

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Acting Director of Social Work Services

Children's Services Committee: 16 August 2006

Subject: The Changing Children's Services Fund

1. Purpose

- 1.1.** The purpose of this report is to advise Committee of the successful outcome of West Dunbartonshire's proposals to the Scottish Executive for investment of the Changing Children's Services Fund for 2006-2008.

2. Background

- 2.1** The Changing Children's Services Fund (CCSF) was established in 2002 by the Scottish Executive as a catalyst for change. It is a source of transitional funding to support local authorities, health boards and voluntary organisations in delivering better outcomes for the most vulnerable, deprived children through more effective and integrated service delivery.
- 2.2** The CCSF has been the subject of previous reports to Committee. A report to the Committee in March 2006, provided information on the evaluation of West Dunbartonshire's investment of the funding.
- 2.3** Our submission of proposals for continued investment of the CCSF for 2006-2008 was based on the evaluation findings.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** West Dunbartonshire's proposal for investment of the funding was approved by the Scottish Executive.
- 3.2** The amounts of CCSF funding allocated to West Dunbartonshire for 2006-2008 are:

<u>2006/07</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
£1,357,000	£1,296,000

- 3.3** This represents a reduction in allocation from 2005/06 of 9% in 2006/07 and 12% in 2007/08.
- 3.4** Partnership working has secured pooled funding from the Council's Education and NHS budgets to enable services to be sustained and in the case of the Young Families Support Service, to be expanded into Phase II.

4. Personnel Issues

- 4.1** There are 16 posts within West Dunbartonshire which are funded through CCSF. Continuation of funding has secured these posts until March 2008.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** There are no specific financial implications at this time. Should the CCSF cease to continue beyond 2008, there would be significant financial implications across partner agencies. This will continue to be addressed through Financial Resource Mapping commissioned by the Joint Strategy Group for Children's Services.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1** The investment of the CCSF will continue to support Scottish Executive objectives and the objectives in our Integrated Children's Services Plan to develop better integrated services which improve outcomes for young people, children and families.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1** Committee are asked to note the content of this report and the successful outcome of our proposals to the Scottish Executive for investment of the CCSF in West Dunbartonshire in 2006-2008.

William W Clark
Acting Director of Social Work Services

Person to contact: Anne Ritchie, Head of Social Work (Operations), Department of Social Work Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton, G92 3PU, Telephone 01389 737709

Background papers:

Wards Affected: Initiatives funded through CCSF are West Dunbartonshire wide: All wards are affected.