

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 8 December 2008

REPORT ON: Literacies Partnership 3 Year Strategic Plan 2005-2008

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 537-2008

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of the progress made on the 2005-2008 Strategic Literacies Plan, which was approved by the Scottish Executive in December 2005.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee notes the progress and achievements of the Partnership during the period of the Strategic Plan.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 None.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 In July 2001 the then Scottish Executive's Education and Lifelong Learning Department published Circular (ELLD 1/01). The Circular provided guidance on the role expected of local authorities in the new drive to raise levels of adult literacy and numeracy.

4.2 The definition of what constitutes an appropriate level of literacy and numeracy was set out as follows:

The ability to read, write and use numeracy, to handle information, to express ideas, opinions, to make decisions and solve problems, as family members, workers, citizens and lifelong learners.

4.3 The requirements of the external funding, which was allocated through the local authority was to:

Ensure that the Strategic Plan and resources were managed and allocated through a partnership approach, led by the local authority but including Further Education and the Voluntary Sector.

4.4 The Strategic Action Plan was approved by all partners and the Scottish Executive in December 2005.

4.5 The Strategic Plan set out a target number of learners to be achieved in each year:

Year	Target No of Learners	Numbers Achieved
2005/2006	1607	1990
2006/2007	1607	1986
2007/2008	1607	2039

4.6 Partner Involvement

The Joint Partnership grouping has continued to meet during the period of the plan with representation from Further Education, Voluntary Sector, Trade Unions and relevant City Council departments. The Partnership has been involved in providing funding to nine different organisations to provide literacy learning programmes.

4.7 Increasing Access

Through a Partnership arrangement, access to literacy provision has been available at up to 37 different sites during the period of the Strategic Plan.

4.8 Spotter and Referrers Network

A Spotters and Referrers Network has been established to build upon the involvement of key stakeholders such as Health Visitors, Housing Officers and Voluntary Sector agencies in identifying potential learners and referring them to appropriate literacy support. During the period of the plan 121 staff/volunteers from various organisations have been active members of the network.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 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.

6.0 CONSULTATION

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance) and Head of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None.

**STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
14 NOVEMBER 2008**