

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 16 JUNE 2003

REPORT ON: GRANT AID TO THE SCOTTISH PRE-SCHOOL PLAY ASSOCIATION

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 417-2003

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to award funding to support the ongoing involvement of SPPA (Scottish Pre-School Play Association) in supporting voluntary sector childcare providers including playgroups, parent and toddler groups and out of school care clubs.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this report and approve the proposal to grant funding to SPPA.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of this proposal over the financial year to 2003 - 2004 is £21,440. This will be met from the Childcare Strategy Funding (Childcare New Projects) 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 diversity of provision to support inclusion and choice.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 SPPA has for many years provided support for playgroups and parent toddler groups within the city. There is now a well established partnership between the Early years and Childcare Team and SPPA in providing support and resourcing to these organisations which are often the first services taken up by families with young children.

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 It is proposed to continue this funding for a further year. In addition however it is also proposed to strengthen links between SPPA and the Out of School Care Network across the City. Many clubs are members of SPPA and out of school clubs and playgroups face similar challenges in strengthening voluntary parent led management committees. SPPA will therefore allocate time to supporting the out of school care network as part of their ongoing commitment to supporting the development of voluntary sector childcare services within the City.

7.2 The key tasks that will be monitored and evaluated as part of this funding commitment are that SPPA will:

- provide direct support and assistance to member groups in identifying and meeting the changing needs of parents and children in their communities
- facilitate relevant networks
- provide advice and support to Out of School Clubs
- support the ongoing development of pre-school services and facilities
- develop and promote facilities for under threes and their families

7.0 CONSULTATION

The report has been the subject of consultation between the Chief Executive, the Directors of Social Work, Neighbourhood Resources and Development, Finance and Support Services.

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
29th May 2003

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Appendix 1 Financial Outline

Area Manager	Scale Point 30 £21,732	4 hours weekly
Administrator	Scale Point 19 £15,582	3 hours weekly
Development Worker	Scale Point 16 £14,535	30 hours weekly (44 wks)

	Salaries	Pension	Nat Ins	Total
Dev Worker	10542	738	759	12039
Administrator	1336	112	94	1542
Manager	2484	174	251	2909
Total	14362	1024	1104	16490
Expenses				1450
DW/local costs				550
Operations				1050
Total				3050
Network Support				1900
			TOTAL	21440