

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 22 MAY 2000
REPORT ON: NEW CHILDCARE PROJECTS FUNDING 2000- 2001
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
REPORT NO: 345-2000

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This Report sets out proposals for disbursement of New Childcare Projects Funding provided to Local Authorities by the Scottish Executive Education Department for the development of new childcare projects.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note the contents of this Report and approve the proposed allocation of New Childcare Projects Funding, as outlined in Appendix 1, to partner providers of childcare services in Dundee.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 In the financial year 2000- 2001, a total of £172, 000 has been provided to Dundee for the development of New Childcare Projects. £72, 000 of this fund will be used to support developments within Out of School Care Clubs in Dundee. Members of Dundee Early Years and Childcare Partnership were invited to bid for the remaining £100,000.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The funding will support and improve access to services, skills and knowledge needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 These proposals will enhance choice and diversity in childcare provision within Dundee and will strengthen partnerships across sectors.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Government is committed to an expansion of childcare services to support parents in employment and training and to improve the life chances of children. In the recent Scottish Executive Guidance to Childcare Partnerships, emphasis was placed on improving support for children with special educational needs and for families in low income groups.

6.2 An additional emphasis is on establishing partnership approaches to the provision of services. Childcare services are not the sole responsibility of Local Authorities, however, Authorities have received funding for New Projects to enable them to facilitate developments across Council, private and voluntary sector services.

7.0 CURRENT SITUATION

- 7.1 Childcare services are currently provided in Dundee by a range of providers. Plans for expansion of Childcare Services are outlined within the newly published Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan. The New Projects Fund will support the Council in implementing and meeting the targets outlined within the Plan.

8.0 PROPOSAL

- 8.1 In January 2000, members of the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Partnership were invited to bid for New Childcare Projects Funding to support the development of childcare services and to meet specific targets within the Early Years and Childcare Plan. A Guidance Note (See Appendix 2) was issued to members and discussed within the Partnership to support funding applications and to highlight areas requiring development.

- 8.2 13 applications were received. Following their receipt, a Panel met to consider and make recommendations. Two Partnership representatives were nominated to sit on the Panel. The Panel has recommended 8 applications for funding and Appendix 1 outlines a summary of these bids and the project proposals.

- 8.3 A total of £84,580.00 of the available £100,000 has been allocated to the 8 projects. The Council can guarantee this funding for one year only, pending decisions, from the Scottish Executive about future funding arrangements. The remaining bids did not fully meet the criteria set out in the Guidance Note and are currently under review. The Education Committee will be asked to approve the disbursement of the remainder of the Fund in a subsequent Committee Report following receipt of more closely focused bids. In particular, the remaining funding will be used to support holiday play- scheme provision in partnership with the Neighbourhood Resources and Development Department

- 8.4 The key purpose of this funding is to support the development of new childcare projects, to match with the needs of families in Dundee. Ongoing monitoring and evaluation will be conducted to ensure that the projects meet their stated objectives. A member of the Early Years and Childcare Team will be appointed as lead officer for each of the projects and will take responsibility for the ongoing support and evaluation of the Projects. A full evaluation report will be published in May 2001 to identify the impact of the funding in establishing New Childcare Projects.

9.0 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 This Report has been the subject of consultation with the Director of Social Work, Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development and the Director of Support Services.

10.0 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.

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Director of Education

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Date

APPENDIX 1

Bids recommended for New Childcare Projects Funding

ORGANISATION	PROJECT	AMOUNT £	COMMENT
Dundee College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Registration Training (3 times per year) • Post-Registration Training (9 sessions per year) • SVQ Assessment for 5 candidates • Associated group costs for SVQ assessment (Tutor support) • Estimate of travel expenses for assessors 	<p>2450.00</p> <p>1850.00</p> <p>8890.00</p> <p>2816.00</p> <p>300.00</p> <p>16306.00</p>	Training and staff development for early years/ childcare workers is a key aspect of quality development. This bid links well with the Early Years and Childcare Plan
Fair Play Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SVQ 10 candidates at Level II (10 x £725) 5 candidates at Level III (5 x £825) 10 Assessors (10 x £550) • "Making Choices" orientation programme • Crèche Training (Certificated) • Preparing for Playtime 	<p>7250.00</p> <p>4125.00</p> <p>5500.00</p> <p>1445.00</p> <p>800.00</p> <p>120.00</p> <p>19240.00</p>	The SVQ Programme offers Out of School Care Workers the opportunity to gain an accredited Play Work qualification
Francis Wright Pre-School Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of Support Group for Parents of Pre School Children with Autism 	250.00	This Group is much needed and will support a group of parents with very specific needs.
Grey Lodge Settlement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twins (Toddlers) and Parents Group • Summer Programme for 0-6 years and parents • Summer Programme for 12-14 years • Transition group/s 	<p>650.00</p> <p>570.00</p> <p>1152.00</p> <p>4715.20</p> <p>7087.20</p>	The Hilltown area has identified needs for service expansion in the areas outlined within this proposal
Kids Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot Initiative to support Out of School provision for children and young people affected by disability 	7844.00	Clear links with Early Years and Childcare Plan. Will support inclusion of children affected by disabilities within their family
Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for administrative costs, attendance at meetings and networking with childminders 	500.00	SCMA provide a valuable service to childminders in Dundee. This funding will support them in this task and will enable SCMA to continue to release a representative to attend meetings, including the Early Years and Childcare Partnership

Scottish Play (SPPA)	Pre-School Association	Provision of a Fieldworker to support Playgroups in Dundee	13353.00	The Fieldworker will support Playgroups in becoming Commissioned Partners for the provision of pre school education services and will provide ongoing advice, training and quality assurance of services
Under 12's Project, Mid Craigie & Linlathen		Range of services to support local families including Breakfast Club, establishment of Community Links, Provide administrative support and short course training to Out of School Clubs	20,000.00	Mid Craigie and Linlathen Under 12s Project provide a valuable provision with the Mid Craigie and Linlathen area. This funding will be an important element of a funding package which will keep the service viable and responsive to local need.
			TOTAL	84,580.20

Appendix 2**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL
EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP****SUPPORT FOR NEW CHILDCARE PROJECTS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF DUNDEE
EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PLAN****2000-2001****Guidance for Partnership Members Submitting Funding Applications for
New Childcare Projects in Dundee****General Notes**

Grant Applications are invited from members of the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Partnership for funding to support partnership initiatives to implement the Early Years and Childcare Plan.

Government Funding is available to support New Childcare Projects for the financial year April 2000 - March 2001. Additional funding will be available for the financial year 2001-2002. There is no commitment to continued funding after 2002.

It is therefore important that funding is used to support and enhance existing provision, perhaps by adding a new aspect to the service or by increasing the number of children and families able to benefit from the service. Projects must be planned with a view to their longer term sustainability, in the event of no further funding being available after 2002.

Funding for New Childcare Projects will support initiatives to extend childcare and related services in Dundee. Applications must show clearly how proposed initiatives will support implementation of the Early Years and Childcare Plan.

A total of £172,000 is available to Dundee City Council for New Projects in the financial year 2000-2001. Of this available funding, **£100,000 will be available to support Partnership Bids.**

The remaining funding (£72,000) will be used by the Council to support Out of School Childcare and Holiday Playschemes. Full details of this proposed expenditure will be published to the Partnership in March 2000.

Grant Applications should be submitted to Anne Wilson, Director of Education (Chair of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership) by Friday February 25th 2000.

Following the closing date for receipt of Applications, the Applications will be considered by a sub group of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership who will make recommendations to the Chair of the Partnership. Decisions will be announced to the Partnership and to Applicants before the end of March 2000.

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP

**SUPPORT FOR NEW CHILDCARE PROJECTS TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF DUNDEE
EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE PLAN
2000-2001**

**Guidance for Partnership Members Submitting Applications for Funding for New Childcare
Projects in Dundee
December 1999**

Application Information

Applications should clearly identify:

1 Details of your department, organisation or agency

- The name and address of the organisation, department or agency making the Bid.
- The name, contact address and phone number of the person who will have named lead responsibility for the initiative.

2 The Links with the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan

- Which targets will be supported towards implementation?
- How will the initiative support the aims and principles of the Plan?

3 Who will benefit from the proposed initiative?

- Which geographical area(s) of Dundee will be served by the initiative?
- How many children/parents/staff who will benefit from the initiative?

4 An outline in less than 1000 words which explains:

- A brief explanation of the initiative and how it will work.
- The rationale for the initiative - what information do you have to indicate a need for the initiative
- The aims of the initiative
- The Success Criteria which will be used to monitor and evaluate the initiative and an outline of how the initiative will be internally evaluated.
- Timescales for completion of key action.
- Links with other departments, organisations, agencies (name your Lead Department and Lead Officer, if applicable)
- Timescales for start of the initiative and progress checks on it.

5 Clear costings and resource implications

- Plans for sustaining New Projects