (those receiving state benefits or on minimum wage).
- People with a health problem or disability affecting learning, speech, sight or hearing (only people who are able to articulate their own learning needs are covered by this funding – it is not acceptable for a carer to set out their need).

The delivery of the Action Plan is based on four aspects:

- A partnership approach – where possible delivery should involve more than one agency.
- Utilising existing networks and professionals to raise awareness with potential learners and refer them to providers through the establishment of a formal Spotters and Referrers Network.
- A common gateway approach utilising a core information gathering structure, assessment approach, individual learning planning framework, recording and evaluation and monitoring structure.
- Delivery of learning to occur at venues and times to suit the learners across the city – this to include community and workplace settings.

The action plan sets a target number of new learners to be achieved in each year:

Year	Target Number of Learners	Actual Numbers Achieved
2001-2002	50	57
2002-2003	520	795
2003-2004	1320	1237
Total	1890	2089

These figures must be achieved over and above previous student numbers attained by members of the Community Learning Partnership, thus showing a net increase across the partners and the city.

6.6 The allocation of funds to community learning partners will address the targets contained in the action plan.

6.7 The Executive expects that local authorities will:

- ensure that the Partnership Group responsible for community learning strategies makes effective use of the new resources allocated for adult literacy and numeracy;
- ensure new resources continue to support and, where possible, build on the increased capacity evidenced in the existing Action Plan and improve the quality of local provision;
- ensure all partners, including Further Education and the voluntary sector, have equal access to the new resources.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted in the preparation of this report, which is based on recommendations made by the Literacies Sub Group of the Community Learning Partnership.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

**Signed: Stewart Murdoch
Head of Communities**

Date: 4 March 2005

**DUNDEE COMMUNITY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP
LITERACIES ACTION PLAN
PROPOSED ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES 2005/2006**

Ref No	Applicant Group	Details	Amount Requested £	Recommended Allocation £
LF50/05	Central Gateway - Dundee City Council, Communities Department	To provide a first point of contact for people wishing to take up literacy learning opportunities. It will provide a dedicated referral and guidance programme for new and progressing learners. Once the initial referral has been undertaken, the Gateway refers learners to appropriate provision across Dundee. It acts as the central referral point for the telephone helpline and national/local advertising.	19,311.60	19,311.60
LF51/05	Craigowl Communities	To integrate a literacies element into its Get Instep Project in the Hilltown and the Family Learning House in Fintry. Get Instep works in association with Hillcrest Housing Association and their supported care flats in Stirling Street and those clients and other vulnerable people in the area can access literacy provision. Both of the projects deliver life skills, personal skills, employability and ITC skills. There is a need to add a literacy/numeracy element to these subject areas and additional funding will enable the projects to do this.	39,939.90	39,939.90
LF52/05	Developing Workplace Literacies - Remploy	To provide dedicated literacy provision in the workplace to employees of Remploy. Interviews to be carried out with all employees to identify their literacy needs and develop literacies programmes for those who require additional help. Employees are given between one and two hours per week(during work time) to access this support, and Remploy have set up a learning room on the premises.	12,874.40	12,874.40
LF53/05	Dyslexia Institute	To provide specialist support to adults with dyslexia who are referred via existing literacy providers. The Dyslexia Institute will provide specific programmes of support to adults and offer initial screening for dyslexia.	1,441.80	1,441.80
LF54/05	ERGO - Helm Training	To provide an integrated programme which will support the activities offered at the Ergo Projects. The Ergo Project provides personal development and vocational skills training to vulnerable young people. The lack of basic literacy skills places the young people at a disadvantage in progressing to employment and further education. Additional literacy support will enable them to complete their modules and progress to other provision.	19,415.22	19,415.22

Ref No	Applicant Group	Details	Amount Requested £	Recommended Allocation £
LF55/05	English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) - Dundee College, Access to Learning, Communities Department	To provide a three strand ESOL Project offering dedicated provision to ESOL learners who require support for reading, writing, spelling or grammar. Strand 1 operates in Dundee College and Dundee International Women's' Centre. Strand 2 focuses on helping increase literacy of parents, grandparents and carers, with a view to having greater parental participation in children's learning. This operates in Clepington Primary School, Dens Road Primary School and Grey Lodge Settlement. Strand 3, this offers community based access to ESOL literacy provision with six classes taking place at Mitchell Street Centre and one at the Boomerang Project, Stobswell. Learners work on general reading, writing, speaking and listening.	27,475.14	27,475.14
LF56/05	HELM - Encompass Project	Application deferred to allow for further discussions with the project given uncertainty over their long term future.	13,658.24	-
LF57/05	Increasing Access Programme - Dundee City Council, Communities Department	To provide four new dedicated sessions at Mitchell Street, which will allow waiting list to be reduced and new sessions to be available at additional opening times.	6,320.16	6,320.16
LF58/05	Learning Curve - Dundee College	To provide a range of literacy learning opportunities to members of the public, college, applicants and college students to improve their literacy skills. These opportunities include daytime flexi literacy provision at Constitution Campus, Melrose and Kingsway, evening flexi literacy provision at Constitution Campus, one-to-one in small group literacies provision at all sites and classroom based literacy provision.	43,304.80	43,304.80
LF59/05	Literacies in the Community - Dundee City Council, Communities Department	To provide an enhancement to the Literacies Outreach Team of the Communities Department. Staff will be deployed to target geographic areas of disadvantage which have little or no literacies initiative provision and geographic communities and communities of interest where specific needs have been identified. It will provide both stand alone (dedicated) literacy provision and integrated literacy provision adding to programmes of support of the existing providers eg Salvation Army, Head Injuries Groups.	27,650.70	27,650.70

Ref No	Applicant Group	Details	Amount Requested £	Recommended Allocation £
LF60/05	Young Adults Literacy Project (YALP) - Communities Department	To deliver a literacy element integrated into work with young people, engaging their interest through innovative mediums such as music, poetry and drama to capture people's interest. The project will work in partnership with agencies such as NCH, Xplore, Route 15 to add a literacies element to the work of those projects and to take referrals from young people who need more intensive one-to-one support.	31,600.80	31,600.80
LF61/05	Media Project	To work with young adults at Polmont Young Offenders Institute who are from the Dundee area and preparing for release. This is a joint piece of work with Young Adults Literacy Project, CVS Dundee, NCH Intensive Support Project and Scottish Prison Service. The project will produce two videos which will be resources for agencies working with young offenders and will focus on their different needs, one of them being literacies. The Literacies Initiative is being asked to provide approximately 25% of the funding.	2,057.80	2,057.80
			245,030.56	231,392.32

Total Allocation of Challenge Fund 2005/2006
Proposals contained in this report
Balance remaining

250,000.00
231,392.32
18,607.68