

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 17th March 2003

REPORT ON: ANTI-POVERTY GRANT AID TO SUPPORT OUT OF SCHOOL CARE CLUBS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 255-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to award funding to 15 Out of School Care Clubs in order to support sustainability.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this Report and approve the proposed award of grant to the Out of School Clubs as outlined in Appendix 1.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of this proposal over the current financial year is £58,000. This will be met from Additional Resources Funding made available to the Local Authority by the Scottish Executive Education Department. An outline of the proposed expenditure is set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This proposal will result in increased access to opportunities and the development of skills and knowledge needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This proposal will improve equality of access to services and support the inclusion of children who may be unable to access care due to poverty.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 A key target contained within the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan 2001-2004 is the development of good quality, sustainable Out of School Care provision in Dundee. In 2001 the Scottish Executive made additional funding (Child Poverty Package, Additional Resources, Out of School Care) available to local authorities for 2 years to support the sustainability of out of school care clubs. The funding was linked to the Arbuthnott Index which identifies postcode areas in Scotland where there are indicators of social disadvantage. In 2001/2 eight Out of School Care Clubs whose postcodes fell within the Arbuthnott Index were awarded funding to strengthen and develop their provision (refer to Committee Report Number 818- 2001).

6.3 The grant is targeted at good quality but sub-viable Out of School Care Clubs, especially in areas of disadvantage. The Scottish Executive recommend targeting areas of disadvantage defined using the Arbuthnott Index. See Appendix 1. Clubs are *not* eligible for grant if their lottery start-up funding has not expired or if they are in receipt of SIP funding.

6.4 Clubs made use of this funding in a variety of ways. Some enabled children, previously excluded from the club due to their inability to pay fees, to access the

provision. Others introduced healthy eating programmes to ensure that children were provided with a healthy snack each day. Clubs also improved the quality of their provision by improving health and safety both within their club environment and also whilst collecting children from their school.

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 These proposals have been developed in partnership with members of Dundee Early Years and Childcare Team and Dundee Out of School Care Network. The proposals will support and strengthen existing clubs in areas of disadvantage and allow them to continue to develop and expand their services. The grant will offer enhanced support to clubs in areas where income generated from fees is low. It will enable parents to pay for their children to use the clubs and allow children who may previously have been excluded, due to poverty, to access provision.

7.2 In recognition of the issues facing communities not listed in the Arbuthnott Index, authorities now have greater flexibility in the deployment of these resources. Out of School Care Clubs are often good quality but sub-viable due to their inability to generate sufficient income to support sustainability. Clubs located outwith areas within the index may be serving children resident within those areas.

7.4 It is therefore proposed that this funding is used in 2003 to support all eligible clubs within Dundee with the major part of the funding continuing to go to the 10 clubs located within areas listed in the Arbuthnott Index. Clubs in receipt of lottery start up funding or SIP funding are not eligible to receive this funding.

7.5 Clubs receiving this funding require to adhere to conditions outlined by the Local Authority. The Out of School Care Co-ordinator will monitor the impact of the grant. The following criteria have been set to support clubs in deploying these additional resources.

- Clubs may use the grant to enable children previously excluded from the club for financial reasons, to access the provision by offering parents reduced charges.
- Clubs may improve the quality of provision by the introduction of a healthy eating programme – both for snack time after school and also during full day care.
- Clubs may improve quality of provision by improving health and safety both within the club and when collecting children from school(s).

7.0 CONSULTATION

The report has been the subject of consultation between the Director of Social Work, the Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development, the Director of Finance and the Director of Social Work.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

28 February 2003

Appendix 1 Outline of Payment Proposals

Name of Club	Area	Post Code	Amount
Within Arbuthnott Index			
The Boomerang Club	Douglas	DD4 8SD	£5,000
Kid's Fun House	Whitfield	DD4 9NG	£5,000
Cherry Drop Club	Mid Craigie	DD4 8DD	£5,000
The Glebie	Baffin Street	DD4 6EZ	£5,000
Happy Hours	Ardler	DD2 3TP	£5,000
Menzieshill OSC Club	Menzieshill	DD2 4BH	£5,000
BJ's Fun Club	Hawkhill	DD1 5RT	£5,000
BJ's Fun Club	Bellfield Street	DD1 5HZ	£5,000
Hilltown OSC	Rosebank Street	DD3 6LW	£5,000
Lochee OSC	St Mary's Lane	DD2 3AQ	£5,000
Outwith Arbuthnott Index			
Fun Factory	Park Place	DD1 4HW	£1,600
Downfield OSC	East School Road	DD3 8NZ	£1,600
Forthill Billies	Fintry Place	DD5 3BE	£1,600
School's Out	Queen Street	DD5 2HQ	£1,600
Barnhill ASC	Falkland Crescent	DD5 3SQ	£1,600
		TOTAL	£58,000