

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 17 December 2001

REPORT ON: GRANT AID TO OUT OF SCHOOL CARE CLUBS TO SUPPORT AN ANTI POVERTY STRATEGY

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 818-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to award funding to 8 Out of School Care Clubs who fall within disadvantaged areas specifically those clubs whose postcodes fall within the Arbuthnott Index.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee approve proposals:

2.1 To support good quality Out of School Care Clubs where sustainability presents the greatest challenge.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of this proposal over the financial year to 2002 is £38,900. This will be met from the Additional Resources Funding made available to the Local Authority by the Scottish Executive Education Department. An outline of proposed expenditure is set out in Appendix 1 of this report.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 This proposal will result in increased access to opportunities and the development of skills and knowledge needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This proposal will improve equality of access to services and support the inclusion of children who may be unable to access care due to poverty.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 A key target contained within the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan 2001-2004 is the development of good quality, sustainable Out of School Care provision in Dundee.

6.2 The proposed initiative to strengthen and develop the existing provision will also support the Government's agenda to promote social inclusion. Clubs in disadvantaged areas are unable to generate income in the same way as clubs in more affluent areas.

- 6.3** New Opportunities Fund grants are available to clubs as a source of place generation. In response to Local Authorities raising the issue of sustainability, the Scottish Executive has made additional resources available to support clubs in disadvantaged areas.
- 6.4** The Scottish Executive, in a letter to Local Authorities in July 2001, outlined the provision of additional funding for 2001-2002 and also for 2002-2003, through the Child Poverty Package - Additional Resources – Out of School Care.
- 6.5** The grant is targeted at good quality but sub-viable Out of School Care Clubs, especially in areas of disadvantage. The Scottish Executive recommend targeting areas of disadvantage defined using the Arbutnott Index. See Appendix 1. Clubs are *not* eligible for grant if their lottery start-up funding has not expired or if they are in receipt of SIP funding.

7.0 CURRENT SITUATION

- 7.1** These proposals have been developed in partnership with members of Dundee Early Years and Childcare Team and Dundee Out of School Care Network.
- 7.2** There are currently 16 Out of School Care Clubs in Dundee and, this year, 8 fall within the criteria specified by the Scottish Executive. However, in Year 2 additional clubs will be eligible for funding as their New Opportunities Fund grants expire. Clubs in Dundee are all run by voluntary parent committees and parents pay fees to cover all costs and overheads. Clubs in disadvantaged areas may take time to increase numbers whilst parents decide whether to take up work or training. Income may be low until numbers increase and local parents may have difficulty meeting the cost of fees even when these have been set as low as possible.

8.0 PROPOSAL

- 8.1** The proposal will support and strengthen existing clubs in areas of disadvantage and allow them to continue to develop and expand their services. The grant will offer enhanced support to clubs in areas where income generated from fees is low. It will enable parents to pay for their children to use the clubs and allow children who may previously have been excluded, due to poverty, to access provision.
- 8.2** In making this grant available the Local Authority will outline certain conditions to which clubs will have to adhere. Clubs will have to demonstrate how funding has been used and should be able to show that funding has been used within the following guidelines:
- 8.3** Clubs may use the grant to enable children, previously excluded from the club through poverty, to access the provision by offering parents reduced charges.
- 8.4** Clubs may improve the quality of provision by the introduction of a healthy eating programme - both for snack time after school and also during full day care.
- 8.5** Clubs may improve the quality of provision by improving health & safety both within the club and when collecting children from school(s).
- 8.6** Appendix 1 outlines a summary of targeted postcode areas and full costs of the proposal.

8.7 Members of the Early Years and Childcare Team will continue to support and monitor the activities of all groups who will receive funding.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 This report has been the subject of consultation between the Director of Social Work, the Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development, the Director of Finance and the Director of Support Services.

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.

.....
Director of Education

.....
Date

APPENDIX 1

COST OF PROJECT

Name of Club	Area	Post Code	Amount
The Boomerang Club	Douglas	DD4 8SD	£4862.50
Kid's Fun House	Whitfield	DD4 9NG	£4862.50
Cherry Drop Club	Mid Craigie	DD4 8DD	£4862.50
The Glebie	Baffin Street	DD4 6EZ	£4862.50
Happy Hours	Ardler	DD2 3TP	£4862.50
Menzieshill OSC Club	Menzieshill	DD2 4BH	£4862.50
BJ's OSC	Hawkhill,	DD1 5RT	£4862.50
BJ's OSC	Bellfield Street	DD1 5HX	£4862.50
	TOTAL		£38,900.00

EXTRACT OF DUNDEE POST CODES FROM ARBUTHNOTT INDEX

DUNDEE CITY	DD1 2
"	DD1 5
"	DD2 3
"	DD2 4
"	DD3 0
"	DD3 6
"	DD3 7
"	DD4 0
"	DD4 6
"	DD4 8
"	DD4 9

