

REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE- 21 NOVEMBER 2005

REPORT ON: PROVISION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO: 695- 2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to provide Childcare Strategy Funding to local Parent and Toddler groups.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee note and approve the proposals contained within this report and:

- 2.1 approve the award of funding to Parent and Toddler Groups as outlined in Appendix 1 of this Report

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The full cost of this proposal is £3398. This will be met from Scottish Executive funding made available to the Local Authority for Childcare Strategy.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 This proposal will result in increased access to opportunities and the development of 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 provision and will contribute to improve links with parents and strengthen partnerships across sectors.

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 Parent and Toddler Groups offer parents and their young children an opportunity to play, learn and make new friends in their local community. Groups meet for sessions during the week depending on local circumstances. Parent and Toddler Groups are run by local parents and carers who form committees to plan and organise the programme. Parent and Toddler Groups are often the first group experience for parents and their young children and are therefore able to signpost additional services to parents.

7.0 PROPOSAL

- 7.1 The groups described above are dependent on the support and involvement of parents and in order to make the services widely affordable are often run on very tight budgets.

These groups make a significant contribution to the delivery of Dundee's Early Years and Childcare Strategy and provide a choice and diversity of service provision within the City. These proposals have been developed in partnership with members of Dundee Early Years and Childcare Team, committee members and parents using the groups

- 7.2 Childcare Strategy Funding will support the sustainability and ongoing development of the groups and safeguard the services for the benefit of children and their families across the City.

8.0 CONSULTATION

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 Director of Leisure and Communities.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

ANNE WILSON
Director of Education
Date: 7 November 2005

Appendix One Funding for Playgroups and Parent and Toddler Groups

Name of Group	Funding Amount Requested	Funding Amount Allocated	Summary of Items
Chalmers Ardler Child and Family Project	£200	£200	Music & Art Workshops
Craigiebarns Toddler Group	£200	£200	Arts & Crafts, Books and Puzzle Sets
Douglas Church Toddler Group (Boomerang)	£299	£200	Baby Changing Unit, Arts & Crafts and Sessional Worker
Hilltown Parent and Toddler Group	£200	£200	Musical instruments & Dressing Up Outfits
Lochee Park Under 5's Group	£200	£200	Arts & Crafts & Various Activity Sets
Lower Pleasance Toddler Group	£200	£200	Activity Sets, Dolls, Fire & Police Stations
Mains Child and Family Centre	£400	£200	Assortment of Games, Arts & Crafts, Scooters
P.A.T.S.	£199	£199	Lightweight Mats
Playtime Toddler Group	£200	£200	Assorted Books, Snooze Sofa & Wormy Tunnel
St Aidans Toddler Group	£200	£200	Church Hall Rental & Christmas Outing
St James's Parent and Toddler Group	£200	£200	Crafts & Resources
Stobswell Toddlers	£300	£200	Rent & Soft Play Kit
The Under 12's Project	£200	£200	Playhouse, Ball Pit & accessories
Toddle Tots	£200	£200	Rent, Learning Mat & Items for Dolls House
Toddlers and Co	£200	£200	Musical Set, Trampoline, Play House, Cars and Snacks
Trinity Playgroup Mother and Toddlers	£200	£200	Scooter, Learning Table, Musical Instruments
West End Mother and Toddlers	£200	£199	Dolls, Pram, Medical Case, Doctors Outfit
TOTALS	3798	3398	

