

# EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 18 JUNE 2008

## CULTURAL CO-ORDINATORS IN SCOTTISH SCHOOLS PROGRAMME IN EAST AYRSHIRE

### Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek approval for the Cultural Co-ordinators in Scottish Schools (CCiSS) Programme in East Ayrshire to continue as part of the on-going provision to support the development of arts and cultural education with particular focus on supporting Curriculum for Excellence.

#### 2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The national CCiSS Pilot Programme was launched in 2002. The Team in East Ayrshire consists of 1 FTE Cultural Co-ordinator (Museums & Creative Arts) 0.4 FTE Cultural Co-ordinator (Drama, Literature & Media) and 1 FTE Dance Motivator.

2.2 The Arts in Education are vital to the intellectual and personal development of young people. They are powerful in developing the whole person, and can promote and enhance self-esteem, self-confidence and increase motivation. participation in, and exposure to, quality arts activity increases young peoples' self-esteem and motivation and fosters a positive attitude to learning.

*“Participation in cultural activities can improve the quality of life of individuals and communities, promote social inclusion, raise self-esteem and confidence, and widen horizons”*

National Cultural Strategy – “CREATING OUR FUTURE...MINDING OUR PAST”

2.3 Recent correspondence from the Scottish Arts Council has intimated the reduction in national funding support leading to the cessation of national funding support for the programme.

#### 3. THE CCiSS PROGRAMME IN EAST AYRSHIRE

3.1 The CCiSS Team in East Ayrshire works to widen participation and access for children and young people by encouraging, guiding and supporting schools and arts and cultural organisations to work together. There is a particular focus on providing opportunities for young people from our most disadvantaged communities.

**3.2** The CCiSS Programme supports the Curriculum for Excellence and the National Priorities by:

- Offering and developing a broad range of quality arts and cultural activities, opportunities and experiences for all children and young people
- developing a greater awareness of the arts and culture, enhancing and promoting creativity and life-long learning
- developing pupils' interpersonal skills, enhancing self-esteem and motivation, leading to raised overall levels of educational achievement
- creating a quality learning experience to support and enhance the recently published Curriculum for Excellence Outcomes
- providing planned CPD and on-going staff development opportunities
- creating a range of sustainable resources
- identifying, promoting and disseminating good practice
- developing the role of ICT as a medium to access the arts
- developing strategic partnerships with national bodies, external arts agencies and practitioners
- liaising with others involved in developing initiatives in the arts in the community, in particular in other council departments
- fostering international artistic and cultural links.

**3.3** Over the last five years, these posts have led to a dramatic increase in participation, variety and enhanced quality of creative experiences that young people enjoy as part of their learning and teaching experience.

Some current examples include:

**Drama, Literature & Media**

- Local Heroes Project (SAC funded to support ACfE) in partnership with TAG Theatre Company and Replico working with six primary schools and five secondaries in preparation for future work as part of Homecoming 2009
- Arts Across the Curriculum programme based on the close collaboration of artists and class teachers working to deliver aspects of the curriculum in innovative and inspiring ways
- Partnership with National Theatre of Scotland working to develop a drama context for the new Grange Campus
- English language support in secondary schools focusing on literacy and creative writing.
- English Literature support for Standard Grade, Higher and Advanced Higher.
- Early Years Literacy Programme in Stewarton LP and Loudoun LP with supporting CPD
- Media and film development work supporting the Curriculum for Excellence

- *Big Hitters and Preparation for Independence* pilot projects in James Hamilton Academy supporting young people as part of the More Choices: More Chances initiative
- Ongoing development of East Ayrshire Schools' Drama Ensemble and Summer School programme
- Cross departmental development work in schools using Drama and Media to support Languages, Sciences, Social Studies & R.M.E.

#### Museums, Heritage & Creative Arts

- Local Heroes – Artist in Residence – Stewarton, Cumnock and Auchinleck Academies. Educational visits to Hunterian and Kelvingrove Museums, Dean Castle and Dick Institute (St Columba's, St Matthew's, Fenwick & Netherthird Primary Schools)
- Local Heroes Exhibition of portraits and museum displays created by children working with experts, Feb 26-May 26, 2008 in The Dick.
- Remittances Project, backed by Des Browne MP, with Loudoun Academy. Visit to Houses of Parliament & World Bank conference in London. Educational CD produced and distributed to schools
- East Ayrshire Schools Art and Design Exhibition – Dick Institute
- Paintings for Dover House, Whitehall – Doon, James Hamilton & Auchinleck Academies
- Travelling Gallery visiting all East Ayrshire secondary schools in Oct 2007 and June 2008, including workshops for pupils
- Shooting Stars – Moving Image project with Greenmill Primary School and Doon Academy, both receiving Artist in Residence support to create and produce films for public exhibition
- Doon Academy *Memories of the Future* project and exhibition at Doon Valley Museum
- Creative Arts input – Quality Circle Time training for teachers
- Stewarton LP Art Project – artist Eoghann MacColl working with pupils of 4 primary schools for 4 months to devise and create new art installations specific to each school, based on local heritage/ECO theme
- Summer School programme – *Knight School*: highly popular experience – training in skills of Knighthood, based at Dean Castle/The Dick; *Art & Design Summer School* – senior pupils work with professional artist to produce artwork for exhibition in the Dick Institute
- Link Programme with Northern Ireland (Ballydown PS / Fenwick PS)
- Cumnock Regeneration – art project/exhibition of pupils' art on large banners in town centre as part of re-development programme
- *Shaken, Not Stirred* – a programme of graphic art and dance workshops organised to enable schools to access the Robert Brownjohn exhibition in the Dick Institute (Educational DVD produced)
- Ancient Egyptians – *Museum on the Move*: in partnership with National Museums Scotland, ES collaborated in the design of a new interactive touring learning resource; this resource for primary schools was

produced with funding from NMS and is now being well utilised by schools

- Egyptian Resources & Training: E Scott & B Green produced a training DVD, which is now on the NMS website; a teachers' CPD session launched the resource
- *Video Conferencing* – projects have been organised with pupils video conferencing with experts: Museums Online (NMS); Politics Online (MP & MSPs); Remittances; Bigot Busters (Anti- sectarianism - St Mungo Museum & Nil-by-Mouth); A Union for A' That (National Archives of Scotland); Drugs Awareness (Association of Chief Police Officers)
- Advisory Group Membership – ES: Museums and Galleries for Every School (Scottish Museums Council); Videoconferencing Project Management Board (National Archives of Scotland); Network Support Group (Group for Education in Museums)
- Strategic partnership – National Museums Scotland

#### Dance

- Summer School programme in Auchinleck and Kilmarnock involving over 180 pupils
- Dance Motivation Programme supporting healthy living providing information packs and training for teachers including film and media support
- Partnership programmes with Scottish Ballet, Scottish Youth Dance and Ballet West
- Curriculum for Excellence flexible curriculum support at Auchinleck Academy
- National Showcase performance at the Theatre Royal Glasgow
- Ongoing work with Active Schools programme taking after school clubs and developing dance; linking with local dance schools ensuring continuation of dance outside school
- Choreography support
- Specific health fayre days in schools
- CfE collaboration regarding pod casting and learning French through dance
- Showcase performances at the Palace Theatre and Auchinleck Academy

Many other examples can be found in the current issue of **Arts Focus**, the Educational & Social Services Department Arts and Education News Letter.

- 3.4** The team also generates significant additional partnership funding for schools' programmes, advises on school curriculum improvement plans and delivers a creative perspective to developing the creative and confident learner, the artists, innovators and entrepreneurs of the future.

A key element of this is the close liaison and partnership working with national and local organisations such as the BBC, Kelvingrove Museum & Art Gallery,

National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts, Living History Scotland, National Archives of Scotland, National Museums Scotland, Tag Theatre Company, Borderline Theatre Company, National Theatre of Scotland, Scottish Ballet, Scottish Youth Dance, Dance House and Ballet West.

Linking with and supporting other council departments and services such as Youth Strategy, Looked After and Accommodated Children, Leisure Services, Arts & Museums, Early Years, Economic Development, External Funding, Quality Improvement, Graphic Communications and the PPP Unit is integral to the work of the Cultural Co-ordinator Programme.

- 3.5** Through involvement in arts and cultural experiences and activities, children and young people will develop a range of talents, attributes and skills:
- skills in communicating, observing, listening, reflecting and responding
  - enhanced levels of self-esteem, self-confidence and motivation through participation, leading to raised levels of educational achievement across the curriculum
  - specific skills-building, relating to technique, repertoire and experience
  - enthusiasm and engagement through participation in activities which will improve motivation and self-esteem, and help them to become more effective learners
  - project management and planning skills through running activities and mentoring others.
- 3.6** Schools across the authority have worked closely with the Co-ordinator Team to support the ethos of Curriculum for Excellence – developing whole-school, cross-curricular working that extends well beyond the expressive arts curriculum to whole school strategy across all subjects.
- 3.7** Without the continued support of the Cultural Co-ordinator programme, schools would find it difficult to deliver the creative and cultural experience specifically mentioned in the new curriculum '*children should have opportunities to work in partnership with national performing companies, creative individuals and cultural organisations*' (CfE Expressive Arts Outcomes)
- 3.8** The CCiSS programme is a key element of a wider programme of National Initiatives in schools working closely with Determined To Succeed, Eco Schools, Health Promoting Schools, Youth Music Initiative and Active Schools as well as linking with other Council Departments and supporting Community Planning.

## **4 EXTRACT FROM INEA 2 PILOT INSPECTION OF EDUCATION FUNCTION**

### **4.1 Broader achievements by pupils and young people**

*East Ayrshire Council was successfully maintaining and strengthening its approaches to improving the quality of education for its children and young people with a view to raising further their attainment and achievement.*

*A particular thrust of this approach was the emphasis given through the Creative Minds initiative to promoting pupils' self-confidence, good citizenship and achievement. With the very enthusiastic and effective leadership of the Lead Officer for Culture and Enterprise, the authority provided a wide range of enriching experiences for young people in arts, cultural and enterprise activities...there were a large number of examples of innovative, good practice, which had a very positive impact on pupils' learning experiences.*

#### 4.2 Features of good practice: Promotion of arts, culture and enterprise

- The participation of large numbers of pupils, from all areas of the council, in very successful choirs, orchestras and bands, dance groups, and drama productions.
- An extensive programme of showcase events, which illustrated the high standards achieved by pupils in art, music and drama.
- A series of stimulating conferences used to recognise the achievements of staff and pupils in enterprise and cultural activities and to share examples of good practice.
- An increased uptake in national qualification courses in art and design, music and drama.

#### 4.3 Key strengths

- The extensive range of high-quality experiences provided through which children and young people were able to achieve success in sports, the arts and enterprise activities.

### 4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 To seek approval for the continuation of the Cultural Co-ordinator Programme in East Ayrshire with the associated partnership funding as part of the on-going provision to support the development of arts and cultural education.

### 5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

#### 5.1 Costs in 2008/09

1.4 FTE (G9)	£48,464 incl. NI & SUP
1.0 FTE (G6)	£24,992 incl. NI & SUP
Total Staffing	<u>£73,456</u>
Travel, CPD & stationery	£ 4,300
Total	<u>£77,756</u>

#### 5.2 Income in 2008/09

Income from Scottish Arts Council	£57,400
Council Contribution (Determined to Succeed)	<u>£20,356</u>
Total	<u>£77,756</u>

- 5.3 Funding support will decrease by approximately 20% in 2009/10 and will cease in 2010/11. There is therefore the need to initiate a strategic review of the programme in East Ayrshire beyond 2010.

## **6. COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1** The Cultural Co-ordinator Programme particularly supports the increasing participation of young people in learning and active citizenship via the theme of Promoting Community Learning and Improving Opportunities.

## **7. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1** It is recommended that Members:

- (i) approve the support and associated match-funding of the Cultural Co-ordinator Programme in 2008/09 as part of the on-going provision to support the development of arts and cultural education with particular focus on supporting Curriculum for Excellence;
- (ii) be kept informed of future progress; and
- (iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Graham Short  
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

JW/JW  
4/6/08

### **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 7 NOVEMBER 2006  
CREATIVE MINDS UPDATE  
CULTURAL & MUSIC PARTNERSHIP AWARDS & PROJECTS

Members requiring further information should contact Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services, tel: (01563) 576017 or John Wilson, Links Officer in the Arts and Education, tel: (01563) 555634.

### **IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER**

John Wilson, Links Officer in the Arts and Education