

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET – 7 NOVEMBER 2007

ACTIVE SCHOOLS

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the further development of the Active Schools Programme in East Ayrshire.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Active Schools programme has been operating in East Ayrshire for two years.
- 2.1.1 Active Schools is a key component of the Scottish Government drive to get Scotland more active; a commitment outlined in the National Physical Activity Strategy, Let's Make Scotland More Active. The fundamental aim of the Active Schools Network is to offer children and young people the opportunities and motivation to adopt active, healthy lifestyles, now and into adulthood.
- 2.1.2 The programme is supported by a multi disciplinary Steering Group, which includes representatives from Sportscotland, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, Leisure Development and schools.

3. ACTIVE SCHOOLS UPDATE

- 3.1 The Active Schools programme in East Ayrshire has four key aims:
- To build a sustainable volunteer network
 - To provide opportunities for all children and young people to participate in physical activity and sport to enable the creation of pathways from the school to the community
 - To increase participation amongst "hard to reach groups" by adopting a targeted approach
 - To embed effective integration, planning, management and delivery of Active Schools within Local Authorities
- 3.2 Progress has been achieved in the following areas of the Active Schools Primary programme:
- 22% increase in the number of volunteer teachers delivering activities.
 - 68% increase in parent volunteers delivering activities
 - 76% increase in community coach volunteers delivering activities.
 - 73 different activities were provided in academic year 2006-07 representing a 4% increase from academic year 2005-06.
 - 4967 activity sessions were provided in academic year 2006-07.
 - 125,495 participant sessions were provided in academic year 2006-07.

- 44% of female pupils are participating in sessions.
- East Ayrshire's Active Schools Primary Team were awarded a special commendation certificate for work on the "Bike It" project from the national governing body of cycling, Cycle Scotland.
- 525 Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils participated in East Ayrshire's World Cup Rugby Festival in partnership with East Ayrshire Council's Leisure Development Services.
- 56% growth in extended extra-curricular provision.
- 84 clubs are providing pathways for participation out with school in partnership with East Ayrshire Sports Council.
- 3 Sporting Champions visits have taken place in East Ayrshire Primary Schools.
- 44 Primary Schools participated in Show Racism the Red Card educational workshop and coaching programme in partnership and funded by Leisure Development with Kilmarnock Football Club and Show Racism the Red Card organisation.
- 18 primary schools are participating in the Club Golf programme in partnership with the PGA, Club Golf, Leisure Development and local golf clubs.

3.3 Progress has been achieved in the following areas of the Active Schools Secondary programme:

- 33% increase in the number of volunteer teachers delivering activities
- 28% increase in parent volunteers delivering activities
- 5% of activities are delivered by volunteer community coaches
- 58% increase in pupil volunteers delivering activities
- 72 different activities were provided in academic year 2006-07 representing a 6% increase from academic year 2005-06 in partnership with Leisure Development
- 3469 activity sessions were provided in academic year 2006-07
- 64,323 participant sessions were provided in academic year 2006-07
- 38% of the female school population participate in sessions
- 58% of activities are extended extra-curricular provision
- 24 clubs are providing pathways for participation out with school
- Stewarton Academy Active Schools Secondary Programme has secured national "Girls on the Move" funding to increase female participation in sport

4. Next Steps

- ### 4.1.1
- A new phase of Active Schools planning has begun with planning support and timescale information provided by **Sportscotland**. A partnership agreement outlining the basis for **Sportscotland's** Active Schools' investment in East Ayrshire Council and incorporating agreed staffing allocations, investment profile and staffing structure from 2008-2011 is required to be submitted to sportscotland by 18th January, 2008.

- 4.1.2 An annual action plan, 2008-2009, is required to be submitted to **Sportscotland** by 1st April, 2008.
- 4.1.3 The Scottish Government Spending Review in November 2007 will determine the total financial contribution from **Sportscotland** to the authority for Active Schools. Confirmation to the authority on future Active Schools' budgets will be communicated in early December, 2007.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1.1 Significant support has been provided over three years for the Active Schools Programme from **Sportscotland**. The authority must provide some match funding, which has already been incorporated into its budget.

6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 NIL

7. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Active Schools Programme supports the increasing participation of young people in sport and physical activity, in learning and active citizenship via the themes of Health, Promoting Community Learning and Improving Opportunities.

8. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 All activities are risk assessed as per the Council's revised Risk Assessment Guidelines and Procedures.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 It is recommended that Members:
- i) approve this programme involving pupils from across East Ayrshire;
 - ii) be kept informed of future developments; and
 - iii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

GS/JP
23 October 2007

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Education Committee Report - Update on Active Schools Programme - 13 September 2005.

Members wishing further information should contact Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services, Tel: (01563) 576017 or Cheryl Brady, Active Schools Manager, Tel: (01563) 555650.

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER

Graham Short, Executive Director of Educational and Social Services