



## **COUNCIL CABINET 19 OCTOBER 2004**

### **Report of the Director of Education**

#### **APPROVAL OF CHILDCARE PLACE FUNDING GRANTS**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To approve the applications for childcare start up grant aid to:
- The Den After School Club at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School - one year grant of £2,500
  - Busy Bees After School Club at Portway Infant School – one year grant of £13,000
- 1.2 To refuse an application for childcare start up grant aid from the 'Cyber Club' - £10,000

#### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The criteria for awarding childcare start up grants have been previously agreed by Cabinet on 18 May 2004.
- 2.2 The Den and Busy Bees After School Clubs meet the agreed criteria and have been endorsed by the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) Finance and Funding Subgroup and appraisal panels.
- 2.3 The application by 'Cyber Club' was turned down by the EYDCP as it was felt that it did not meet the criteria for the grant or fit with the strategic view of developing childcare across the city.

#### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The creation of these new childcare places falls within the SureStart Early Years Development and Childcare Strategic Development Plan 2004-2006, previously reported to Cabinet on 18 May 2004. The EYDCP strategic plan for 2004-2006 can be accessed at <http://ngfl.derby.gov.uk/llc/EarlyYears>.

- 3.2 The Den is a recently established private sector out of school club that is expanding the number of places it offers from 25 to 35. It is situated at St Mary's Catholic Primary School and provides care for children aged three to 14 from a number of surrounding schools, including Walter Evans Church of England (Aided) Primary and Markeaton Primary. The EYDCP has identified a need for additional childcare in this area of the city, due to the recent closure of two existing clubs in the locality, because the private sector providers running them were unable to deliver an appropriate service.
- 3.3 Busy Bees is an existing private sector pre-school playgroup that has recently set up a separate out-of-school club located at Portway Infant School. The EYDCP has identified a need for additional out of school childcare in the Allestree area due to the recent closure of an unregistered scheme that had been operating at Portway because the private sector provider was unable to deliver an appropriate service. Busy Bees will provide 26 new registered places for children aged four-11 collected from Portway Junior and Infant schools.
- 3.4 'Cyber Club' is a project run by an existing private sector nursery that would provide 20 new places for children aged nine-14. The provision would be situated within existing facilities on Duffield Road. Children would be collected from St. Benedict's Catholic Secondary, Walter Evans C of E (Aided) Primary, Portway Junior, Lawn Primary, St. Mary's Catholic Primary and Markeaton Primary Schools. The EYDCP considered that this application could not demonstrate a definite need for the service and that its development would impact on both existing and developing out of school services in the area.

#### **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 Parents requiring childcare from the schools concerned could have been signposted to other providers across the city. This would lead to children having to travel and the care would not necessarily be in the area most convenient for the parents. Other childcare providers may not have the capacity to deal with the increased demand.

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**Background papers:**

**List of appendices:**

Appendix 1 – Implications  
Appendix 2 – The Den summary of application  
Appendix 3 – Busy Bees summary of application  
Appendix 4 – Cyber Club summary of application

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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### **Financial**

1. The SureStart Unit has allocated Derby City Council £376,131 to create new childcare provision during the financial years 2004-2006. The amounts recommended for approval fall within the guidelines issued by the SureStart Unit for maximum revenue funding per place created, this being £510 per place for non disadvantaged areas and £570 per place for disadvantaged.

### **Legal**

2. Funding agreements approved by Derby City Council's legal department will be put in place before any of the providers can draw down funding.

### **Personnel**

3. A number of jobs in the statutory, private and voluntary sectors will be created by the development of new childcare places. The EYDCP will encourage recruitment and training within the direct locality to assist with the regeneration of areas.

### **Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 Access to new place funding is open to applications from all childcare providers within the city. Successful applicants must satisfy the EYDCP in the application process that they are committed to inclusion.
- 4.2 A proportion of the funding is specifically targeted at areas of disadvantage as a means of reducing the gap in childcare provision between disadvantaged areas and others. This is intended to ensure that childcare is not a barrier to parents taking up employment opportunities and therefore should have a direct impact on reducing child poverty.
- 4.3 The applicants all have equal opportunities policies in place.

### **Corporate Objectives and Priorities for Change**

- 5.1 The proposal comes under the Council's Objectives of **job opportunities, strong and positive neighbourhoods, education and integrated cost effective services.**
- 5.2 The proposal furthers the priorities of **tackling under-achievement in schools and enhancing our community leadership role through partnership working and listening to, and communicating with, the public.**

## Appendix 2

### EYDCP Childcare Place Funding Summary Sheet

**Project name:** The Den @ St. Mary's

Area of

Disadvantage: ~~Yes~~/No

Amount Requested:

£2,500
£0
£0
£2,500

Year one

Year two

Year three

Total Funding Request

Additional Capital Request

£0
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Number of places created and weeks per year it will run.

	Places	Weeks	3 Weeks in summer Y/N?
Before School only			
After School only			
Before and After			
Holiday only			
All year round	10	51	yes
Wrap around care			
Total places	10		

Charges:

After School Club £7/8 per night
Holiday £21 per day

Posts created:

Post Title	Rate	Number of hours/week
Playworker	£5	10 term time 40 holidays

Comments on the application

- The Den Out-of-School Club is a recently established childcare setting run by a private sector provider, sited at St. Mary's Catholic Primary School in Darley Abbey.
- The objectives of the club are to 'offer an exciting, varied programme of enjoyable activities and outings aimed to stimulate all areas of development. The children will be given the care and support they need as individuals and the opportunity of choice. The children will experience an active role in the everyday planning of the club's activities giving them a taste of responsibility but more importantly a sense of ownership. We aim to provide an environment which is positive and healthy for children to grow and learn, ensuring that they mature into responsible and caring adults'.
- The £2,500 will contribute towards the staffing costs as well as activity, material and snack costs associated with the creation of the extra childcare places. The club has demonstrated that it can become sustainable beyond the life of the grant, relying on the fee income from its users.
- It is recommended that the club be awarded grant aid of £2,500 to cover the start up costs of the new places. No payments will be made until funding agreements are in place detailing the requirements of the grant.

## EYDCP Childcare Place Funding Summary Sheet

**Project name:** Busy Bees After School Club

**Area of Disadvantage:** ~~Yes~~/No

<b>Amount Requested:</b>	£13,000	Year one
	£0	Year two
	£0	Year three
	£13,000	Total Funding Request

**Additional Capital Request** £0

Number of places created and weeks per year it will run.		Places	Weeks	3 Weeks in summer Y/N?
	Before School only			
	After School only	26	39	
	Before and After			
	Holiday only			
	All year round			
	Wrap around care			
	Total places	26		

**Charges:** £7.50 per child per session  
£5.00 per child if only staying for the first hour

<b>Posts created:</b>	Post Title	Rate	Number of hours/week
	Supervisor	£8	15
	Assistant	£5	15
	Assistant	£5	15

## Comments on the application

- Busy Bees is an existing private sector organisation running a pre-school playgroup in the north of Allestree. The group has been invited to deliver out of school childcare by the local infant school.
- The group's objectives are to deliver quality affordable after school childcare for pupils from Portway Infant and Junior schools.
- The £13,000 will contribute towards staff and premises costs, insurance, activity and material costs as well as initial advertising and the purchase of equipment. The club has demonstrated that it can become sustainable through fee income beyond the period of the grant.
- It is recommended that the club be awarded grant aid of £13,000 to cover the start up costs of the new places. No payments will be made until funding agreements are in place detailing the requirements of the grant.

## EYDCP Childcare Place Funding Summary Sheet

Project name: ‘Cyber Club’

Area of Disadvantage: ~~Yes~~/No

Amount Requested:	£10,000	Year one
	£0	Year two
	£0	Year three
	£10,000	Total Funding Request

Additional Capital Request £0

Number of places created and weeks per year it will run.		Places	Weeks	3 Weeks in summ Y/N?
	Before School only			
	After School only			
	Before and After			
	Holiday only			
	All year round	20		
	Wrap around care			
	Total places	20		

Charges: £8.50 per child per session term time  
£15 per child per day holiday session

Posts created:	Post Title	Rate	Number of hours/week
	Manager	£7	30 term time 40 holidays
	Playworker	£5.50	15 term time 40 holidays
	Playworker	£5.50	15 term time 40 holidays

## Comments on the application

- Cyber club is based within an existing private sector nursery provider.
- The group's objectives are to deliver quality affordable after school childcare for pupils from a number of local schools.
- The £10,000 will contribute towards staff and premises costs, insurance, activity and material costs as well as initial advertising and the purchase of equipment. The club has demonstrated that it can become sustainable through fee income beyond the period of the grant.
- The club has not demonstrated a definite quantifiable need for the creation of these places.
- The club would target children at schools that already have an out of school service close by. This would impact on existing service providers and affect their long-term sustainability. The local supply is felt to currently meet the demand for care in the area.
- The EYDCP felt that the club's emphasis on computer based activities did not fit with the EYDCP's view of quality childcare.
- It is recommended that the club not be awarded grant aid of £10,000 to cover the start up costs of the new places.