

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – October 15th 2001

REPORT ON: FUNDING TO SUPPORT MID CRAIGIE AND LINLATHEN UNDER 12s PROJECT

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 653-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This Report seeks approval for the provision of childcare funding for the Mid Craigie and Linlathen Under 12's Project.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note the contents of this Report and approve the proposed provision of funding to The Mid Craigie and Linlathen Under 12's Project.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of this proposal will be £20,020.64, in the financial year 2001/2002. This will be met from New Childcare Projects funding made available to local authorities by the Scottish Executive. Appendix 1 details how this funding will be allocated.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This 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 and family support provision in Dundee and will further strengthen partnership with the voluntary sector.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Government is committed to an expansion of high quality childcare services to support parents in employment or training. An additional emphasis is on establishing partnership approaches across the public, voluntary and private sectors to the provision of services. The Scottish Executive has made funding available to Local Authorities to support the development of services in partnership with other sectors.

6.2 The Under 12's Project is a voluntary organisation, formed in October 1998 as an amalgamation of Rainbow House Community Association and One Parent Families Scotland's Cherry Drop Out of School Care Club. It became wholly locally managed in April 2000. The Project caters primarily for families with children under 12 years of age who live in the Mid Craigie and Linlathen areas of Dundee and their environs and who are in the catchment area for Mid Craigie, Mossgiel and St. Vincent's Primary Schools.

6.3 The Project operates from two sites. Rainbow House from which all non childcare services are delivered, and self contained space within Mid Craigie Primary School from where the Cherry Drop Out of School Care Club operates. The Project's recently

published Annual Report indicates that it has provided 175 children from 90 families with services ranging from out of school care at Cherry Drop to children's groups, pre-5 work, homework club, lunch club and drop-in groups at Rainbow

- 6.4 As a provider of out of school care, the Project is a member of the Dundee Out of School Care Network. Like the Under 12's Project's Cherry Drop Club, all voluntary sector out of school care clubs within Dundee are managed by parent led committees. The Project's Cherry Drop Club has the benefit of being the longest functioning club in the City, bringing a wealth of experience to the Network. Additionally the Project has a skilled and experienced staff team including a full-time administrator.

7.0 PROPOSAL

- 7.1 The proposal is to provide funding to the Under 12's Project which will enable them to develop additional services under four principle headings:

- Support to constituent members of Dundee Out of School Care Network
- Additional pre-fives services
- Development of children's work particularly within the Linlathen area which is currently under represented amongst users of the Project.
- development of before school childcare for primary school pupils.

7.2 ***Support to constituent members of Dundee Out of School Care Network***

- 7.3 It is proposed that the Project will provide an administrative service for out of school care clubs. The services will include provision of payroll services, budgeting, monthly and annual accounts, materials for record keeping and advice on general administration. Clubs are currently reliant upon parent committee members to carry out these tasks. Alternatively the club may have to source services from elsewhere which can incur significant additional expenditure within tight financial constraints.

- 7.4 In addition, the widely acknowledged experience of the Mid Craigie and Linlathen Under 12s Project Team will be made available to clubs in partnership and collaboration with the Early Years and Childcare Partnership Team's Out of School Care Co-ordinator. This will provide support for a range of activities which may include, fundraising, committee advice, support and supervision of staff, managing teams, health and safety, promoting good practice, dealing with disputes. Staff training will also be provided. These aspects have been identified in consultation with Dundee Out of School Care Network.

7.5 ***Additional pre-fives services***

- 7.6 130 new houses built for Angus Housing Association means that there is a re-population within Mid Craigie. A large number of these families are likely to include young children. This element of the proposal is to provide two additional pre-five sessions per week. These sessions will be specifically targeted at children aged 0-3 and it is intended that one session will have a particular emphasis on family learning.

7.7 ***Development of children's work within the Linlathen area***

- 7.8 The Mid Craigie and Linlathen Under 12s Project wishes to extend its services to include more children and families from the Linlathen area. Several factors are recognised as potential barriers to children and families from Linlathen accessing services within Rainbow House. An important barrier is likely to be the busy main road which currently splits the two communities. However, the Project has been working to develop services within this area on an outreach basis, including providing a programme of lunchtime activities at Mossgiel Primary School. This proposal is therefore to further develop the lunchtime activities. In particular there is an identified need to provide children with effective strategies to deal with conflict in order to enhance personal and social skills and reduce disruption both within and outwith the classroom. In addition the Project proposes to deliver one after school, activity based session for children aged 5-12 each

week during term time in Mossgiel Primary. These sessions will include amongst other activities, team games, art & craft, problem solving, drama and homework support. The Head Teacher of Mossgiel Primary has been consulted in the development of these proposals and is fully supportive.

7.9 *Development of before school childcare for primary school pupils*

7.10 There is an identified need to provide childcare for children before school. The proposal is to undertake a feasibility study into the potential uptake that there may be for such a service within the Mid Craigie & Linlathen area including the identification of suitable and available premises.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Directors of Social Work, Support Services, Finance and Neighbourhood Resources and Development. The Head Teacher of Mossgiel Primary School and local service users have also been consulted in the drafting of this Report.

9.0 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

Support to Out of School Care Clubs

Administration		
Staff Costs	£2,535.75	
½ Building Costs	£ 582.75	£3118.50

Project Support		
Staff Costs	£4,781.70	
Travel Costs	£ 210.00	
Costs of improving ICT links with Clubs	£1,500.00	£6,491.70

Pre-Fives work

Staff Costs	£1,115.52	
½ Building Costs	£ 155.40	
Activity Costs	£ 420.00	
Snack Costs	£ 210.00	
Additional equipment and outings costs	£1,000.00	£2,900.92

Development of services in Linlathen

Lunchtime activities		
Staff Costs	£1,660.68	
½ Building Costs (planning time)	£ 77.70	
Transport costs	£ 75.60	
Additional equipment costs	£ 500.00	
Volunteer expenses	£ 210.00	£2,523.98

After school activities		
Staff costs	£2,991.24	
Volunteer expenses	£ 420.00	
Activity costs	£ 840.00	
Travel costs	£ 75.60	
Snack costs	£ 420.00	
½ Building Costs (planning time)	£ 77.70	£4,824.54

Development of Before school childcare

Feasibility Study	£ 161.00	£ 161.00
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Total Costs		£20,020.64
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