

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 24 SEPTEMBER 2012
REPORT ON: OUT OF SCHOOL SERVICES IN DUNDEE
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
REPORT NO: 359-2012

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to provide funding and support to improve the quality of Out of School Care Services in Dundee .

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this report and:

- i. approve the funding of grants to the twenty one Out of School Care Clubs across Dundee which will be disseminated through Dundee Out of School Care Network.
- ii. approve the provision of funding to Dundee Out of School Care Network to support a Big Event for children attending the twenty one Out of School Care Clubs in the summer of 2013.
- iii. approve the provision of funding to Dundee Out of School Care Network for an information sharing seminar.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of this proposal is £23,000 in the current financial year (2012/13). This will be met from funding made available to the Local Authority for Childcare Strategy. A summary of the proposed expenditure is attached at Appendix 1.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Out of School Care Clubs provide a valuable service to families across Dundee, enabling parents and carers to work or take up training while their children are looked after in a safe, caring, stimulating environment. All clubs are voluntary organisations run by parent management committees and they employ trained playworkers to look after the children before and after school and during school holidays and on in-service days. Clubs are non profit-making organisations and have to cover their staff wages, outings, visits, art materials and equipment expenses through parental fees. There are currently 21 Out of School Care Clubs in Dundee and all clubs are members of Dundee Out of School Care Network which is a fully constituted and well established group.. Out of School Care Clubs have benefited from a range of input aimed at strengthening their sustainability, improving the quality of provision and supporting the management and sustainability of Clubs, particularly those serving populations on low incomes.

4.2 The Big Event is the result of partnership working between the Education Department and a number of organisations and departments including Dundee Out of School Care Network, Sports Development, and other Voluntary Sector organisations. The Big Event provides an opportunity for Clubs to come together and offers children an exciting range of sports, games and crafts activities

4.3 Due to recent legislation there have been many changes within the out of school care sector resulting in a workforce required to gain professional qualifications. It is widely accepted that networking and the sharing of ideas and relevant local and national information increases playworkers' professionalism and sense of pride in their work,

leading to a better experience for the children being cared for. Attendance at a group event with a specific learning focus is identified as one way of providing this kind of support.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 In line with (GIRFEC) Getting it Right for Every Child this proposal seeks to improve the quality of life and wellbeing for children attending Out of School Care Services in the 21 clubs in Dundee especially with regard to children being safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. This proposal seeks approval to award grants of up to £800 to each of the 21 Out of School Clubs across the City to be disseminated by Dundee Out of School Care Network. This will provide much needed financial support to clubs who are struggling on very tight budgets and will enable them to purchase additional resources for use by children or training for staff.
- 5.2 Following seven successful yearly events, attended by more than 350 children and 150 adults, there is considerable support for a similar event to be run in the summer of 2013. It is proposed therefore to provide funding of £5000 to support the Big Event in 2013. The funding supports the transport of children to the event, the funding of some activity providers and the purchasing of equipment and materials for the activities throughout the day.
- 5.3 This proposal seeks to provide funding of £1200 for an out of school care information sharing seminar aimed at improving the overall quality of care provided for the children who attend the 21 clubs across the city. The event would be open to out of school care staff and workers across Scotland and would be an opportunity for professional cross sectoral dialogue and sharing of good practice.

6.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. there are no major issues
- 6.2 These proposals will support children to access to Out of School Care across the City and will further support partnership and collaboration with the voluntary sector in Dundee

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None.

Michael Wood
Director of Education
September 2012

Financial Out line

Club Name	Amount
Barnhill OSC	£800
BJ's Blackness	£800
BJ's St. Joseph's	£800
Boomerang	£800
Cherry Drop Club	£800
Craigiebarn Owls OSC Club	£800
Downfield OSC Club	£800
Finmill OSC Club	£800
Forthill OSC Club	£800
Fun Factory	£800
Glebelands OSC Club	£800
Happy Hours	£800
Hilltown OSC Club	£800
Kids Fun House	£800
Lochee OSC	£800
Menziesshill OSC Club	£800
Mill of Mains OSC Club	£800
Rainbow OSC Club	£800
St. Clement's OSC Club	£800
School's Out	£800
Spectrum	£800
Other	
Big Event	£5000
Information Sharing Event	£1200
TOTAL	£23,000