

**REPORT TO:** DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 17 December 2001  
DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE - 17 December 2001

**REPORT ON:** DEPLOYMENT OF TWO SURE START HEALTH VISITORS TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN EARLY YEARS SERVICES

**REPORT BY:** DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK

**REPORT NO:** 816-2001

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This Report seeks approval to deploy two Health Workers as part of the Sure Start Dundee strategy to promote the health and well being of children and families within early years settings in two areas of the City.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Education and Social Work Committees note and approve the contents of this Report and

2.1. Approve the implementation of the pilot initiative as outlined for the remaining duration of the Sure Start funding until March 2004

2.2 Approve the proposal to provide funding to Tayside Primary Care NHS Trust, through the Dundee Local Health Care Cooperative, to fund deployment of two Health Visitors (G Grade) to work within early years settings in 2 local areas of Dundee

2.3 Remit the Directors of Education and Social Work to bring forward a further Report outlining the outcomes of the implementation of this initiative in June 2004

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The cost of this proposal will be £15,000 in 2001/2002 and from 2002/3 onwards the full annual cost will be £50,000. This cost will be met from Sure Start Scotland funding made available to local authorities to support the provision of services to children aged 0-3 and their families. Appendix 1 details the costs associated with the proposal and this is attached to this Report.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 This proposal will improve access to skills and knowledge needed to enable local people to be more aware of health issues affecting children and families.

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Health related issues can be an important risk factor related to social exclusion. This initiative will be an innovative and multi agency approach to supporting the health and well being of groups of young children and families. It is anticipated that the work will generate ideas and expertise for further developments across the City.

## 6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Sure Start Scotland is a national initiative designed to provide enhanced support for children aged 0-3 and their families. Considerable work has been undertaken in Dundee to address this agenda. In addition there is clear recognition that children's needs require to be viewed holistically- care, education, health and well being aspects are inseparable and work done to promote any one area can have significant and positive impact on the related areas. We also know now that effective work to provide support, education and services for parents has a clear impact on children.
- 6.2 This initiative is therefore the culmination of ongoing discussions between local authority departments and Tayside Primary Health Care NHS Trust. The work already developed to promote effective partnership and collaboration across the education and social work approaches to supporting young children and families will be significantly enhanced by widening this network to include the expertise, knowledge, skill and perspectives of health workers.
- 6.3 A target to establish 2 health workers to work across a range of early years settings was therefore included in the Early Years and Childcare Plan 2001- 2004.

## 7.0 PROPOSAL

- 7.1 Dundee City Council is committed to promoting the best interests of children and families. Already there have been significant successes and a major expansion of services. This proposal will further strengthen this work by providing 2 Health Visitors as part of a multi agency team in two local areas.
- 7.2 The two local areas to be involved in this initiative are Beechwood/ Lochee/ Charleston and Douglas/ Mid Craigie and Linlathen.
- 7.3 The areas have been selected to take account of work already ongoing across the City. In addition there is already evidence of effective shared work within these areas and the input of health professionals would considerably enhance this. Woodlea is already an integrated care, education and family support service but there are other perhaps less well recognised important and relevant developments. In particular the new 0-3s provision at Charleston Primary School has been planned jointly by nursery and child and family centre staff. Also the Mid Craigie Nursery Class and Happyhillock Child and Family Centre have begun to develop some locally identified joint strategies to improve the level of support available to children and families.
- 7.4 The services within these areas which will be part of the initiative are as follows:

### Cluster 1

- Woodlea Children's Centre
- Lochee Nursery Class
- Lochee Child and Family Centre
- St Marys Nursery Class
- Charleston Nursery Class and new provision for children aged 0-3 and their families

## Cluster 2

- Douglas Nursery Class
- Douglas Child and Family Centre
- Powrie Nursery Class
- Happyhillock Child and Family Centre
- Mid Craigie Nursery Class
- St Vincent's Nursery Class

7.5 The Sure Start Health Visitors will conduct an initial health needs assessment within each facility. This will:

- Combine and draw upon the knowledge, experience and information of early years staff and mainstream health visiting service staff and local Primary Health Care Teams
- Work with parents/ carers to ensure that their views and perspectives are integral to the assessment and the development of strategies
- Develop collaborative strategies to prioritise and address local health needs of children and families
- Establish clear, agreed and measurable outcomes against which the impact of the initiative can be evaluated

7.6 This initiative will mean that the needs of children can start to be addressed globally and comprehensively. There is clear evidence in child and family centres and in nursery schools and classes that health is an issue for many families. There is a high level of very young parents, the incidence of maternal smoking is relatively high, significant numbers of children have problems associated with sleep, behaviour, feeding, toileting etc. In addition issues like headlice can cause considerable concern to families and as such require careful collaboration across professional boundaries in order to provide realistic and effective responses. Many mothers are isolated and not able to call on extended family support. This has been shown to impact on the mental health and well being of both the mothers and their children.

7.7 In addition there is research to demonstrate that health promoting activities can be effectively delivered in early years centre settings where there is already a level of trust established between parents and professionals. The role of early years staff in promoting good health, providing information about local services and providing a listening and sympathetic ear is highly significant. Enhancing the skills of all professionals working within these areas will have a positive impact on the level and range of services available.

7.8 The funding available for this initiative will support the deployment of one full time Health Visitor and one part time (25 hours per week). The initiative will run for the duration of current Sure Start funding (end of March 2004). The workers will be deployed by Dundee Local Health Care Cooperative (LHCC) and will be located within LHCC premises. A multi agency Steering Group will be established to support recruitment and selection of the workers, to agree their ongoing strategic direction and deployment and to ensure that appropriate evaluation is undertaken and reported on to all stakeholder agencies. This Group will include representatives from the education and social work departments in addition to Tayside Primary Care NHS Trust and the LHCC. The workers will be jointly operationally responsible to the Nurse Coordinator (Operations) and the Professional Development Facilitator. An outline Job Description is attached to this Report.

7.9 The work will be evaluated and quality assured as part of the Sure Start Strategy. In addition Tayside Health Trust will also conduct evaluation to measure the impact of the work in relation to their professional objectives.

**8.0 CONSULTATION**

8.1 This proposal has been the subject of consultation with representatives from Tayside Primary Health Care NHS Trust and the Dundee LHCC. In addition the Directors of Finance, Support Services and Personnel and Management Services have been consulted.

**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.

..... Date  
Director of Education

..... Date  
Director of Social Work

## APPENDIX 1 FINANCIAL OUTLINE

### Development Proposal - Costings

	<u>Year 1</u> <u>2001/02</u>	<u>Year 2 Onwards</u> <u>2002/03 -&gt;</u>		
<u>Start-up Costs</u>				
Equipment Purchase	1,000	-		
Training	250	-		
Admin Equipment	750	-		
Recruitment	500	-		
	<table border="1"><tr><td>2,500</td><td>-</td></tr></table>	2,500	-	
2,500	-			
<u>Ongoing Costs</u>				
Clinical Staffing	11,950	47,800		
Travel	550	2,200		
	<table border="1"><tr><td>12,500</td><td>50,000</td></tr></table>	12,500	50,000	
12,500	50,000			
<b>Total Costs</b>	<table border="1"><tr><td><b>15,000</b></td><td><b>50,000</b></td></tr></table>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	
<b>15,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>			

Note : Year 1 assumes project commences in the last quarter of 2001/02

## APPENDIX 2

### TAYSIDE PRIMARY CARE NHS TRUST

#### OUTLINE JOB DESCRIPTION

#### SURE START HEALTH VISITORS

##### 1. JOB DETAILS

<b>Job Title:</b>	Health Visitor (Sure Start initiative)
<b>Responsible to Operationally:</b>	Nurse Co-ordinator (Operations)
<b>Professionally:</b>	Professional Development Facilitator
<b>Service Department:</b>	Community Nursing Services
<b>Location:</b>	Dundee LHCC

##### 2. JOB PURPOSE

To maximise the potential for good health of children aged 0-5 attending local authority early years services through collaboration with centre staff, families and carers.

##### 3. KEY RESULT AREAS

1. To undertake health needs assessment of children who attend identified local authority early years services.
2. To identify priority areas for health intervention and initiate intervention and services, within agreed time scales.
3. To work collaboratively and efficiently with early years staff in ensuring a co-operative and standardised approach to the delivery of advice and support to families and carers within agreed policies and protocols.
4. To participate actively in training, education and staff support of early years staff to meet agreed objectives.
5. To work closely and maintain strong links with the child's own Health Visitor and Primary Health Care Team to ensure seamless delivery of care.
6. To link with other agencies both voluntary and statutory, as appropriate, who are concerned or involved with a child or family liaising with child's own Health Visitor at all times.
7. To audit and evaluate the role of the Health Visitor (Sure Start) programme producing timeous reports as requested.

**4. COMMUNICATION AND WORKING RELATIONSHIPS**

Dundee LHCC Board and Management Team.  
Dundee City Council Education Department, Early Years and Childcare Officer.  
Dundee City Council Social Work Department, Manager Early Years and Family Support.  
Department of Public Health.  
Inequalities Nursing Team.  
Child Protection Specialist.  
Health Visiting service and wider Primary Health Care Team.  
Statutory and Voluntary agencies as appropriate.  
Health Promotion: Tayside Health Board.

**6. MOST CHALLENGING PARTS OF THE JOB**

Developing and maintaining positive and productive working relationships with other agencies and core health visiting service to ensure a consistent approach to each child's well-being.

**7. JOB DESCRIPTION AGREEMENT:**

<b>Job Holder's Signature</b> .....	<b>Date</b> .....
<b>Senior Officer/.....</b>	<b>Date</b> .....
<b>Head of Department Signature</b>	
<b>Title</b> .....	