

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 21st October 2002

REPORT ON: CHILDCARE FUNDING TO SUPPORT MID CRAIGIE AND LINLATHEN UNDER 12'S PROJECT

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 748-2002

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 as detailed at appendix 1.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of this proposal will be £8900 in the financial year 2002/2003. This will be met from the Child Poverty Package funding made available to local authorities by the Scottish Executive to support Clubs in areas where sustainability is a challenge. 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 Child Poverty Package funding available to Local Authorities to support the development of services which meet the needs of parents who are working or in training by supporting good quality provision which is economically difficult to sustain.

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, Mossiel and St. Vincent's Primary Schools.

7.0 CURRENT SITUATION

- 7.1 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 clubs, lunch clubs and drop-in groups at Rainbow
- 7.2 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.
- 7.3 The club is in receipt of funding through the New Childcare Projects in the current year to support the development of additional services which include: support to Dundee Out of School Care Network, additional pre-fives services, the development of children's work and the development of before school childcare for primary aged pupils. (Report No: 267-2002 refers.) The emphasis of the new anti poverty funding is on the development of these services to enable children from disadvantaged backgrounds to access provision which they are currently excluded from due to their inability to meet the cost.

8.0 PROPOSAL

- 8.1 The proposal aims to provide funding to the Under 12's Project which will enable them to develop services to:
- ensure the development of work with 5 – 12 year olds living in and around the Linlathen area by the provision of positive recreational, leisure and educational activities.
 - provide resources to support NOF funded groups which deliver storytelling, drama, art and homework support
 - provide subsidy to enable parents living in areas of deprivation to access Out of School Care Provision.
 - develop work with the pre-five age group which includes Playgroups and Parent and Toddler Groups.

9.0 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 This reports has been the subject of consultation with the Directors of Social Work, Support Services, Finance and Neighbourhood Resources and Development.

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.

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education

3 October 2002

Appendix 1

Provision of After School Clubs at Mossgiel PS

£2500

Staff time	£1700
Subsidy to support access to Out of School Care Provision	£3500
Pre-Five Work	£1200
Total	<u>£8900</u>