

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Policy & Resources Committee, 15 August 2005

REPORT ON: Policy on Physical Activity for Children and Young People with a Disability

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure & Arts, Director of Education, Director of Social work, Head of Communities

REPORT NO: 499-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To gain Committee approval for the adoption of a City Council Policy on Sport and Physical Activity for Children and Young People with a Disability

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** That the Committee approve the acceptance of the Policy

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1** There are no financial implications of this report

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** None

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The Policy will allow more access to children and young people with a disability, to physical activity programmes provided by the City Council.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1** Reference is made to the Council Plan 2003 – 2007. Equality Action Objective to “Increase opportunities for children and young people with a disability to participate in physical activity”
- 6.2** A Corporate Working Group was set up in 2004 to review the current position within Dundee and assess what future actions needed to be undertaken. This group has drawn up the attached policy (see Appendix 1) which it asks the Committee to approve. Once the Policy has been accepted the Group will proceed with the production of a 5 year action plan to make sure it is fully integrated into mainstream provision.
- 6.3** The policy proposed 3 objectives to fulfil its aim of:
“Increasing opportunities for children and young people with a disability to participate in regular lifelong physical activity.”

Children and young people with a disability to be:

- Included (where appropriate) in sport and physical activities, which are offered to mainstream provision.
- Provided with the opportunity and choice to participate in separate classes dependent on their individual needs.
- Afforded the opportunity to participate in sport and physical activity for at least

1 hour on most days of the week.

- 6.4** The policy proposes to introduce 6 responsibilities that it will be taken forward in an action plan to make sure the aims and objectives are fulfilled in the future years by all relevant departments.
- Ensure that children and young people with a disability are included (where appropriate) when planning sport and physical activities.
 - Where appropriate separate classes will be made available, with a view to future integration into mainstream sport and physical activities.
 - Ensure that child and young people with a disability are provided with a minimum of 2 hours of physical activity (not including physiotherapy) per week in the school curriculum.
 - Ensure that all sessions are progressive and take into account individual needs.
 - Ensure that children and youths with a disability are consulted and the programmes of sport and physical activity are tailored to meet individual needs.
 - Ensure that staff has appropriate training and consultation and liaison with the appropriate health care professional involved with the child e.g. therapist to ensure continuity of physical management.

7 CONSULTATION

- 7.1** The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Depute Chief Executive (Finance) have all been consulted on the contents of this report and are in agreement.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1** None

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APPENDIX 1

SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

Policy Statement

The Council will encourage all departments and key partners to be proactive in their dealings with Children and Young People with a disability. The opportunity will be provided to participate in sport and physical activity appropriate to individual needs.

The policy statement has been developed to address the above issue and devise a clear and positive statement that Dundee City Council and Key Partners will adopt and implement in line with national and local strategies.

1 Aim

Increase opportunities for children and young people with a disability to participate in regular lifelong physical activity.

2 Objectives

Children and young people with a disability to be:

- Included (where appropriate) in sport and physical activities, which are offered to mainstream provision.
- Provided with the opportunity and choice to participate in separate classes dependent on their individual needs.
- Afforded the opportunity to participate in sport and physical activity for at least 1 hour on most days of the week.

3 Responsibilities

Dundee City Council and key partners will:-

- 3.1 Ensure that children and young people with a disability are included (where appropriate) when planning sport and physical activities.
- 3.2 Where appropriate separate classes will be made available, with a view to future integration into mainstream sport and physical activities.
- 3.3 Ensure that children and young people with a disability are provided with a minimum of 2 hours of physical activity (not including physiotherapy) per week in the school curriculum.
- 3.4 Ensure that all sessions are progressive and take into account individual needs.
- 3.5 Ensure that children and youths with a disability are consulted and the programmes of sport and physical activity are tailored to meet individual needs.
- 3.6 Ensure that staff has appropriate training.

4 Strategic Context

4.1 Scottish Executive – Moving Forward! Additional Support for Learning

What is our vision of the future?

We wish to see an education system that is inclusive, welcomes diversity and provides and equal opportunity for all children to develop their personality, skills and abilities to their fullest.

4.2 Sport 21 – 2003-2007 The National Strategy for Sport Shaping Scotland's Future

Sport 21 has 11 targets for 2007, 5 of these targets relate to children and young people. These are:

- Target 1 – 80% of primary schoolchildren to be physically active.
- Target 2 – To make progress towards all school children taking part in at least two hours of high quality physical education classes a week.
- Target 3 – 85% of those aged 13 – 17 to be taking part in sport, in addition to the school curriculum, more than once a week.
- Target 4 – 49% of those aged 14 plus in Social Inclusion Partnership areas to be taking part in sport at least once a week.
- Target 5 – 55% of those aged 17-24 to be taking part in sport more than twice a week.

4.3 Scottish Disability Sport (SDS)

Scottish Disability Sport will maintain three priorities up to 2006. These priorities will be reflected throughout our work and will influence the way in which specific objectives are met. These priorities are:

- A sustained focus on the needs of athletes and players
- The development of sporting opportunities for young people with a disability
- The development of partnerships to provide sporting opportunities and provision for people with disabilities.

4.4 Active Schools – A Vision for Dundee

Dundee City Council recognises the role that Active Schools can play in shaping the future health and well being of the young people of the city. By developing strong and open partnerships with all the relevant agencies, Dundee City Council seeks to embrace and deliver the recently set Local and National targets on health, physical activity and sport by increasing the frequency, range and quality of opportunities available to children and young people.

4.5 Physical Activities Task Force

“What are the benefits of activity for children and young people”

The Physical Activities Task force recommends the following:

- That all children, including children with disabilities, should take part in at least two hours of physical education classes a week.
- That all children, including those with a disability, should gain the movement and behavioural skills necessary for an active life.
- A review of the status and content of the physical education curriculum and the resources for its delivery.

Teaching Profession for the 21st Century (McCrone) gives the chance to deal with some of these issues of high enough staffing levels and staff training.

4.6 The Disability Discrimination Act:

States that it is unlawful for service providers (*anyone providing a service directly to the general public*) to discriminate against a person with a disability by:

- Refusing service
- Offering a worse service
- offering a service on worse terms

By definition it is therefore against the law to discriminate against anyone with a disability.

5 Monitoring of the Policy Statement

This policy and the attached guidance will be regularly monitored and reviewed:

- In accordance with changes in legislation and Government and National Governing Bodies of Sport.
- Following any issues or concern raised in relation to the provision of sport and physical activities to children and young people with a disability.
- Annually.

6 Definition of Terms

For the purposes of this document, Dundee City Council defines a child or youth with a disability as any person up to and including 18 years of age.