

**REPORT TO: DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION COMMITTEE -
18th SEPTEMBER 2000**

**REPORT ON: PROPOSED JOINT FUNDING OF A FIXED-TERM
PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR'S POST - 'KICK-IT KICK-
OFF' PROJECT**

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

REPORT NO.: 604-2000

1.0 Purpose of Report

This report seeks Committee approval for the part-funding of a project co-ordinator's post on a fixed-term basis for one year.

2.0 Recommendations

The Education Committee is recommended to approve the proposed joint funding of a project co-ordinator's post for a period of one year.

3.0 Financial Implications

The total cost of the project is estimated to be £29,415 as detailed in the financial appendix to this report.

As indicated funding will be shared between Dundee City Council Education Department, Tayside Police, Dundee Drugs Action Team and Scotland Against Drugs. The Education Department's contribution of £8000 can be met from within the Education Revenue budget 2000/2001 provision for Behaviour Support.

4.0 Local Agenda 21 Implications

All involved will have access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable them to play a full part in society.

5.0 Equal Opportunities Implications/

Equal Opportunities Implications

The proposed structure will enhance the quality of provision delivered by the project, and therefore the equality of educational and life chances for the pupils.

6.0 Background and Rationale for the Proposal

6.1 The 'Kick-It Kick-Off' project has been successfully piloted between August 1999 and July 2000 but has been limited due to reliance on part-time staff.

The project is a tripartite initiative involving Dundee City Council Education Department, Tayside Police and Dundee Football Club.

The project staff work with some of the most needy and vulnerable young boys and girls, aged 12 - 16 years, across the city who are involved or at risk of becoming involved in drug misuse or offending.

The project consists of four 10-week cycles involving educational group work and football coaching. Groupwork sessions are a compulsory part of the project and take place one evening per week. A maximum of 8 pupils attend and are supported by 2 peer supporters, a Community Education Worker, a Police Drug Prevention Officer and a SFA coach. Coaching sessions consist of football skills development, a fitness programme, healthy living, and the development of teamwork. These sessions are co-ordinated by the Youth Development Officer from Dundee Football Club. Each cycle consists of 20 coaching sessions requiring 4 hours per week out of school. Attendance at school must be maintained to continue to participate in the course

6.2 The aims of the project are:

- to support children and young people who are involved or at risk of involvement with drug misuse
- to/

- to work with children and young people who are offending or at risk of offending
- to encourage full-time attendance at mainstream school by linking attendance and the value of life-long learning to the activities of the project
- to improve awareness of the needs of such vulnerable pupils and promote social inclusion

6.3

The core values and principles of the project are:

- to promote educational and social inclusion
- to recognise and promote the rights of individuals
- to work effectively with parents, carers and other services and agencies
- to encourage the development of co-operation, team spirit and healthy choices through participation in sport

6.4

Using football as a vehicle, the objectives of the project are:

- to reduce drug misuse in school-aged children
- to improve school attendance and thus raise attainment
- to reduce offending behaviour among school-aged children and young people
- to develop positive relationships between the pupils participating in the project, school staff, parents and the police

6.5

At present the project staff comprises 1 football coach for 106 hours, 1 football coach for 102 hours, 1 peer tutor and 0.5 FTE Community Education Worker from the Behaviour Support Service. The present structure relies heavily on the/

the part-time Community Education Worker to manage the project.

7.0 Proposed Staffing Structure

- a full-time project co-ordinator would be appointed on a fixed-term basis for one year
- a sessional youth worker would be employed for 5 hours per week for one year

Both posts would be funded between Dundee City Council Education Department, Tayside Police and Dundee Drugs Action Team. These posts will greatly enhance the quality and scope of the project allowing a greater number of pupils to be included.

8.0 Success Criteria

The project will be deemed to have been successful if it can be shown that participating youngsters are attending school regularly, have not been involved in offending behaviour, and have remained clear of involvement in drug misuse.

9.0 Consultation

This report has been the subject of consultation with the Director of Personnel, the Director of Support Services and the Director of Finance.

10.0 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.

Anne Wilson _____ Date _____

Director of Education

FUNDING PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Expenditure

Staff

	Salary	Cost	Total
Project Co-ordinator, 1.0 FTE	£21,030	£3,803	£24,833
Sessional Youth Worker, 5hrs/wk	£650	£313	£963
Wages in respect of 1 coach, 106 hrs @ £12/hr			£1,272
Wages in respect of 1 coach, 102 hrs @ £10/hr			£1,020

Expenses

Football strips and boots	£936
Twenty-two framed certificates	£242
Rental of pitches	£149

TOTAL EXPENDITURE £29,415

AVAILABLE FUNDING

Dundee City Council Education Department	£ 8,000
Tayside Police	8,000
Dundee Drugs Action Team	8,000
Scotland Against Drugs	<u>5,415</u>
	£ <u>29,415</u>