

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE- 22 MARCH 2005

LINKS WITH THE HUNTER FOUNDATION

Report by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of new links being developed with the Hunter Foundation to benefit schools within the authority.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members will be aware of the support being provided by Hunter Foundation to the Cumnock and Stewarton Learning Partnerships to support Enterprise in Education. This work has previously been reported to the Education Committee and is ongoing. Discussions continue with the Hunter Foundation on this ongoing development and support.
- 2.2 The Scottish Executive Education Department (SEED) held a meeting with 6 local authorities and the Hunter Foundation in autumn 2004. The purpose was to discuss further collaboration and initiatives between SEED, the Hunter Foundation and local authorities. Discussions took place on the basis of individual authority work and partnership authority work.

East Ayrshire, Edinburgh and Stirling authorities agreed to work together on a partnership model with SEED and the Hunter Foundation. Details are provided below.

3. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Tri-Partite Initiative

A tri-partite initiative involving East Ayrshire, Edinburgh, Stirling, SEED and the Hunter Foundation was agreed. The focus is on further development of local communities and partnerships, with a particular focus on areas of deprivation and improving opportunities for such areas.

Further development work will take place within East Ayrshire over the next few weeks and it is anticipated that this work will focus on the Cumnock and Doon Learning Partnerships. Further details have to be negotiated with SEED and the Education Committee will be informed in due course.

3.2 Working with Parents

A second initiative involving East Ayrshire only has been negotiated with SEED and the Hunter Foundation. This project will work with pupils who are

disengaged from the current education process and will also focus on areas of deprivation. This work will initially focus on the Shortlees area and will be expanded into other areas during the 3 year period of the project. The initiative is entitled Improving Parental and Community Ties (ImPACT). Further details have to be negotiated with SEED and the Education Committee will be informed in due course.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 It is anticipated that the tri-partite initiative will be funded to a total of £2,500,000 for 5 years. Exact details of the allocation to each authority are part of the continuing negotiations.

4.2 It is anticipated that the ImPACT initiative will be funded to a total of £450,000 for an initial period of 3 years. Detailed negotiations are continuing with SEED and the Hunter Foundation to finalise the exact allocations of funding.

5. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Welcome the opportunity to link with the Hunter Foundation and SEED on education initiatives.
- (ii) Ask the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services to report to the Education Committee on further developments.
- (iii) Otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

JMcC/EO'N
7 March 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Members requiring further information should contact John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support (01563) 576126

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