

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by Acting Director of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services (Land & Environmental Services)

Community Safety and Environmental Services Committee: 6 December 2006

**Subject: Institute of Sport and Recreation Management Best Practise
Award**

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To advise the Committee of the Institute of Sport and Recreation (ISRM) Best Practise award achieved by Leisure Services for the Shining Stars Initiative which delivers a programme of sporting and leisure activities for children aged 5 -14 years with or affected by disabilities.

2. Background

- 2.1** Each year the ISRM invite sport and recreation providers to nominate projects for consideration of the organisation's best practise annual award scheme. The award scheme is open to all sport and recreation organisations across the UK. The award aims to share good practise and recognise and encourage innovation within the leisure industry.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** In summer 2006 the Leisure Services Section of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services made a submission to the annual ISRM Best Practise Awards in respect of the 'Shining Stars' initiative. In August of 2006 Leisure Services was informed that their award submission had been selected as one of the two winning projects from over 100 entries.
- 3.2** The successful submission outlined the inception of the Shining Stars project in 2005 and its development over the last 18 months. The programme runs during school holiday periods and includes activities such as trampolining, indoor athletics, football, soft play / bouncy castle, badminton, archery and exercise to music. The programme was expanded in 2006/07 to include an activity programme which runs periodically throughout term time.
- 3.3** ISRM Scrutineer, Mike Collins stated that "This is a modest-scale local programme providing a closely focused programme for one of society's most excluded groups, based on a careful involvement of users and parents in planning, monitoring and adaptive improvements. This is the type of project that every district council and ISRM member could implement if they have not done so already. Congratulations to West Dunbartonshire's Elected Members and staff."

3.4 The lead officer in the project, Bobby Kerr - Service Development Co-ordinator and the Service Convenor Councillor Duncan McDonald attended the award ceremony and collected the award on behalf of West Dunbartonshire Council at the ISRM annual conference in Bournemouth on 15 September 2006.

4. Personnel Implications

4.1 Staff involved in delivering the initiative received additional training within this specialised field.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 Funding of £10,000 was allocated to Leisure Services as part of the 2005/2006 Service Enhancement package within the Council's agreed budget proposals to meet the cost of delivering the initiative.

6. Conclusions

6.1 This initiative has been particularly successful in addressing a gap in leisure provision for young people with or affected by disability.

6.2 One of the main successes of this initiative is the level of achievement and impact which the programme has delivered on a relatively modest budget.

7. Recommendations

7.1 **The Committee is asked to note the success of the Leisure Services Section of Housing, Regeneration and Environmental Services in achieving a Best Practise Award 2006 from the Institute of Sport and Recreation Management.**

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(Land & Environmental Services)
Date: 7 November 2006

Wards Affected: All

Appendix: None

Background Papers: None

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