

REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

REPORT ON: SCHOOL SPORTS CO-ORDINATOR PROGRAMME

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 724-2000

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The School Sports Co-ordinator Programme provides additional staff in all secondary schools to support the development of participative sports activities in local schools and in the community. This report brings to the attention of the Education Committee progress on the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme and makes recommendations for the continuation of this programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Education Committee is recommended to:

- i) note the success of the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme during 1999 - 2000;
 - ii) approve the continuation of the programme until April 2003;
- and
- iii) approve the continuation of the post of Sports Development Officer until April 2003.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The post of Sports Development Officer is 50% funded by **Sportscotland** to April 2001. **Sportscotland** have offered to extend this funding to April 2003. Matching costs of staffing estimated at £13,318.00 per annum will be met from within the Education Revenue Budget provision for teaching staff.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Nil

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Sports Co-ordinator Programme has made a significant impact in widening the access to sport and recreational activities for all pupils.

6.0 REPORT

6.1 The Education Department wishes to increase participation in sport as part of its aim to improve pupil achievement in all areas of life and to raise levels of health and fitness among young people. In collaboration with **Sportscotland** Dundee City Council appointed a Sports Development Officer to the Educational Development Service in 1999. The remit of this post was to co-ordinate and support sports activity in schools both in the formal curriculum and as a recreational activity.

6.2 Dundee was among the first councils in Scotland to develop the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme in partnership with **Sportscotland**. Following pilots in Baldrigon Academy and Craigie High School Sports co-ordinators were appointed to all secondary schools in October 1999 (Report No 606/1999 refers). Sports Co-ordinators are teaching staff who are given the equivalent of one day per week to support the development of sports activities in the secondary school, in associated primary schools and in the community. The work of School Sports Co-ordinators is organised and supported by the Education Department Sports Development Officer.

6.3 During 1999/2000 the impact of the Sports Co-ordinator Programme has been carefully monitored by the Education Department and by **Sportscotland**. Figures for participation in sport by pupil, involvement in coaching and community links show significant improvements in all key areas (see Appendix 1). These figures indicate the success of the programme in increasing participation in sport among school pupils across the city and represent a major success for Dundee.

6.4 **Sportscotland** have recently published evaluations carried out by independent consultants of both the School Sports Co-ordinator Programme and the Top Play / Top Sport programme which supports sports development in Primary Schools with equipment and training. In both of these reports Dundee City Council is singled out as an example of best practice for its forward looking and effective Sports Development in Education Strategy which has as a key aim -

“To develop and promote opportunities for all pupils to participate in sport at all levels”.

6.5 The partnership between the Education Department and the Leisure and Parks Department in developing sports participation in schools and in the community is also highly praised by the **Sportscotland** consultants and held up as a model of good practice for other councils.

6.6 Copies of reports by **Sportscotland** on School sports Co-ordinators and Top Play / Top Sport are available in the Councillor’ Lounge

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The School Sports Co-ordinator Programme has been highly successful in taking forward the Education Department’s Sports Development Strategy

which in turn supports the Council Strategy for Sports Development. A key facet of this success has been the partnership with **Sportscotland** and with the Leisure and Parks Department. To maintain the momentum of this highly effective programme and to support its future development it is considered essential to continue the post of Sports Development Officer within the Education Department.

9.0 CONSULTATION

9.1 The Director of Finance and the Director of Support Services and the Director of Leisure and Parks have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 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.

Anne Wilson
Director of Education

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Participation

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Monitoring Profile	Start	Year 1	% Change
No. of Activities	16	19	+19
No. of Participants	4287	7092	+65
Age of Participants			
S1/2	1746	3237	+85
S3/4	1436	2494	+74
S5/6	1041	1412	+36

Coaching

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Monitoring Profile	Start	Year 1	% Change
No. of Coaching Sessions	1054	1605	+52
Who is involved in delivery			
Parents	46	31	-33
Teachers	209	375	+79
Community Coaches	32	62	+94
What qualifications do they have			
Not qualified	73	175	+140
Introductory level	10	56	+460
Intermediate level	68	118	+74
Advanced level	40	46	+15

Community Links

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Monitoring Profile	Start	Year 1	% Change
No. of Associated Community Clubs	46	67	+46
No. of clubs affiliated to their NGB	61	103	+69
No. who directly assist in delivering the programmes	23	53	+130