

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 13 SEPTEMBER 2005

UPDATE ON ACTIVE SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to advise the committee of developments in relation to the East Ayrshire Active Schools Programme.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Education Committee at its meeting on 25 May 2004 approved the East Ayrshire Active Schools Programme.

3. ACTIVE SCHOOL UPDATE

- 3.1 The planning process for Active Schools in East Ayrshire has been taken forward by an Active Schools Project Team comprising representatives of Sportscotland, Department of Education and Social Services, Leisure and Development Services and Ayrshire and Arran Health Board. These representatives were nominated by Directorate sponsors of the project from each Department. The Sponsors were required to sign a Project Initiation Document agreeing to work together to develop an Active Schools implementation plan for East Ayrshire.

3.2 Implementing Active Schools in East Ayrshire

With the establishment of an East Ayrshire Active School Implementation plan, the delivery of increased physical activity and sports opportunities within East Ayrshire will be the responsibility of the Active Schools Manager, nine recently appointed Active School Co-ordinators Primary (one for each of the nine learning partnerships) and nine Active School Co-ordinators Secondary (previously titled as secondary sports co-ordinator).

3.3 Delivery of Active Schools

The fundamental aim of Active Schools is to offer school-aged children the motivation and opportunities to adopt active, healthy lifestyles now and into adulthood. These opportunities are available before, during and after school, as well as in the wider community.

Active Schools will introduce more physical activity into their daily lives through active travel, play and dance. The physical activity and sport element of Active Schools links closely with a number of key government initiatives including Health Promoting Schools and Safer Routes to School.

Within the active schools secondary programme, 98,176 young people participated in Active School activities in 2004-05. These sessions were delivered by 2.2% of parents, 66.3% of teachers, 12.4% of voluntary community coaches, 10% of paid community coaches and 9.2% of parents.

The employment of nine Active School Co-ordinators Primary will have the capacity to increase the number of young people participating in sports activities, and of volunteers in delivering significant physical activity to primary school aged children.

The Active School Co-ordinators Primary will work closely with the Activity Motivators within Leisure and Development. There has already been good co-operative work taken place between these colleagues.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The financial implications associated with the appointment of an Active Schools Manager and nine Active School Co-ordinator Primary were previously agreed by the Education Committee. The funding from Sportscotland is for 3 years and therefore these posts are fixed term appointments.

4.2 The cost of Active School Co-ordinators Secondary are in line with our existing and previous contribution to the School Sports Co-ordinator programme, as previously approved by the Education Committee and is within existing budgets.

4.3 Sportscotland also contributes £10,000 for each of the three years towards the operating costs of the programme, The other operating costs of the programme can be met from within existing resources.

5. POLICY / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Nil

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) note the contents of this report; and
- (ii) be kept informed of future developments.

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

JMcC/CB/EO'N
24 August 2005

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Report on East Ayrshire Active Schools Programme by the Executive Director of Educational and Social Services approved by the Education Committee on 25 May 004.

Members requiring further information should contact Willie White, PE & Sport Co-ordinator (01563 555650) or Jim Stafford, Quality Improvement Officer (01563 555650) or John McCarney, Head of Service: Schools Support, (01563 576126)

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