

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 21 AUGUST 2006

REPORT ON: EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 473- 2006

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report seeks approval to deliver the Early Years and Childcare Workforce Development Strategy and to make payments to a range of training bodies providing training and support to those working in childcare across Dundee.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee notes the contents of this report and approves the proposed payment of fees to training bodies as outlined in Appendix 1.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The full costs of this proposal is £155,503 in the current financial year. This will be met from Scottish Executive grants made available to the local authority for Childcare Workforce Development.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The funding 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 early years and out of school provision, improving equality of access and further strengthening partnership across sectors.

6.0 BACKGROUND

6.1 The Scottish Executive has provided Early Years and Childcare Workforce Development funds to local authorities to enable them to expand the childcare workforce and widen training opportunities for those working in childcare.

6.2 In autumn 2006 The Scottish Social Services Committee will begin the registration process for early education and childcare workers who will require to hold appropriate qualifications to meet registration requirements. As the childcare workforce has a relatively high level of unqualified staff, the Executive seeks to increase the number of qualified staff in all areas of the childcare workforce including childminders and those employed in private and voluntary childcare centres.

6.3 The Dundee Early Years and Childcare Training Strategy Group, which is a sub group of the Early Years and Childcare Partnership, includes representatives from training bodies, private and voluntary childcare settings and the Early Years Team. The Group identified key areas for promoting workforce development during the period September 2006 - June 2007. These are:

- Continuing professional development for childcare staff reflecting local and national priorities
- Accredited training leading to registration with Scottish Social Services Council

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 A key priority is to increase the number of qualified staff. Training proposals from a range of providers have been reviewed and the Early Years and Childcare Training Strategy for 2006 - 2007 was drawn up to reflect identified priorities.

7.3 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the programmes being offered by various training bodies as well as predicted uptake levels.

7.4 Members of the Early Years and Childcare Team will continue to support and monitor the activities of all training bodies who will receive funding. All courses are evaluated and the progress of candidates tracked.

8.0 CONSULTATION

8.1 This report has been the subject of consultation with the Directors of Social Work, Neighbourhood Resources and Development, Finance and Support Services.

9.00 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education
Date: August 2006

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APPENDIX 1

Outline of Costs for Delivery of Programmes

TRAINING BODY	PROGRAMME	COSTS
Dundee College	SVQ Children's Care Learning & Development (Levels 2, 3, 4) for up to 15 candidates Registered Managers Award for up to 6 staff Short Courses including Building on Basics, Working with 0-3s, Children and their Environment, Managing Children's Behaviour, Food Hygiene, Health & Safety, Computing Skills offering up to 230 places	£26,800
University of Dundee	BA in Early Childhood Studies Modules for up to 5 candidates Support for delivery of LTiD (Early Years) Framework	£4,200 £5,000
Learning Unlimited	Leadership and Management Training	£5,000
Fair Play Training	Two community based training programmes for up to 24 candidates Creative Activity Sessions for 150 Childcare Staff & Children	£2,000 £3,400
First Aid Providers	First Aid for Child-carers for 100 staff	£5,000
Scottish Childminding Association	Pre Registration training for up to 60 staff Scheme of Excellence for up to 8 staff	£4,600 £2,800
Sports Development Team	Training in Sports Coaching for out of school care and early years staff in centres and local communities	£32,234
Inclusion Group	Workshop Training in topics including Child Protection, Working with Parents, Inclusive Practice, Behaviour Management, Understanding ADHD for 85 staff	£1,100
Scottish Out of School Care Network	Workshop Training in Meeting the Care Standards and Management Training for up to 45 staff Training/ support to club management committee	£5,000
Individual Workshop Tutors	Workshops on Topics including Story Telling, Music, Expressive Arts, Helping Children Express Emotions, Building Self Esteem in Children, Programme Planning for 160 staff	£10,000
Central Support Room Hire. Catering, supplies and services		£36,609

	TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE	£155,503
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