

REPORT TO: COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 13 DECEMBER 2004
REPORT ON: DUNDEE COMMUNITY LEARNING STRATEGY 2005-2008
REPORT BY: HEAD OF COMMUNITIES
REPORT NO: 810-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek endorsement from Dundee City Council for the revised Community Learning Strategy for Dundee 2005-2008.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 endorses the Community Learning Strategy for Dundee 2005-2008 which can be accessed from the Council's Home Page on the website at www.dundee.gov.uk under 'What We Do' - 'Council Publications'. A copy of the Strategy has also been placed in the Councillors' Lounge.

2.2 instructs the Head of Communities to forward the Strategy to the Scottish Executive.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the approval of this Strategy. The resources of the Communities Department and other contributing departments are already committed in the Council's three-year Revenue Budget.

3.2 External funding through the Literacies Initiative, European Union funding, Community Regeneration Fund and Quality of Life funding will complement the Council's commitment to the delivery of Community Learning in Dundee.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Many of the actions contained in the Community Learning Strategy will contribute directly to the achievement of Local Agenda 21 targets.

4.2 The Strategy and its implementation focus on the delivery of services locally, it emphasises the building of community capacity and has been developed in line with the Scottish Executive's guidelines "Working and Learning Together to Build Stronger Communities".

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Community Learning Strategy recognises the importance of targeting resources on those areas of Dundee which experience greatest disadvantage in economic terms. It also recognises the importance of continuing to give priority to the needs of young people.

5.2 The Partnership, however, will continue to maintain and deliver community learning opportunities in every area of the City.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 Dundee's first Community Learning Strategy was approved in January 2000.

6.2 In January 2004, the Scottish Executive issued guidance on the way forward for Community Learning and Development – "Working and Learning Together to Build Stronger Communities".

- 6.3 In this guidance the Scottish Executive asked that Community Planning Partnerships produced updated Community Learning Strategies.
- 6.4 The joint Ministerial Foreword to the Scottish Executive guidance stated that Ministers were “placing Community Learning and Development at the heart of our work on Community Planning. This means that, for the first time, Community Learning and Development is being placed at the centre of the decision-making process within our communities. We want Community Learning and Development to become a central feature of the way in which planning authorities and service providers engage with the communities and citizens we are here to serve.”
- 6.5 Dundee’s revised Strategy has been developed over the period April to September 2004. It has involved extensive consultation with partner agencies and has been developed as a working document, which will guide the delivery of community learning in Dundee over the next four years.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Community Learning Partnership comprises representation from all the strategic partners in Dundee (reference Section 17 of the Strategy).
- 7.2 The draft Strategy has been developed by the Partnership and has the endorsement of all partners. Many of the specific proposals and priority actions contained within the Strategy have been the subject of separate consultation with communities of interest within the City.
- 7.3 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning), Assistant Chief Executive (Management) and Depute Chief Executives (Finance) and (Support Services).

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 The following background paper was relied upon in the preparation of this Report.
- “Working and Learning Together to Build Stronger Communities” – January 2004, the Scottish Executive.

Signed: Stewart Murdoch
Head of Communities

Date: 3 December 2004