

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 11th June 2007

REPORT ON: PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO NEW REGISTERED
CHILDMINDERS IN DUNDEE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 321 - 2007

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to continue to provide funding to registered childminders in Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this report and approve the award of £200 funding to each of the new childminders in Dundee as outlined in Appendix 1 of this report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of this proposal is £2800 in the current financial year. Funding will come from Child Care Strategy Funding made available to the authority by the Scottish Executive Education Department.

4.0 SUSTAINABILITY POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This proposal will support the sustainability of privately operated childminder services across the city. In addition it will enhance and develop further partnership working.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 These proposals will contribute towards ensuring that children and their families are effectively supported through childhood.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 One of the key tasks outlined in "A Plan for Dundee's Children, 2005-8" is to, *"Provide services to support parents and carers in balancing their work and family responsibilities"*. Childminders provide a unique home based childcare service to families. They are valued as a key provider of childcare services to children of all ages and particularly to babies and toddlers for whom close relationships and a home setting are recognised to have particular benefits.

- 6.2 Childminders are now regulated by the Care Commission and are required to meet the National Care Standards. It is therefore important for childminders to supply age-appropriate toys and equipment and also to ensure that necessary safety equipment to meet registration requirements is in place in their homes. All newly registered childminders in Dundee were invited to submit applications for a £200 grant to support the purchase of essential resources. 14 newly registered childminders have applied for this funding.
- 6.3 It is proposed to award £2800 to 14 local childminders who have recently become registered as child care providers with the Care Commission. A strong partnership approach has been developed between childminders and the Early Years and Childcare Team. All funding awards will be managed and monitored within the agreements signed with each childminder.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance).

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education

Date: 31st May 2007

Childminder	Details of Application	Recommendation
No	Detail of items requested	Amount
1	Car Seat, Stair gates x2 , craft materials, outside sit on toys x 2, printed handbooks (ink and paper), music time toys, sun safety screens, healthy eating books, multicultural toys	£200
2	First Aid Training 3 Year Cert., Safety Gate plus extensions, Play table and 2 chairs, Fire Blanket, Smoke Alarm & Fitting, First Aid Kit	£200
3	Soft Play Mats, Paint and Built in Storage Shelving for Playroom	£200
4	Stair Gates, Fire Blanket and extinguisher, toys, games, play equipment, books, welcome pack	£200
5	Double Buggy, Garden Gate, Car Seats/Booster, Toys	£200
6	First Aid Kit, Receipt Book, Business Card and Paper, Safety Glass, Art materials, safety reins, contracts, car seats, double pram, printing	£200
7	Buggy, Car Seat	£200
8	Double Pushchair, laugh and learn baby grand piano, V Tech Discovery Tree, Learn Around Playground Leaf Frog, Noah's Ark	£200
9	Cot, 3 wheeler pram	£200
10	Double push chair, storage unit, high chair x 2, smoke alarm, mega motors	£200
11	Car Seat 9month to 4 years, 2 x Booster Seats 3-12 years	£200
12	Twin pushchair, Starfish Sandpit, Smoby Slide, Safari Ride On, Garden Ride on and trailer	£200
13	Booster seats x 3, bark for garden, flipout kids beds sofas, drawing paper	£200
14	Outdoor play equipment, high chair, travel cot, changing mat	£200
Total		£2800

