



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

20 MARCH 2006

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and Young People

Creation of Places and Sustainability Awards

RECOMMENDATION

1. To agree and approve the funding grant applications for the creation of childcare places and sustainability awards (see appendix 2).

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The council is the accountable body for the early years and childcare service.
- 2.2 The service has been awarded grants from the Sure Start Unit for the creation and sustaining of childcare places across the city and has the responsibility for allocating funding as agreed in cabinet reports Sure Start Sustainability Funding, 16 March 2004 and Sure Start Early Years Development and Childcare Strategic Development Plan 2004-2006, 18th May 2004.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 Affordable accessible childcare is a cornerstone of the government's target to reduce child poverty.
- 3.2 The primary purpose of the sustainability grant is to provide short-term financial support to businesses to enhance marketability and sustainability particularly in periods of threatened viability.
- 3.3 The allocation of creation of places funding contributes to both local and national targets for the creation of childcare in the city and fits within the Early Years and Childcare strategic plan.
- 3.4 The creation of places allocation is in line with the strategy for the extended schools agenda within the city.
- 3.5 All the awards allocated were promoted openly and fairly city wide and fit within the approved criteria for the allocation of funding.
- 3.6 A panel of representatives of the early years and childcare profession nominated through the Early Years and Childcare Partnership made up the appraisal panel.
- 3.7 The total £634,468 creation of childcare places and sustainability funding is included in the local area agreement.

3.8 All grants paid in this report will relate to activities and expenditure for 2005/2006.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4. The council could have refused or returned the funding but this would result in a loss of childcare places in the city against a climate of expansion of childcare opportunities.

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Background papers:

List of appendices: Appendix 1 - Implications
Appendix 2– List of allocations

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The Sure Start unit has allocated Derby for 2004-2006 a total of £229,393 for the creation of childcare places. In 2004/2005 £104,092 was allocated across the city, A further £37,047 has been allocated within this report. Currently we are appraising bids for the remaining £88,254, which the DfES have agreed, may be allocated in the first quarter of 2006/2007.
2. The Sure Start unit has allocated Derby a total of £258,339 for sustainability of childcare provision. In 2004/2005 a total of £29,122 was allocated to include the salary of one childminding network co-ordinator. In 2005/2006 grants of £990.00 were allocated (under £1,000). A network co-ordinator salary of £30,650 and £9,800 on individual childminder sustainability (£350.00 per grant), A total of £41,500 has been spent on training and business health check support, leaving a balance of £146,277 of which £129,334 to be allocated in this report. The remaining £16,933 will be returned to the Local Area Agreement.
3. The Sure Start Unit has allocated a total of £146,736 of capital funding to be allocated as appropriate. In 2004/2005 £23,150 was allocated. £69,950 is to be allocated in this report. A balance of £54,136, has been converted to children's centre capital. The funding has been used to recognise the current and anticipated childcare needs of parents.
4. In line with the Council's usual procedures invoices will need to be produced for any capital works before draw down of funding will be allowed. We will ensure 3 tenders for works over £1000 are obtained from the providers to ensure best value procedures are followed.
5. The initial Sure Start guidance for allocation of the funding has been followed to allocate a maximum i.e. £642 per place created (areas of disadvantage), £342 (other areas). However the allocations for individual grants have been based on the needs identified in the individual business plans and cash flow forecasts provided as a condition of the funding.
6. The sustainability funding was provided to each individual provider usually for a combination of activities to aid longer-term sustainability. The activities funded include marketing, nursery software packages, training to develop business and people management skills and development of outdoor play areas.
7. A summary appraisal sheet detailing how the above activities would specifically benefit the provider was provided to an appraisal panel before each element of the funding was approved.

Legal

2. Service level agreements already approved by legal services will be put in place before draw down of funding is allowed.

Personnel

3. Posts within the maintained private, voluntary and independent sector will be created and secured.

Equalities impact

- 4.1 Access to new places funding is open to all childcare providers in the city.
- 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.

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.**

Creation of Places Funding

2005/06

Provider	Type of Provision	No. of places	Ward	On School Site	Amount of Funding
NHS	Holiday Club	14	Arboretum	Nursery School	£9047 revenue
Bishop Lonsdale School	Breakfast and after school club	48	Abbey	Yes	£12,000 revenue
Heatherton Schools Out	Breakfast and after school club	78	Littlelover	No	£16,000 revenue
140					£37,047

Sustainability Funding

Provider	Type of Provision	No. of places	Ward	Revenue Funding	Capital Funding	Total
ACE	Full daycare Out of School	52 22	Normanton	£20,978 (Marketing, outdoor play, resources, software package, quality assurance)	-	£20,978
Amara Chi	After school club	26	Normanton	£10,700 (Wages and general expenditure)	£7,500 (Fire alarm system, windows, outdoor area)	£18,200
Derby College	Full daycare	54	Mackworth	£5,925 (Marketing, quality assurance, training)	-	£5925
Derwent Stepping Stones	Full daycare	12	Derwent	£15,000 (Outdoor play, resources, marketing, quality assurance)	-	£15,000
First Friends	Full daycare Breakfast club After school club Holiday club	30 56 112 56	Chaddesden	£11,450 (Marketing, outdoor play, training, nursery software package)	-	£11,450
First Steps (Sure Start)	Full daycare	33	Alvaston	£1,900 (Marketing)	-	£1,900
Homelands (Sure Start)	Full daycare	54	Normanton	£4,300 (Marketing, resources, nursery software package)	-	£4,300

Neighbourhood Nursery support group	Full daycare	749	Various	£3,070 (Intensive marketing training for NNI Managers)	-	£3,070
Pride Park	Full daycare	91	Alvaston	£14,511 (Resources, outdoor play, training, nursery software package)	£5,500 (air conditioning)	£20,011
Orchard Garden	Full daycare	91	Arboretum	£9,000 (Training, quality assurance, outdoor play)	-	£9,000
Rosehill (Sure Start)	Full daycare	43		£4,500 (Marketing, Nursery software package)	-	£4,500
Sinfin	Full daycare Out of school	70 40	Sinfin	£24,500 (Out door play area)	-	£24,500
Whitehouse Kids Club	Out of school	75	Spondon	£3,500 (Marketing, feasibility and training)	-	£3,500
£129,334					£13,000	£142,334

Sustainability Capital Funding

Provider	Type of Provision	No. of places	Ward	Capital Funding	Reasons
Rosehill (Sure Start)	Full daycare	43	Arboretum	£20,000	Outdoor play area development
Park View	Out of school	Approx 48	Oakwood	£24,950	Towards costs of creating a community room
Homelands (Sure Start)	Full daycare	54	Normanton	£7,000	Towards outdoor storage area
				<u>£51,950</u>	