

## DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** Leisure, Arts and Communities Committee – 11 January 2010

**REPORT ON:** Mobile Youth Resource Vehicle

**REPORT BY:** Neil Gunn, Co-Chair, Dundee Community Safety Partnership

**REPORT NO:** 596-2009

### 1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To seek approval to purchase a Mobile Youth Resource Vehicle that will target antisocial behaviour hotspots and allow young people to access a range of services in their local communities.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

2.1 Agree the purchase of the mobile resource vehicle as outlined in the report.

### 3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Total cost of the vehicle is £94,680 plus VAT. This includes air conditioning, alarm system and CCTV.

This cost will be met in full from the £100,000 awarded to the Community Safety Partnership by the Dundee Partnership Group for this purpose.

3.2 Revenue costs are estimated at £40,000 per annum and include a Youth Worker/Driver, fuel, supplies and services, garaging and servicing.

This sum can be met from the Leisure and Communities Department's revenue budget for 2010/11 and subsequent years. Partners will also provide in kind staff support to deliver key services in local areas.

### 4.0 MAIN TEXT

4.1 The preferred provider is Keillor Coachbuilders Ltd of Arbroath who are on the Scotland Excel providers list and who have a proven track record of providing this type of vehicle to a high standard and specification with excellent after sales service. Keillor's are the only suppliers able to deliver the vehicle to the required specification by 31 March 2010.

4.2 The aim of this mobile resource is to be able to better co-ordinate a partnership approach to alcohol and substance misuse, tackle antisocial behaviour and provide a base for the delivery of education and services from within the heart of communities and in particular hotspot areas.

4.3 Similar projects have proved to be very successful in both Angus and Fife as well as elsewhere within the UK.

4.4 The vehicle would allow a variety of approaches to be utilised including group work and one to one consultations.

4.5 Although a great deal of partnership work has been ongoing to tackle alcohol related issues in Dundee, the problem still exists and this is partly due to the difficulty for partners in being able to deliver the services where they are required. This resource would allow service providers to offer services in the communities where young people are.

4.6 In the last financial year 08/09, 263 bottles of alcopops, 1565 bottles or cans of beer, 2598 litres of cider, 80 bottles of wine, 41 juice bottles with vodka or similar spirit mixed within, 88 bottles of vodka and 150 litres of other spirits were taken from young people in the streets of Dundee under Operation Dry Up.

Whilst this is a tremendous amount of alcohol, figures for the first six months of this financial year do not show much improvement.

4.7 The mobile resource will enhance partnership working to further develop the strategy to challenge the youth culture of underage and binge drinking.

4.8 The potential for the mobile resource to be used in a wider context than just youth alcohol is also evident. The ability to impact on drug misuse is clear and the opportunity to undertake preventative work in hotspot areas can assist in this.

Heroin misuse within Dundee is high and it is possible to overlay hotspot maps with maps identifying heroin related criminality and drug deaths in the same identified areas. The use of this resource could also allow preventative and educational work to be targeted to those areas as necessary by the relevant partners.

4.9 The mobile resource may also be used as a tool within the Youth Intervention Strategy that has been developed within the city and by partners to tackle cyclical issues eg fire safety in the run up to bonfire night.

4.10 Prevention and early intervention must be considered as key strategies in the reduction of substance misuse and youth alcohol within Dundee and there is no doubt in the minds of partners that the purchase of such a vehicle will greatly enhance the partner ability to deliver on key strategies.

4.11 Key planned outcomes for this project are concerned with:

- Supporting young people to make informed choices about their lives
- Allowing young people to influence services in their area
- Reducing alcohol/drug related incidents involving young people
- Developing positive relationships between young people, community and relevant services
- Improved personal safety at times when young people are most vulnerable
- Signposting young people involved in substance misuse or alcohol to appropriate services

## 5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

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

There are no adverse implications.

5.2 Purchase of this mobile resource and implementation of the partnership approach to tackling the issues outlined in this report will contribute to the following policy and strategic priorities:

- National Outcome 9 and 11
- Dundee Outcome 7
- The Council Plan 2007–2011, Building Stronger Communities/Community Safety
- Leisure and Communities Service Plan 2007- 2011 Community Safety
- Dundee Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2009–2012
- Alcohol Drug Partnership Strategic Plan 2008–2011
- Tayside Police Strategic Plan
- Tayside Fire and Rescue Strategic Plan

## **6.0 CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Head of Finance, Chief Constable, Chief Fire Officer and Chair of the Alcohol and Drug Partnership have been consulted and are in agreement with its contents.

## **7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 7.1 None.

**NEIL GUNN**  
**CO-CHAIR, DUNDEE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**  
**25 NOVEMBER 2009**