

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 21 NOVEMBER 2005

REPORT ON: SUPPORT FOR THE OUT OF SCHOOL CARE INFRASTRUCTURE

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 694-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to continue to provide support for the Out of School Care Infra-structure

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this report and approve the award of funding as outlined in Appendix 1 of this Report

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The full cost of this proposal is £20,400 in the current financial year and £11,200 in 2006/7. 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 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 These proposals will enrich and enhance the learning and development of young children in Dundee and will enable them and their families to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 These proposals will contribute towards ensuring that children and their families are effectively supported through childhood, enabling them to make best advantage of future opportunities. The proposals will also further support partnership and collaboration with the voluntary sector in Dundee.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Out of School Care plays an important part in supporting parents in employment and training and in providing a range of activities for children and young people during out of school hours. 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.

7.0 THE PROPOSAL

7.1 This Proposal seeks approval to maintain support currently available to Clubs through Business Management Consultancy and Fair Play Training.

7.2 Business Management Consultancy

7.3 Out of School Clubs depend on the voluntary support of parent committees. These committees take on responsibility for a range of tasks necessary for the smooth running of Clubs, including the recruitment and management of staff, the implementation of financial management systems and ensuring the quality of provision. This can be an onerous and challenging task. The Dundee Out of School Care Network currently receives Childcare Strategy funding for the deployment of a Business Management Consultant to support the development of an Out of School Care Business Management Tool in those Clubs who wish to participate. Currently 11 of the 21 Clubs are participating in this scheme.

7.4 Funding from the Big Lottery Quality Childcare strand, has recently enabled the recruitment of two Out of School Care Business Development Workers who will be in post in January 2006. The Business Development Consultant will provide support to the new workers in expanding the use of the Business Management Tool. It is proposed to continue to provide funding to the Dundee Out of School Care Network at a cost of £14,400, to maintain the Consultant for 15 hours per week until the end of the current financial year (March 06). At this stage the position will be reviewed with a view to reducing this level of involvement as the new workers settle in to their roles.

7.5 Fair Play Training

7.6 Fair Play Training is a voluntary organisation supporting a range of community based activities for children and young people. Fair Play has supported Out of School Clubs for several years and continues to provide SVQ Training for Club Staff. In addition Fair Play provides on site training to support quality improvement within Out of School Services and this proposal seeks to continue this support.

7.7 The training on offer will include:

- Dealing Effectively with Challenging Behaviour
- Team Building Skills and Strategies
- Developing Core Skills through Drama and Imaginative Play
- Exploring Play
- Health and Safety
- Games- Indoor and Outdoor
- Arts and Crafts
- Conflict Resolution
- Communicating Effectively with Children and Adults

7.8 Over 40 weeks of the current year each Club will receive 4 or 5 visits tailored to Club's identified priorities. The cost of funding this initiative until the end of March 2006 is £6,000 and in the financial year 2006-2007 is £11,200.

7.12 Evaluation and Monitoring

7.13 The Early Years and Childcare Team has developed evaluation and monitoring frameworks for both of the above service elements. In addition regular meetings take place to identify successes and areas for development across the Out of School Care provision.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Director of Social Work and Director of Leisure and Communities.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

ANNE WILSON

Director of Education

Date: 7 November 2005

APPENDIX 1

SUPPORT FOR THE OUT OF SCHOOL CARE INFRASTRUCTURE: NOV 2005

OUTLINE OF EXPENDITURE

	2005-6	2006-7
Funding to Dundee Out of School Care Network for Business Management Consultant	£14,400	
Funding to Fair Play Training	£6,000	£11,200
Total	£20,400	£11,200

