



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

## MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 7 SEPTEMBER 2006

Report of the Director of Children & Young People's Services

### Grants to Supplementary Language Classes, 2006/07

#### RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To note payment of grants to supplementary language classes for 2006/2007 as detailed in the appendix to this report.

#### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 Financial support has been provided to supplementary language classes since 1997 by the City Council, and previously by the County Council through grant funding.
- 2.2 The purpose of the grant is to enable minority communities to develop structured opportunities to pass on language and cultural values to their children. In addition these classes complement the education provided by schools, affording opportunities for children to develop understanding and pride in their culture, consistent with the authority's Equal Opportunities policy.
- 2.3 A diverse range of linguistic, cultural and religious heritages and over 50 languages are now represented in Derby. The breadth of languages spoken adds great value to the richness and diversity of the community through the development of bilingualism, or in some cases multilingualism. Being bilingual brings positive advantages intellectually, socially and culturally.
- 2.4 It is clearly important for pupils to become confident and fluent users of English. However, it is equally important that pupils are not discouraged from using their first language, as it is important for maintaining family relationships and for cognitive development.
- 2.5 The National Curriculum states the importance of diversity in language teaching and learning and emphasizes that the selection of languages taught should be in response to local factors and to languages used in the local communities. The grant therefore supports the development of language. Explicit religious instruction, in line with current procedures, is not supported under this grant.
- 2.6 Currently, some 725 pupils benefit from supplementary language support in mother tongue and significant numbers of pupils continue their studies in the secondary phase. Community languages provision to GCSE level in Panjabi and Urdu for example, is available in four secondary schools. In all some 865 pupils are currently studying community languages within the secondary mainstream curriculum. In 2005 a total of 176 pupils were entered for GCSE examinations in Urdu and Panjabi.

- 2.7 The City Council information packs for voluntary groups are sent out to eligible organisations in December 2005 for grant applications for 2006/2007. To be eligible, groups must comply with the City Council's general rules and conditions on grant support. Grant is payable directly to organisations concerned. These include organisations who have historically received a grant and show continuing need for support and groups new to Derby who express an interest in developing supplementary language classes.
- 2.8 All eligible organisations will be required to submit information in line with established grant conditions and criteria. This will include submission of accounts, supported by invoices for audit purposes and information from the attendance register. All individuals in contact with vulnerable children are subject to Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) checks and are required to attend Child Protection training.
- 2.9 Grant approval is subject to the use of funding for the following purposes:
- purchase of language books and education materials
  - purchasing of essential furniture
  - payment to teachers or instructors
  - the hiring of premises
- 2.10 The process for grant distribution to support language classes was considered and approved by Cabinet on 15 March 2005, following an extensive community consultation during the autumn term 2004. The funding model is based on pupil numbers with provision for the rental costs where organisations have to use alternative premises (normally schools), and a reserve for new groups coming forward. The grant distribution is now more transparent and equitable. The emphasis on pupil numbers reflects overall education funding principles.
- 2.11 Grant applications for 2006/07 have been received from 10 existing groups currently receiving grant. At the present time no new groups have proceeded to develop supplementary language classes. The overall allocation process ensures that emerging new groups can be supported once the necessary need and capacity is demonstrated.
- 2.12 The proposed grant allocations to individual organisations for 2006/07 are summarised in Appendix 2.

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<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Grant allocations 2006/07

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

- 1.1 Support to supplementary language classes is allocated using criteria approved by Cabinet on 15 March 2005. The total available grant for 2006/07 is £32,323 and includes a reserve for new groups. The overall rent costs are capped at the current level.
- 1.2 Eligible groups must comply with the City Council's general rules and conditions on grant support. Grant is payable directly to organisations concerned, subject to submission of accounts, supported by invoices for audit purposes. Rental costs are paid directly to the schools or providers concerned.

**Legal**

- 2.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Personnel**

- 3.1 None directly arising from this report.

**Equalities impact**

- 4.1 The activities contribute to supporting the cultural and language heritages of different groups in the city. The work also contributes to raising pupils' understanding, self-esteem and standards of attainment. The increased budget level will provide some equity in being able to fund new groups and communities in the city, where they can demonstrate the necessary need and capacity.

**Corporate objectives and priorities**

- 5.1 The proposal comes under the Council's Objectives of a stimulating and high quality learning environment and a lively and energetic cultural environment. It supports the continuing priority of raising educational achievement.

## Supplementary Language Classes

## APPENDIX 2

### Total Available Grant - 2006-07

Proposed Grants to Existing Groups

Rents to Existing Groups

CRB Checks

Reserve for New Groups inc Rent

**Total**

<b>32,323</b>
12,978
11,264
1,500
6,581
<b>32,323</b>

### Grant Allocation for 2006-07

Grant Allocation for 2006-07			
Name of Community Group	Pupils	Rent	Allocation Total (£)
Guru Arjan Dev Gurdwara	193	9,146	2,027
Ramgarhia Sabha Sikh Temple	40	2,118	1,109
*Jamia Mosque	283	-	2,772
Derby West Indian Community Assoc.	38	-	1,104
Chinese Welfare Association	47	-	1,128
*Polish Community Assoc.	34	-	1,093
Ukranian Assoc.	16	-	794
Derby Bosnia-Herzegovina Comm. Assoc.	14	-	788
Hindu Cultural & Welfare Association	35	-	1,095
Gujarati Association	25	-	1,068
	725	11,264	12,978

\*Grants allocated subject to receipt of required information

### Note

Access Service invoiced directly by schools for SLC room hire

Pupil Count at January 2006