

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 27 MAY 2003

MASTERCLASS

Report by Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1** To seek approval for spending proposals in response to funding allocated through the Masterclass programme.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** Teachers since Easter 1999 have undergone training through the New Opportunities Fund Information Communications Technology (NOF ICT) programme. As part of this initiative a team of trainers has been established within East Ayrshire covering all sectors of the Education service.
- 2.2** In 2002 Masterclass was announced as a successor to the NOF ICT training. This involved 600 staff nationally (including 15 from East Ayrshire) covering all sectors undertaking an intensive training programme to further develop their ICT skills levels.
- 2.3** The Authority has now received a funding allocation of £15,000 to extend and develop the programme in East Ayrshire. Categories of spending relate to:
- (i) extension of training of the existing group
 - (ii) induction of new Masterclass members
 - (iii) purchase of resources to support Masterclass members
 - (iv) management and co-ordination of the programme

3. PROPOSALS

- 3.1** It is proposed that:

- (i) £7,200 is spent funding additional Masterclass places (4 places)
- (ii) £3,950 is used to support existing Masterclassers with hardware
- (iii) £3,850 is allocated to participation in the national training programme (7 x 2 day residential courses)

Total £15,000

- 3.2** Co-ordination will be undertaken by the Quality Improvement Team which will be regarded as the Authority contribution to the programme.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1** The £15,000 costs will be met by a grant from the Scottish Executive. The Authority contribution is in this case limited to the “in-kind” use of Quality Improvement Officer time.

5. LEGAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1** Nil

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1** It is recommended that Members:

- (i) agree to the spending proposals outlined in paragraph 3.1; and
- (ii) otherwise note the content of this report

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services

GS/JP
12 May 2003

Members wishing further information should contact Graham Short, Head of Schools, Tel: (01563) 576089 or Kenneth McKinlay, Principal, Quality Improvement, Tel: (01563) 555650.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : GRAHAM SHORT