

**REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE, SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE- 19 FEBRUARY 2001**

**REPORT ON: DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED EARLY YEARS PROVISION AT CHARLESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

**REPORT NO: 64-2001**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this Report is to outline additional plans for early years provision at Charleston Primary School and to seek approval for an extension to the existing contract for works.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Education Committee note the contents of this Report and approve an extension to the existing contract resulting in estimated additional expenditure of approximately £50,000.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

3.1 This proposal will result in additional expenditure of £50,000 bringing the total expenditure to £125,000. Expenditure of £75,000 was agreed by the Education and Social Work Committees on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2000 and this will be met from within the Education Department Revenue Budget for 2000/2001. The additional expenditure of £50,000 will require to be included in the Revenue Budget for 2001/ 2002.

3.2 In addition as set out in the Report of 16<sup>th</sup> October 2000, ongoing staff costs for the new service will be £75,000 in a full financial year based on current salaries. All of the expenditure can be met using funding for Sure Start and for Childcare Infrastructure made available to local authorities from the Scottish Executive Education Department.

## **4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS**

This development allows for a greater level of local needs to be met locally and that there will be enhanced access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society.

## **5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

These proposals will improve access to a wider range of early education, childcare and family support provision within the Charleston area.

## **6.0 BACKGROUND**

6.1 Dundee is now moving ahead to deliver innovative improved and expanded early years services. There are now 4 integrated service models (Beechwood/Foggyley, Kirkton, Ardler and Happyhillock) combining a range of pre school education, childcare and family support services within a single facility.

6.2 A fifth such development is now proposed for the Charleston area of Dundee. Charleston has been recognised as an area requiring improved services for young children and their families. The expanded provision will mean that up to 20 children can access full time pre school education, extended hours services and a range of family support services will also be available. 15 new sessional day care places will be available for children aged 0-3.

6.3 The Education and Social Work Committees approved expenditure of £75,000 in respect of a proposed project to develop expanded early years provision within Charleston Primary School.

- 6.4 Architectural plans have now been refined to provide the best mix of services for the local area. These plans will mean a bigger change to current provision than had previously been anticipated and will also result in a significantly enhanced service for children and families living in Charleston. In particular all infant classes will now be relocated to another part of the building. The major part of the additional expenditure is related to making good the accommodation for these classes.
- 6.5 This development will therefore mean that enhanced early years facilities will now be available for children aged 0-5 and also that children in the early primary classes will benefit from refurbished and upgraded accommodation.
- 6.6 The additional estimated expenditure of approximately £50,000 is required due to the following
- a) Displacement of infant classes which has necessitated the alterations in the main toilets to suit infants, redevelopment of cloakroom and resource room to teaching areas for infants which requires upgraded lighting, heating, sink installation and carpet, relocation of caretaker's office and relocation of auxiliary/photocopy area to release classroom for infants.
  - b) Creation of new entrance to the pre-5 area to comply with building regulations for disabled access.
  - c) Provision of additional external secured area and designated play areas as required by registration.
  - d) Existing alarm system obsolete and requires to be upgraded and replaced.

## 7.0 CONSULTATION

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

## 8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

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.

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 Director of Education

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 Date

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 Director of Social Work

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 Date