

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE – JUNE 18th 2001

REPORT ON: GRANT AID TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO DUNDEE OUT OF SCHOOL CARE NETWORK

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 407-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to provide support to Dundee Out of School Care Network to enable the Network to improve support to the 16 Out of School Care Clubs and their staff.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note the contents of this Report and approves the award of £4,000.00 (£1,000 per quarter) to Dundee Out of School Care Network during the financial year 2001/ 2002.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full cost of this proposal, £4,000, will be met from funding for New Childcare Projects made available to the Education Department by the Scottish Executive. A detailed financial outline is appended to this report.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The grant awarded will improve access to skills and knowledge needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 This proposal will enhance choice and diversity in out of school care provision, improving equality of access and further strengthening Partnership across sectors.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Scottish Executive has provided grant to individual authorities for new childcare projects to support the provision of Pre School and out of school childcare services.

7.0 CURRENT SITUATION

7.1 Dundee currently has 15 Out of School Care Clubs (with a further club due to open at the end of June 2001) registered to provide childcare services under the Children Act 1989. Out of School Care Clubs in Dundee are managed by voluntary management committees, comprising mainly parents.

7.2 All clubs in Dundee are currently members of Dundee Out of School Care Network, a fully constituted group with Charitable Status, which meets monthly throughout the year. Voluntary management committee members or playworkers may represent clubs at Network meetings.

8.0 PROPOSAL

8.1 Dundee Out of School Care Network plays a strong role in supporting its member clubs. Network meetings provide a forum in which clubs are able to support each other and share ideas and models of good practice. The Network also provides an arena for discussion of both local and national agendas and strengthens the voice of individual clubs. This has a significant impact on the development of a shared approach to quality development of Out of School Care services in Dundee.

8.2 It is therefore proposed to provide funding to Dundee Out of School Care Network to enable members to more easily attend Network meetings by the provision of crèche facilities, and to access relevant Seminars and Conferences, by providing financial help towards travelling and costs.

8.3 The funding will also support the publicity and administration of the Dundee Out of School Care Network.

8.4 Clubs require to maintain an effective range of stimulating and age appropriate toys and materials to meet a range of needs and interests. This funding will therefore also support the establishment of a small Toy/Equipment Library which would be shared by all clubs, with particular emphasis on multi-cultural toys which are required to be used within all clubs but which are quite costly.

8.5 It is proposed to provide funding to enable Dundee Out of School Care Network to support member clubs in times of crisis by providing small grants to those clubs.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Directors of Finance and 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.

11.0 SIGNATURE

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Director of Education

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Date

APPENDIX 1

**PROVISION OF SUPPORT TO DUNDEE OUT OF SCHOOL
CARE NETWORK**

	per quarter	per year
Provision of creche during Network meetings	100.00	400.00
Attendance at Seminars/Conferences	125.00	500.00
Publicity / administration of Network	75.00	300.00
Establishment of a Toy / Equipment Library	250.00	1000.00
Provision of support fund for clubs in crisis	<u>450.00</u>	<u>1800.00</u>
	<u>£1000.00</u>	<u>£4000.00</u>