

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee - 28 June 2010

REPORT ON: Service Level Agreements with Dundee College, Craigowl Communities and CM Associates 2009-2010 and progress of Literacies Partnership

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Communities

REPORT NO: 340-2010

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of progress in implementation of the Literacies Action Plan in 2009/2010.
- 1.2 To update Committee on the Service Level Agreements with Dundee College, Craigowl Communities and CM Associates for the period 2009/2010 as approved in Report No 123-2008.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 2.1 acknowledges the progress and key achievements of the Partnership during 2009/2010.
- 2.2 approves an annual payment for the period 2010/2011 of £37,000 be made by Dundee City Council to Dundee College, £26,000 to Craigowl Communities and £14,000 to CM Associates; upon satisfactory provision of the service specifications. The caveat on this being that the money will be released on a quarterly basis and if on 1 March 2011 11/12 of the annual targets have not been met, Dundee City Council will reduce the payment proportionately.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 This expenditure of £77,000 can be met from the Leisure and Communities Department's 2010-2011 Revenue Budget.

4.0 MAIN TEXT

- 4.1 Requirements from Scottish Government, detailed in the Strategic Plan guidance 2008/2011, are that this programme is overseen and delivered, with the local authority leading and supporting the Partnership and with literacies integrated into the community planning process. The reduction in the number of working age people with severe literacy and numeracy problems has been identified by the Scottish Government as one of the national targets and is included in the Dundee SOA.

4.2 Key achievements in 2009-2010:

- 1,686 adults received literacy tuition
- 56% of learners came from regeneration areas
- A literacy learner received a "highly commended" award in the SQA Star Awards
- 10 people from Dundee City Council and external agencies undertook accredited tutor training
- 85% of learners reported an increase in confidence as a result of their learning.

4.3 The service specification for 2008/2009 approved by Committee, Report No 123-2008, reflected the roles and responsibilities of Dundee College, Craigowl Communities and CM Associates to provide literacy learning opportunities and infrastructure support, as detailed in the Adult Literacy and Numeracy Strategic Plan 2008-2011.

4.4 CM Associates have successfully reported on the implementation of their role in supporting the development and infrastructure of the Partnership in line with the Scottish Government and Literacies Partnership requirements.

4.5 Both Dundee College and Craigowl Communities complied with the Service Level Agreement requirements in relation to the quality standards and infrastructure.

4.6 Craigowl did not meet target numbers as agreed in their Service Level Agreement and as per Committee Report 441-2009, their final quarter payment was reduced on a pro-rata basis. The Craigowl Service Level Agreement for 2010/2011 is based on a reduced target of 72 learners and fees reduced proportionately.

5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management

There are no major issues.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Director of Finance have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None.

STEWART MURDOCH
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND COMMUNITIES
21 JUNE 2010