

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 19 SEPTEMBER 2005

**REPORT ON: EARLY YEARS AND CHILDCARE WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 556-2005

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 are £126,253. 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 2006, those working in childcare will require a qualification to meet Scottish Social Services Committee 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 2005 - June 2006. These are:

- Training opportunities to expand the childcare workforce
- On-going professional development for childcare staff reflecting local and national priorities
- Accredited training leading to Scottish Social Services Council recognised qualifications

7.0 PROPOSAL

7.1 Training bodies were invited to submit proposals for the provision of training and support in line with the key areas identified by the Training Strategy Group. The Training Strategy Group and the Early Years and Childcare Partnership discussed outcomes from the delivery of training in 2004 - 2005 and identified key areas for development. 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 2005 - 2006 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 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 Chief Executive, 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

Date: 31 August 2005

APPENDIX 1

Outline of Costs for Delivery of Programmes

TRAINING BODY	PROGRAMME	COSTS
Dundee College	HNC Childcare and Education for up to 6 candidates	£5,280.00
	PDA Childcare and Education for up to 8 candidates	£7,040.00
	SVQ Childcare and Education (levels 2,3) for up to 8 candidates	£12,728.00
	Scottish Progression Award for up to 3 candidates	£2,385.00
	Short courses including New to Childcare, Building on Basics, Working with 0-3s, Children and their Environment, Child Protection, Food Hygiene, Health and Safety, Computing Skills, Managing Children's Behaviour offering up to 200 places	£12,960.00
University of Dundee	Short courses on the 3-5 Curricular Framework for up to 52 staff	£7,500.00
	BA in Early Childhood Studies Modules for up to 5 candidates	£2,500.00
Fair Play Training	Two community based training programmes for up to 24 candidates	£3,000.00
	Making Choices programme for up to 30 candidates	£1,800.00
	On site quality development support to 70 Out of School Care staff in 13 clubs	£3,800.00
	SVQ Playwork (levels 2,3) for up to 10 candidates	£14,700.00
British Red Cross	First Aid for Child-carers for 84 staff	£5,160.00
Scottish Childminding Association	Pre registration training programme for prospective childminders	£3,100.00
Individual Workshop Tutor	Workshops on topics including art & design, story telling, physical play, music, drama, resilience in children offering a total of 200 places	£2,800.00
Inclusion Group	Training in Autism and Epilepsy awareness for 50 staff	£1,000.00
Range of national training providers	Early Years Partnership Team (9) attendance at range of training events	£2,000.00
	Training Strategy Launch event for 100 staff	£500.00
	Early years city wide in service event for 300 staff	£6,000.00
	Strategic officer support	£14,000.00
	Admin support	£18,000.00
	TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURE	£126,253