

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 19 MARCH 2001
REPORT ON: HEALTH IMPROVEMENT FUND
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
REPORT NO: 184-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report brings to the attention of the Education Committee successful bids for funding from the Health Improvement Fund administered by Tayside Health Board.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Education Committee is recommended to:

- i) note the successful bids, and
- ii) instruct the Director of Education to monitor the implementation of the associated projects and report progress to Committee as appropriate.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 the following funding has been awarded by the Health Improvement Fund to each project;

Project Title	Funding	Duration
Health Improving School	£29,000	Mar – Aug 2001
Food Provision in Early Years Services	£12,700	Mar – Aug 2001
Breakfast Clubs	£48,200	Mar – Aug 2001

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The major benefit of the projects will be in a more appropriate and coherent experience for young people in all Dundee schools in key areas such as Health Education and Personal and Social Development. Such an improved experience should impact on the diet lifestyles and life choices of young people.

6.0 REPORT

- 6.1 The Health Improvement Fund was set up to channel funds from the Tobacco Taxation into projects which would impact on aspects of community health. A particular focus of the Fund is to promote the diet, sexual health and lifestyles of young people. The Education Department has been successful in three bids for projects under the Fund;
- Health Promoting School
 - Food Provision in Early Years Services
 - Breakfast Clubs

6.2 The Health Promoting School

Guidance to schools on the delivery of health education has been substantially developed and updated over recent years.

- 6.3 A number of key health education concerns have been tackled as single issues eg drugs. There is now an immediate need to provide schools with a collated strategy and appropriate support materials and staff development which integrates the individual health education topics and which is designed to meet the curriculum requirements of 'The Health Promoting School' (SEED 1998) and of the 5-14 Curriculum Guidelines (Learning & Teaching Scotland - Revised 2000)

- 6.4 It has been Dundee City Council's policy to support the introduction of curriculum guidance with good quality support materials and an effective programme for staff development. The Fund will provide £29,000 for a temporary post of Staff Tutor in Health Education to develop curriculum materials, proposals for in-service training for staff and the purchase of support materials.

6.5 Food Provision in Early Years Services

Increasing numbers of children are taking in an important part of their daily food intake within early years settings. The provision of nutritious and appetising food suitable for a range of tastes and settings is therefore an increasingly important aspect of early years service delivery.

- 6.6 An issue of ongoing interest is the provision of meals and snacks to children attending childcare or nursery settings all day. This research project will focus on 12 facilities across the local authority, private and voluntary sector and will look at provision for children aged 0-2 and 3-5. It will help to inform future arrangements for provision of food within early years settings. This project will enable the establishment of a temporary researcher post to investigate key issues in the provision of food and snacks to young children in day care settings. The outcomes will be of interest to the Education Department, service providers across a range of settings and to parents. The final report will inform future guidance to support early years providers in improving the provision of food and snacks and will raise awareness of children's nutritional needs as they develop from babyhood to school age.

6.7 **Breakfast Clubs**

Breakfast Clubs are proving to be a successful service to young people especially in areas suffering economic deprivation. Evaluations undertaken as part of New Community Schools initiatives indicate that existing clubs are complementing the work and agendas of many services including Education, Health and Social Work. This project will appoint a temporary Project Co-ordinator to work between the period March and June 2001 with Dundee schools to support and evaluate the different models of Breakfast Club delivery. Individual schools will be encouraged to offer the facility in different ways using combinations of school staff, support staff, NRDD staff and volunteers. The evaluation of the delivery of these clubs will inform the extension of the Breakfast Club Network in Dundee schools for Session 2001-2002.

7.0 **CONCLUSIONS**

7.1 The additional resources provided by the Health Improvement Fund will play a significant part in developing and taking forward a number of key strategies designed to extend the services which Dundee City Council provides to children and young people in the City.

8.0 **CONSULTATION**

8.1 The Director of Finance, the Director of Personnel and Management Services and the Director of Support Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

Anne Wilson
Director of Education

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