

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 18 SEPTEMBER 2000

REPORT ON: GRANT AID TO EARLY YEARS GROUPS AND OUT OF SCHOOL CLUBS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 566-2000

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to award grants over £500 to early years groups including registered playgroups and parent & toddler groups, and out of school care clubs. It also details grants awarded by the Director of Education under delegated powers up to a value of £500 for information.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note the contents of this Report and approve the proposed award of grants to early years groups and out of school clubs, as outlined in Appendix 1.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full costs of this proposal as shown in Appendix 1 will be met from Scottish Executive Grants for Childcare made available to the Education Department.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The grants awarded will improve access to skills and knowledge needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This proposal will enhance choice and diversity in early years and out of school provision, improving equality of access and further strengthening Partnership across sectors.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Scottish Executive has provided grant to individual authorities for childcare infrastructure and new projects to support the provision of pre-school education, out of school care and family support services.

6.2 In Report 746/1999 the Committee noted, amongst other things, the transfer of responsibility from the Neighbourhood Resources and Development Department for the award of grants to pre-school playgroups and other community based early years groups.

7.0 CURRENT SITUATION

- 7.1 Dundee currently has 11 Playgroups and 14 Out of School Clubs registered to provide childcare services under the Children Act 1989 with Dundee City Council. In addition there are up to 27 early years groups including Parent & Toddler groups and organisations providing family support services.
- 7.2 Playgroups, Out of School Clubs and other early years groups are managed by voluntary management committees, comprising parents.
- 7.3 These organisations rely on income derived from fees and fundraising to maintain their activities, pay rents and in the case of playgroups and out of school clubs, pay staff wages.
- 7.4 Grants previously awarded, have provided these organisations with opportunities to enhance provision and through the support provided by members of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership Team, enable them to develop quality services in line with relevant targets identified within the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan 2000-2003.

8.0 PROPOSAL

- 8.1 Playgroups, Out of School Clubs, Parent & Toddler groups and groups providing family support at Mains Family Centre, Chalmers Ardler Church and The Church of Scotland's Dundee Women and Children's Project, were invited to submit bids for grant funding in July 2000. A guidance note was provided to respective groups (see Appendices 2.3.4), to support bids and to target key areas for funding.
- 8.2 A Grant Bids Panel met on 4 September 2000 to consider applications. The Panel included representation from Education Department, Early Years and Childcare Team, Playgroups, Out of School Clubs and Parent & Toddler groups through the Scottish Pre-School Play Association local Fieldworker.
- 8.3 Appendix 1, outlines a summary of bids and the recommendations of the Panel. It is proposed to provide funding to support a range of resources, which will enhance the quality of provision. Up to £1500 will be provided to Registered Playgroups and Out of School Clubs respectively. A maximum of £500 will be available to Parent & Toddler Groups and those other groups listed at 8.1 above.
- 8.4 Some groups did not apply for funding in this round of applications. As other groups are in urgent need of funding support, it was agreed to process their applications and seek Committee approval to make payments in the current Committee cycle. However members of the Early Years and Childcare Team have followed up groups who did not make applications and it is the intention to offer an additional opportunity to these groups to make later applications. Following this process, a Report for Committee will be prepared seeking approval to make grant awards to late applicants.
- 8.5 Members of the Early Years and Childcare Team will continue to support and monitor the activities of all groups who will receive funding.

9.0 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The Directors of Support Services, Social Work and Finance have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

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.

Director of Education

Date

APPENDIX 1

These tables outline proposals for making grant awards to early years groups and Out of School Clubs.

1 - Out of School Clubs

Name of Club	Award £
Barnhill After School Club	1,500
Glebelands Out of School Care	1,500
Happy Hours (Ardler Early Years Centre)	1,500
School's Out (East Church Halls)	1,500
Downfield Out of School Care Club	1,500
The Boomerang Club (Douglas Community Centre)	1,500
Forthill After School Club	1,500
Kid's Fun House (St Luke's & St Mathew's RC PS)	1,500
Menzieshill Out of School Care Club	1,500
Cherry Drop Club (Mid Craigie Primary School)	1,500
BJ's Fun Club (Blackness Primary School)	1,500
BJ's Fun Club (St. Joseph's Primary School)	1,500
Park Place Fun Factory	1,500
Total	19,500

2 - Registered Playgroups

Name of Club	Award £
Ardler Playgroup	1,100
Sunshine Playgroup	1,500
Fintry Community Playgroup	1,500
Little Lodgers Playgroup (Grey Lodge)	1,500
Barnhill Playgroup	1,500
West End Playgroup	1,500
Menzieshill Church Playgroup	1,500
Cleington Playgroup	1,500
Grove Playgroup	1,150
Total	12,750

3 - Parent & Toddler Groups / Family Support Groups

Toddle Tots (Kirkton Neighbourhood Centre)	500
West End Parent & Toddler Group	500
Fintry Toddler's Group	500
Balgillo Tots and Toddlers	250
St. Mary's Toddler Group	500
St. Aidan's Parent & Toddler Group	200
Toddler's Group (Under 12's Project, Mid Craigie)	500
Toddler Group – Whitfield Activity Complex	500
Stobswell Toddler Group	260
Mains Family Centre	500
Children & Families Project, Chalmers Ardler Church	500
Dundee Women & Children Project, Church of Scotland	500
Total	5210

TOTALS	£	Funded Source
Out of School Clubs	19,500	Childcare New Projects
Registered Playgroups	12,750	Pre-School Development
Parent & Toddler Groups / Other groups	5210	Sure Start
Total	37,460	

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**FUNDING FOR OUT OF SCHOOL CARE CLUBS IN DUNDEE – AUGUST****GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS****1. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING**

- 1.1 Only Out of School Clubs registered under the Children Act 1989, with Dundee City Council can apply for Grant Funding
- 1.2 Completed Application Forms will be lodged with Christine Riach, Early Years and Childcare Partnership Officer by 5pm, 1 September 2000
- 1.3 Grants will not exceed £1,5000
- 1.4 Providers will nominate a representative from the Club's Management Committee who will undertake to ensure that Grant funds will be disbursed as agreed in the original application within 6 months of payment
- 1.5 Providers will be open to evaluation of the impact of the Grant Funding by members of the Early Years and Childcare Team and to auditing of Grant Funding by Dundee City Council Finance Department
- 1.6 Applications will reflect one or more of the key initiatives/areas outlined below

2.0 TARGET INITIATIVES/AREAS

The following areas should be incorporated within your application for funding

- 2.1 Provision of quality resources/facilities for young people aged 10-14
- 2.2 Provision of quality resources/facilities for children with Special Educational Needs
- 2.3 Large physical play resources
- 2.4 Resources/equipment to support play/activity programme development
- 2.5 Resources to support Out of School Learning/Homework Support
- 2.6 Educational ICT resources (computer, printer, software packages)
- 2.7 Specific projects to promote arts, sports, cultural activities

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

FUNDING FOR REGISTERED PLAYGROUPS IN DUNDEE

GUIDANCE OF APPLICANTS

1. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

- 1.1 Only playgroups registered under the Children Act 1989, with Dundee City Council can apply for Grant Funding
- 1.2 Completed Application Forms will be lodged with Christine Riach, Early Years and Childcare Partnership Officer by 5 pm, 1 September 2000.
- 1.3 Grants will not exceed £1,500, of which no more than £500 can be for revenue costs. The remainder of the funding grant should be linked to areas as outlined below.
- 1.4 Providers will nominate a person from the Playgroup's Management Committee who will undertake to ensure that Grant funds will be disbursed as agreed in the original application within 6 months of payment.
- 1.5 Providers will be open to evaluation of the impact of the Grant Funding by members of the Early Years and Childcare Team and to auditing of Grant Funding by Dundee City Council Finance Department.
- 1.6 Applications will reflect one or more of the key initiatives/areas outline below.

2.0 TARGET INITIATIVES/AREAS

The following areas should be incorporated within your Application for Funding.

- 2.1 Extension of services to enable the playgroup to become a Partner Provider of Pre School Education within Dundee City Council.
- 2.2 Provision of quality resources/facilities for children aged 2-5.
- 2.3 Provision of quality resources/facilities for children with Special Educational Needs.
- 2.4 Screening and room dividers to support development of curriculum areas.
- 2.5 Improved printed information for parents in relation to curriculum development.
- 2.6 Resources to promote one or more of 5 key curricular areas.
- 2.7 Large physical play resources.
- 2.8 Books or staff development resources for staff and parents.
- 2.9 Story corner resources (shelving, cushions, book boxes) and books for children.
- 2.10 ICT (computer, printer, software packages) resources for use by children.
- 2.11 Role play resources, home corner furnishing, puppet theatre etc.
- 2.12 Minor building works or refurbishment

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

FUNDING FOR TODDLER GROUPS IN DUNDEE AUGUST 2000

GUIDANCE FOR APPLICANTS

1. CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

- 1.1 Only groups who hold membership of the Scottish Pre-School Play Association (SPPA), are eligible to apply for funding.
- 1.2 Only groups that are properly constituted and have a functioning Committee comprising parents are eligible to apply for funding.
- 1.3 Only groups which meet for at least two hours weekly on a regular basis and with a minimum of 12 people (including children) in regular attendance are eligible to apply for funding.
- 1.4 Grants will not exceed £500.
- 1.5 Groups will nominate a person (normally the Chairperson) who will undertake to ensure that Grant funds will be disbursed as agreed in the original application within 3 months of payment
- 1.6 Groups will be open to evaluation of the impact of the Grant funding by members of the Early Years and Childcare Team and to auditing of Grant Funding by Dundee City Council Finance Department.
- 1.7 Applications will reflect one or more of the key targets outlined below:

2 Key Targets

The following areas should be incorporated into your Application for Funding.

- 2.1 Provision of quality resources/equipment for babies and children aged 0-3.
- 2.2 Provision of quality resources/equipment for children with Special Educational Needs
- 2.3 Provision of quality resources/equipment to support parents in parenting and in promoting children's learning.
- 2.4 Resources/equipment to promote the learning and development of children aged 0-3 through play, including opportunities for:
 - pretend play (e.g. dressing up clothes)
 - physical play (e.g. chutes, climbing frames)
 - quiet play (e.g. books)
 - messy play (e.g. water / sand trays)
 - exploring and discovering play (e.g. boxes, natural items, musical instruments, mobiles)
 - and sleep/rest facilities.