

FALKIRK COUNCIL

Subject: CULTURAL CO-ORDINATORS
Meeting: EDUCATION AND LEISURE SERVICES
Date: 25 March 2008
Author: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report outlines the current work of the cultural co-ordinators and proposes the establishment of one permanent post and one part-time temporary post while the funding is available from the Scottish Arts Council until June 2009.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The National Cultural Strategy (Scottish Executive 2000) entitled 'Creating Our Future : Minding Our Past' identifies a wide range of complementary actions to take forward cultural development in all areas of life. In education one of its strategic objectives is to 'increase cultural participation by children and young people both in school and beyond.'
- 2.2 In pursuit of that objective, one of the key priorities listed was to 'pilot posts as school co-ordinators for heritage, arts and culture by 2003'. Local authorities were invited to apply to participate in the programme to pilot cultural co-ordinators in schools. £1.75M was made available through the Scottish Arts Council to pilot a programme which would identify ways of maximising the contribution of culture and cultural activities to children and young people's education. The programme sought to widen the range of experiences available to all children and young people, including experience of the arts, museums, galleries and heritage.
- 2.3 In May 2002 a paper was taken to Education and Leisure Committee recommending that application be made to secure funding from the Scottish Arts Council to pilot this initiative in Falkirk. Appendix 1 gives information on the broad range of projects/programmes that have been supported by this initiative.

3. CURRENT PROVISION

- 3.1 The funding secured from the Scottish Arts Council enabled Education Services to appoint two part-time (4 days per week) co-ordinators in January 2004.
- 3.2 In November 2007 local authorities were notified by the Scottish Government that they would phase out central funding for the Cultural Co-ordinators in Scottish Schools (CCiSS) programme by the end of financial year 2009-10. There will be funding available to authorities until this time. The funding available to Falkirk Council Education Services is as follows:

	National	Falkirk	FC Contribution	Total Available
2007/08	£2.40m	£0.058m	£0.014m	£0.072m
2008/09	£2.65m	£0.060m	£0.014m	£0.074m
2009/10	£2.15m	£0.052m	£0.014m	£0.066m
2010/11	£NIL	£NIL	£NIL	£NIL

- 3.3 Over the past four years of the posts, the income generated and the number of staff and pupils involved in the work of the CCiSS team in Falkirk has been significant and is shown in Appendix 1.

4. PROPOSAL

- 4.1 It is proposed that the current arrangements of 2 temporary part-time posts continue until the end of December 2008 and that thereafter, one permanent full-time Cultural Co-ordinator post be established. This would cover the period of preparation for the MOD to which the cultural co-ordinators make a major contribution.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The overall cost of running the team would be £50,000 per year including travel costs, equipment and insurance. It is proposed that this is covered from the income from the Scottish Arts Council, and the balance of funding can be used to target supported project work. When the funding is reduced in the following year the amount allocated to project funding would be reduced slightly and from 1 April 2010 only one full-time post would remain funded from Education Services budget.
- 5.2 Up until 31 March 2010 the team and projects will be funded from the Scottish Arts Council grant and our own agreed contribution (per 3.2). From 1 April 2010 it is proposed that Education Services fund this from existing resources.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That Committee recognises the valuable work of this small team and the impact on the experiences and opportunities for the young people in our schools and establishments in Falkirk
- 6.2 That Committee agrees to the proposal for the establishment of a permanent post and refers the proposal to Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

Julia Swan

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Director of Education

Date:

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL

APPENDIX 1

Project	No of Teachers Involved	No of Pupils Involved
Art Masterclasses	0	64
Annual Schools Exhibition	18	300
Bantaskin Mural	2	40
Big in Falkirk Children's Tent	0	600
Braes Book Group	4	15
California Racial Equality Project	2	25
Children's Classical Concerts	30	420
Craft Residencies	30	4,000
Creative Futures	32	600
Denny ILC After School Clubs	15	300
Denny Week of Work	20	720
External Theatre Company Tours	105	2200
Forth Valley Arts Festival	110	2950
Larbert Village Containers	2	30
Laurieston PS Christmas Experience	10	300
Moving Image Project	20	80
Musicians Union Band Performance	8	500
Nursery Dance Project	5	80
Rural Schools Workshops	3	120
Small Schools World of Work Day	12	120
St Mungo's Drama Residency	5	350
Summer Transition Week	2	720
Wallacestone World of Work Week	10	85
Whitecross Africa Week	7	140
World War Two Banner Project	8	160
Writer in Residence	85	750
Youth Music Initiative	270	21,562
TOTAL	815	37,231