

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 21 FEBRUARY 2005**

**REPORT ON: PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO NEW REGISTERED  
CHILDMINDERS IN DUNDEE**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT NO: 126- 2005**

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 This report seeks approval to continue to provide funding to newly registered childminders in Dundee.

**2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the contents of this report and approve the award of £200 funding to childminders.

**3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 The full cost of this proposal is £1,200 in the current financial year. Funding will come from Childcare Workforce Development Funding made available to the authority by the Scottish Executive Education Department.

**4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 These proposal will enrich and enhance the learning and development of young children in Dundee and will enable them and their families to play a full part in society.

**5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 These proposals will contribute towards ensuring that children and their families are effectively supported through childhood.

**6.0 PROPOSAL**

6.1 Childminders provide a unique home based childcare service to families. They are valued as a key provider of childcare services to children of all ages and particularly to babies and toddlers for whom close relationships and a home setting are recognised to have particular benefits.

6.2 Childminders are now regulated by the Care Commission and require to meet the National Care Standards. It is therefore important for childminders to supply age-appropriate toys and equipment and also to ensure that necessary safety

equipment to meet registration requirements is in place in their homes. All newly registered childminders in Dundee were invited to submit applications for a £200 grant to support the purchase of essential resources. 6 newly registered childminders applied for this funding.

- 6.3 It is proposed to award £1,200 to 6 local childminders who have recently become registered as child care providers with the Care Commission.

## **7.0 MONITORING AND QUALITY ASSURANCE**

A strong partnership approach has been developed between childminders and the Early Years and Childcare Team. All funding awards will be managed and monitored within the agreements signed with each childminder.

## **8.0 CONSULTATION.**

- 8.1 This Report has been the subject of consultation with the Chief Executive, the Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Director of Social Work and Head of Communities.

## **9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

**ANNE WILSON**  
Director of Education

**21 February 2005**

**AW/CAR**