

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 23 MAY 2006

YOUTH MUSIC INITIATIVE

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members of the Education Committee on the Youth Music Initiative.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Following the publication of the National Audit of Youth Music in Scotland, *What's Going On?* (Scottish Arts Council, 2003), the Scottish Executive announced funds totalling £17.5 m to be made available to local authorities for the development of youth music. East Ayrshire participated in years 1 to 3 of this initiative.
- 2.2 This funding support has now been extended for a further two years. An application to release East Ayrshire's Formula Funding allocation of £189,888 for 2006/07 and a further allocation of £189,888 for 2007/2008 has been lodged with the Scottish Arts Council.

Accompanying this application to the Scottish Arts Council is a detailed report confirming that East Ayrshire has met and exceeded the targets agreed for Phase 1 (2003/06) with a total of 3,118 pupils having participated in Phase 1 activities.

3. THE YMI PROGRAMME IN EAST AYRSHIRE

- 3.1 The following key strategic action points further develop the Youth Music Initiative in East Ayrshire and are included in our Phase 2 application:
- Increase number of available instruments and extend instrumental music provision to all primary schools
 - Increase instrumental provision in guitar, percussion, voice and lower strings by 3.0 FTE, including a further increase of Lower String Provision from 0.6 FTE to 1.0 FTE.
 - Continue to support and develop summer schools, Primary Choral Experience and out-of-school-hours string tuition.
 - Continue to develop sustainable partnerships including the Scottish Traditional Music Saturday Morning Centre in partnership with the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, the creative music performance and listening opportunities for pre-5 children in partnership with Scottish Opera, and the partnership programme with Drake Music Project Scotland focussing on pupils attending Special Educational Needs establishments.

- Continue to facilitate the roll-out of the *Sounds of Singing* programme supported by Sounds of Singing Support Tutor (0.6 FTE x2).
- Explore new methodologies and offer enhanced staff development opportunities
- Continue to support the P4/5 Creative Music programme in partnership with ABC Caber Music Enterprises, Edinburgh City Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council and Shetland Council.
- To seek out new and innovative creative partnerships.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

External funding to fully support the programmes over the next two years has been applied for to the Scottish Arts Council. This funding is ring fenced and confirmation of the allocation is anticipated in the near future.

5. COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** The Creative Minds Youth Music Initiative programme particularly supports the increasing participation of young people in learning and active citizenship via the theme of Promoting Community Learning.

6. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1** It is recommended that Members of the Education Committee:

- (i) note these activities involving pupils from across East Ayrshire;
- (ii) note the financial support; and
- (ii) be kept informed of further developments.

Graham Short
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

16 May 2006

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Music Developments – Education Committee, 24 May 2005
2. National Music Council Music Education Awards 2005 Report
3. Arts Focus 7 – Arts and Education News Pack

Members requiring further information should contact John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support or John Wilson, Links Officer in the Arts and Education, Tel: 01563 555634.

Implementation Officer – John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support