

Annual Report

2004 - 2005



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Aims of the Partnership

Ross and Cromarty Childcare Partnership aims to:

- Bring together a wide range of providers and service users in the public, private and voluntary sectors in a spirit of co-operation and genuine partnership
- Use the shared knowledge, commitment and resources of all partners to promote the expansion of high quality early education and childcare in Ross and Cromarty
- Address strategically the identified needs of children and families in Ross and Cromarty seeking access to and information about early education and childcare services
- Plan the development of early education and childcare services as part of the integrated planning framework for children and young people's services in Ross and Cromarty
- Ensure that the plans for early education and childcare enhance the care, play and learning experiences of all children in Ross and Cromarty recognising the special needs of particular individuals and groups
- Have regard to the principles of social inclusion, equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice.
- Have regard to the principles of best value in the allocation of public funds
- Monitor and evaluate its own effectiveness

The CC+FR Partnership continues to meet every 2nd month and continues to be chaired by Cllr David Alston with the Vice Chair Susan Russell – Public Health Care Practitioner . Meetings are well attended by on average 15 -17 individuals from across the sectors include Vol sector, Health, Education and Social Work.

The Partnership has a number of sub groups that operate and feed into the main Partnership as and when required. These are

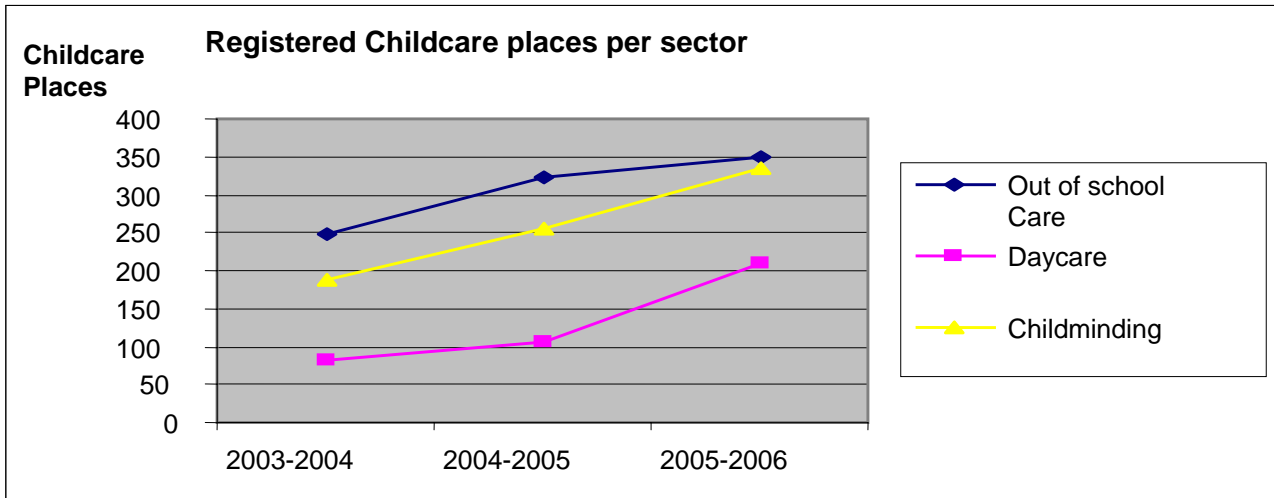
- Early Years / Sure start
- Out of School
- Parenting
- Training
- Priorities
- Funding

The Partnership continues to feed information directly, via the Childcare and Family Resource Officer, to the Ross and Cromarty Area Children Services forum who in turn ask the Partnership for advice and guidance on Early Years, childcare and family support issues.

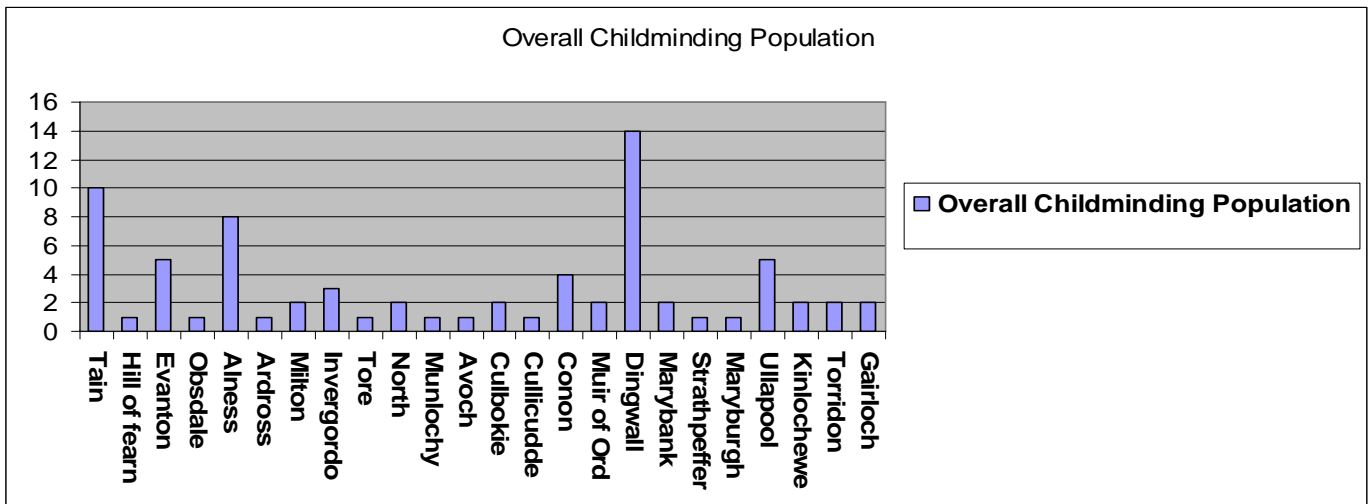
The Partnership sector specific strategic documents that help inform the development of services and these included Out of School care and the Sure start development plan in appendix

The present availability of registered childcare by sector

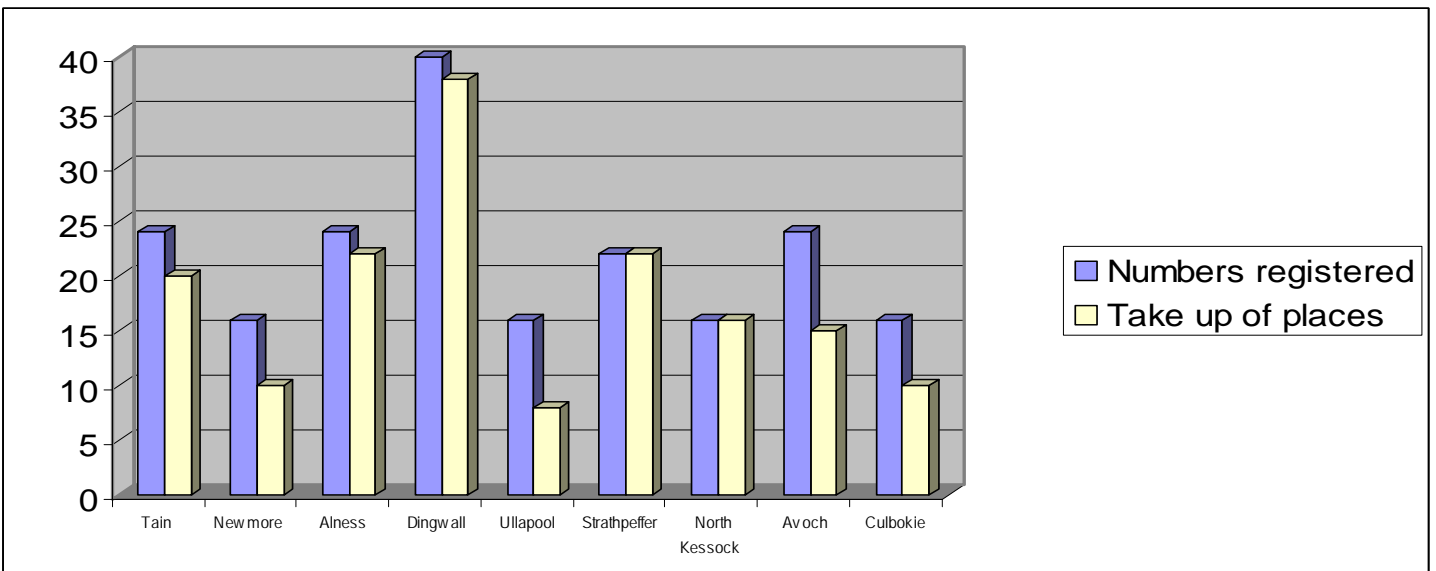
In the chart below there is an indication of the steady growth in childcare places in the area and an indication of the proposed continual growth in all sectors in the financial year 2005-2006



The present numbers of childminders per area



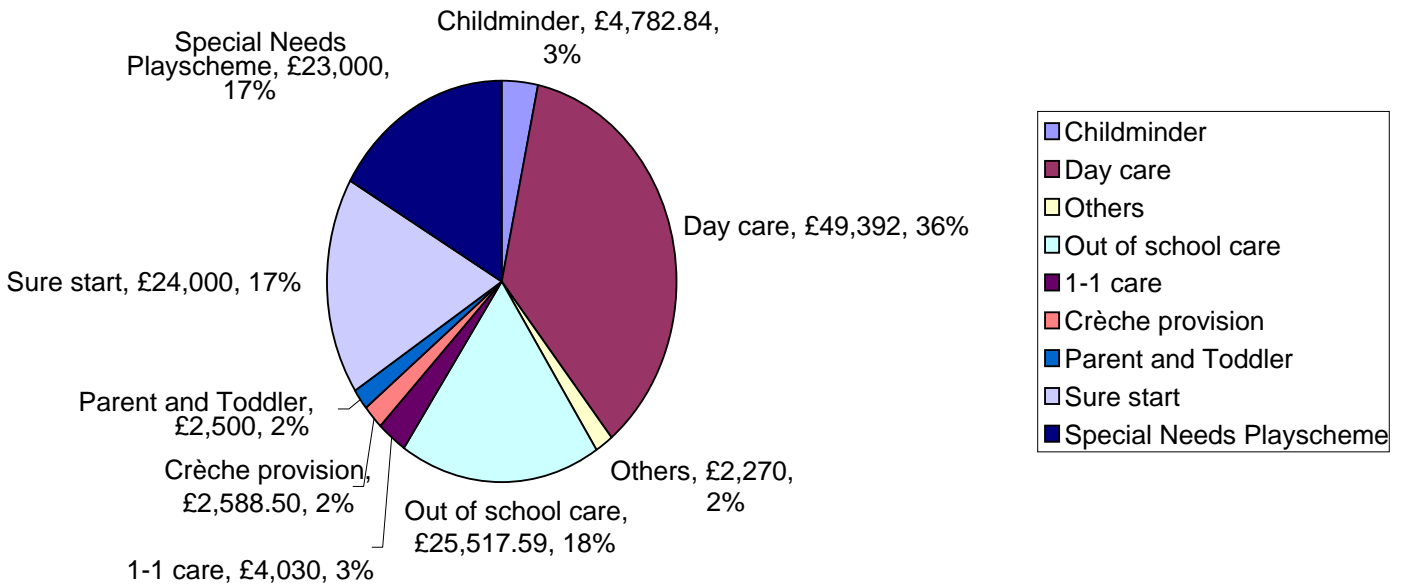
The location and take up of dedicated Out of School Club places



Grant Allocation per Sector

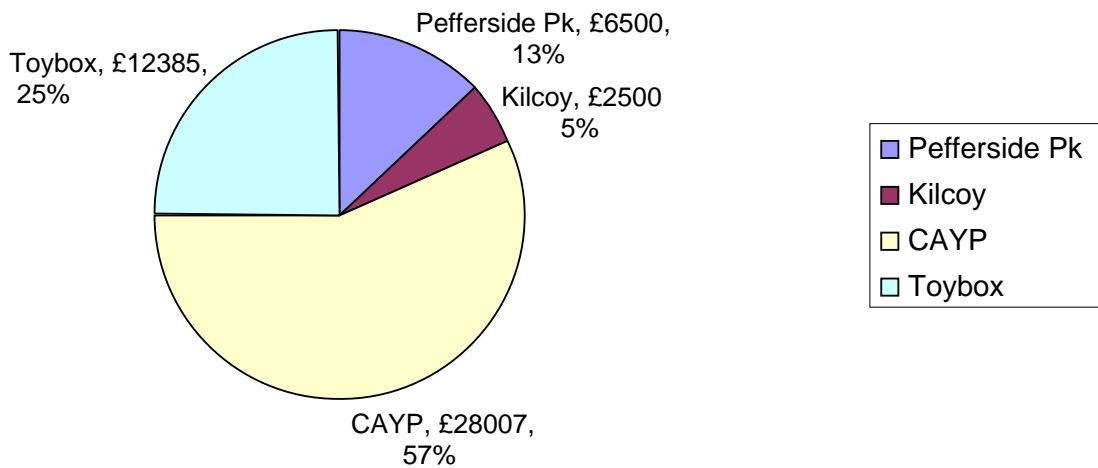
During 04-05 the Partnership was allocated £138,781 – to continue to develop the childcare and family support sector. This money was granted to a number of organisations.

Grant Allocation per Sector

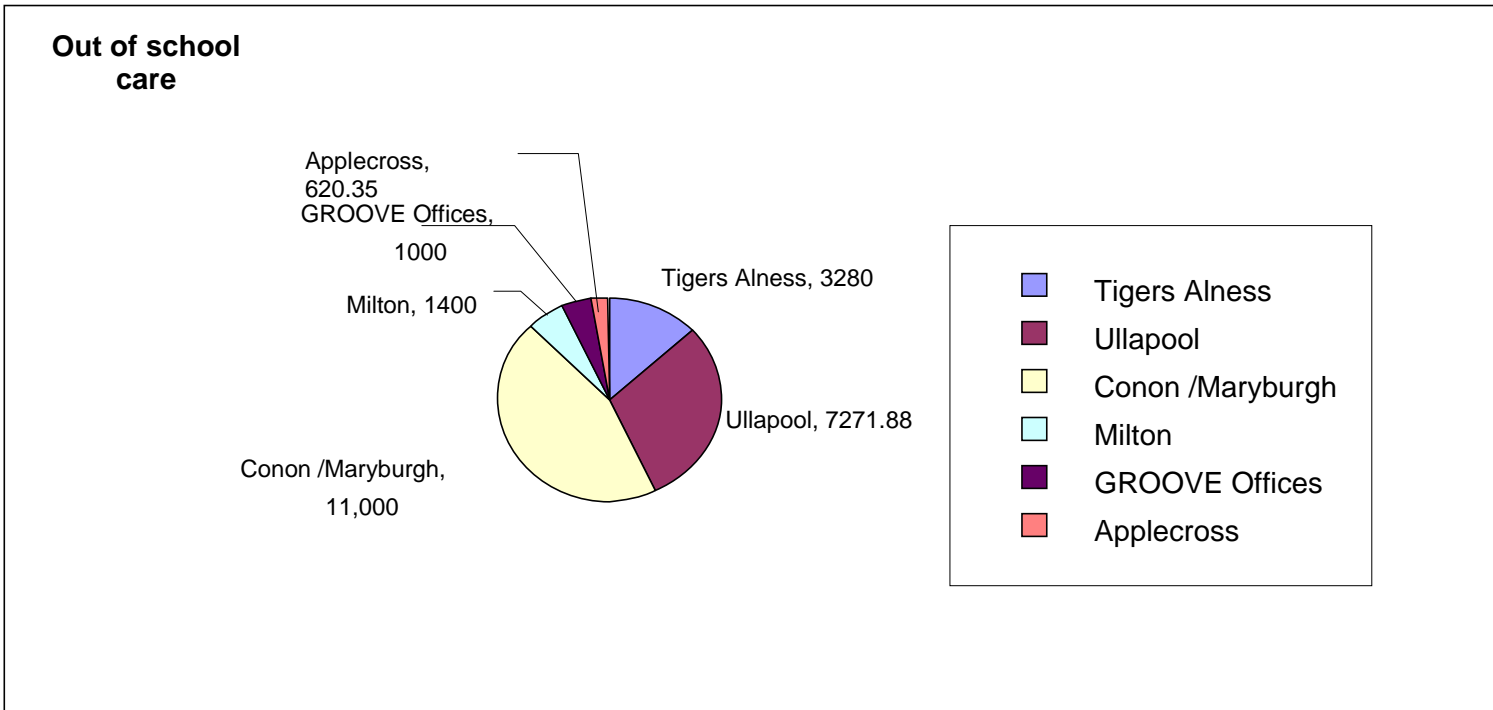


Grant allocation to day care services.

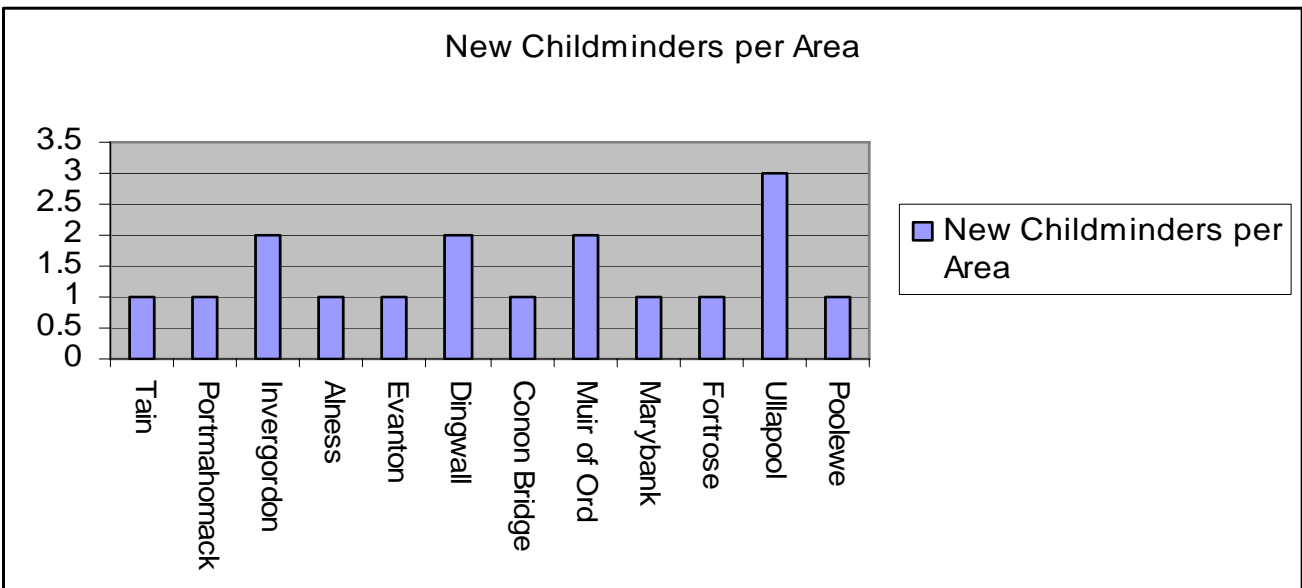
Day Care



Grant allocation to Out of School Services



Allocation of grant money per community to Childminders



What the grants have been spent on.

Childminders

Grant Amount	Reason for grant	Term time hours	Holiday hours	Charge per hour		Av. No. child	Age 0 - 3 to 3	Age 4 - 5 to 5	Age 5 + 5	Total hrs per day	No. places available	Tax Credit take up	Information to parents	CIS	Comments relating to grant
£250	Double buggy	8 - 6pm	8 - 6pm	£3	Mon	1	1		2	7			Posters Childcare info. Service	Y	
	Travel cot				Tue	1	1		2	7					
	Buggy Board				Wed				2						
	Wall built around oil tank				Thu	1	1		2	7					
					Fri				2						
					Sat										
£300	Start up costs	8-5.30pm	8-5.30pm	£3	Mon	2	1	1		9	3	3 to 4	Daily talk	Unsure	Very useful
	Buggy				Tue	3	3	1	2	9					
	High chair				Wed	3	3	1	2	9					
	Stair gates				Thu	2	1	1		9	3				
	Safety Equip.				Fri	2	1	1		9	3				
	Fireguard, toys.				Sat										
£200	DJ Scratch Mixer	8-6pm	8-6pm	£3	Mon	4	1	2	1	8.5	2 (5+)		Information sheet Verbal card in village post office	Y	Great Help
	Geo Mag Puzzles				Tue	4	2	1	1	9.5	2 (5+)				
	Board Games				Wed	4	1	2	1	8.5	2 (5+)				
	Computer Software				Thu	4	2	1	1	9.5	2 (5+)				
	Wooden Castle				Fri	4	2	1	1	9.5	2 (5+)				
	Sand Box & stand				Sat										
£150	3 safety gates	7-5pm	7-5pm	£3.50	Mon	2 or 3	1	1 or 2		7.5	2	2	Daily diary, each child Liaising with parents Telephone if child is collected by other	Y	
	Table & chairs				Tue	2 or 3	1	1 or 2		7.5	2				
	Booster seat				Wed	2 or 3	1	1 or 2		7.5	2				
	Plates/cups/bowls				Thu	2 or 3	1	1 or 2		7.5	2				
	Door/cupboard locks				Fri	2 or 3	1	1 or 2		7.5	2				
	Toys				Sat										
£200	P.L. Insurance	8.30-5.30	8.30-5.30.£3		Mon	1	1			6	None at present		Information sheet given to parents	N	
	Hire double buggy				Tue	1			1	2					
	Att. For climbing frame				Wed	1	1			6					
	Musical instruments				Thu	2			2	4					
	Games & toys				Fri										

£150	Double buggy	30 hours	30 hours	£3	Sat												
	First Aid kit				Mon	1	1		7.5	1		1	Word of mouth	N			
	P.L. Insurance				Tue	1	1		7.5	1							
	Upgrade car insurance				Wed	1	1		7.5	1							
	Outdoor play equipment				Thu	1	1		7.5	1							
						Fri					1						
				Sat													
£400	Safety glass panels to 4 internal doors.	16-24 hrs		£3	Mon	2	1	1	8	1		Verbal, electronically	Y				
					Tue	2	1	1	8	1							
					Wed												
					Thu												
					Fri	occ.2	1	1	8	1							
					Sat												
£310	Garden fence	8-6pm		£3	Mon					6		Checklist with questions and policy statement	Y				
					Tue					6							
					Wed					6							
					Thu					6							
					Fri					6							
					Sat					6							
£300.00	Start up costs	9-6pm	9-6pm	£3	Mon	4	2	2	5.5	2	1	Word of mouth	N	It has been extremely helpful. Didn't realise how easy it would be spent. Thank you			
	Safety Equipment				Tue	4	2	2	6.5	2						Going to register on internet	
	Toys, games				£120-135	Wed	4	2	2	6.5					2		
	Play equip. for garden				per week	Thu	4	2	2	8.5					2		
						Fri	4	2	2	5.5					2		
						Sat											
£280	High chair, travel cot	8.15-5pm	8.15-5pm	£2.50	Mon	5	4	1	8.45	6		Word of mouth written, display in house Leaflets, meetings	N	Has been a massive help. Myself and parents are grateful			
	Arts & crafts equip				Tue	5	3	1	8.45	6							
	First aid equip & fire ext.				Wed	4	2	1	8.45	6							
	Car seat, books				Thu	4	3	1	8.45	6							
	House play set for under 3's. Dress up costumes.				Fri	5	4	1	8.45	6							
						Sat											
£400	Pre-start costs for childminding.	8-6pm	8-6pm	£3.20	Mon	4	4		27	8	1	1	Provide leaflets.	Y			
	Equipment & insurance.				Tue					8							
					Wed	3	3		17	8							
					Thu	4	3	1	22	8							
					Fri	5	4	1	21	8							

The Ross-shire Special needs Playscheme

RSNP General Information

RSNP provides safe, enjoyable play during school holidays with qualified registered care in a relaxed and stimulating environment for school aged children with physical and/or learning difficulties or other special needs.

Each child is able to access the scheme around 2 days per week and parents are informed of their allocated days in advance. These young people's parents have reported to RSNP that their children often suffer social isolation during school holidays. The children are appropriately grouped to enable them to stay together for the duration of the scheme, thus enhancing social contact. As far as possible, the same staff work with those children, to provide the consistency to build good relationships.

The staff are required to attend regular training to ensure optimum levels of care for the young people. RSNP has just embarked on a three year "Training Excellence" programme which is funded to the extent of £18,000 by the Big Lottery Fund and Ross and Cromarty Enterprise.

Parents report that the scheme provides very necessary respite time for them and siblings, in the knowledge that their additional needs child/sibling is happy and in well trained hands. Hence the quality of life of both the young people attending RSNP and their families is improved by the scheme.

2004/2005 Monitoring and Evaluation

Attendance

In 2004/5 RSNP provided holiday playscheme child care services between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm to 54 school aged children (4-18 yrs) during the Easter, Summer and October school holiday breaks. In addition extra hours from 8.30 am to 6 pm were offered during the summer scheme. Each of these 54 children was offered a minimum of two days per week at our playscheme, over nine weeks of the ten weeks holidays (only one week in October due to staffing shortages). The extra hours offered to parents during the summer had a poor uptake, but was greatly appreciated by those who used it.

Attendance percentages for the year 2004:

Playscheme	No. of weeks of provision	Possible sessions per week in Invergordon	Actual attendance Invergordon	%age	Possible sessions per week in Strathpeffer	Actual attendance Strathpeffer	%age
Easter	2	48	43	89.5			
Summer	6	48	46	95.2	40	35	87.5
October	1	48	46	95.8			

Projected future attendances

The number of children requesting places at Invergordon and Strathpeffer during RSNP Easter scheme is as follows:-

Scheme	Venue	Existing Users	New Users	Waiting list
Easter	Invergordon	22	2	4
Easter	Strathpeffer	16	2	0
Easter	Joint	38	4	4

This table shows that the total number of young people attending the Easter scheme in 2004 is likely to amount to 42, in comparison to 30 during Easter 2004 but it should be pointed out that in 2005 we are able to provide playschemes in both venues whereas only one venue was possible in 2004, limiting numbers. Hence it is difficult to quantify the increase in demand over the year.

Increasing numbers of referrals from Social Services (2), schools (2), and as the result of an information night held at TRACC (6) and word of mouth (3) for summer scheme 2004 have been received. Due to increased awareness and publicity for the scheme, the current levels of demand for RSNP services are likely to grow.

Fees are set at a daily rate which has been increased over the 2004/5 year from £7 per session to £8 per session and will increase over the coming year to £8.50 per session to reach a level in line with similar groups. Thereafter increases will continue to rise by around 50p per session until fees are comparable to mainstream playschemes. Even when fees do reach the same level as mainstream groups it is inconceivable that RSNP will become a self-sustaining playscheme. This is because charges to parents cannot reflect the high costs of provision.

Ross and Cromarty Sports Council “Out of School Hours” project is currently funding two after-school multisports sessions per week which RSNP is running for young people and these sessions are being attended by around 24 young people. Highland council has provided financial help of around 70% of the costs of running our Friday night Youth Club over the last year, and Moray Firth Radio Charity Trust also provided a grant of £350 to the Youth Club. In addition letters sent out to local businesses requesting donations have realised in excess of £2,950 so far this year.

RSNP began a weekly youth club for secondary school aged young people with special needs in April, 2004, which has proved very successful. The aim at the planning stage of this project was to cater for twelve young people at a Friday night youth club. In fact an average of 17-18 young people attended regularly, with 19 on the busiest evenings.

RSNP has worked hard to establish links with social services, health services and education in order to improve the delivery of the service. For example co-operation with local schools (St. Duthus, St. Clements and Park Primary) in terms of gaining the use of premises, minibuses, etc has been built upon in the last twelve months and RSNP wishes to continue to strengthen such relationships in the future. RSNP has recently enlisted the help of a “gapper” student through a bursary from the Rank Foundation’s “Without Walls” project and will be able to benefit from an extra pair of hands for the next twelve months. The Gapper’s role is to take forward projects such as the Special Needs Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in the area, and she will be working with local special schools in order to get this initiative off the ground. Such schemes should further enhance young people’s feelings of self confidence, self worth and competency.

RSNP is also keen to assist young people with special needs to access their local mainstream playscheme wherever possible through providing support staff to attend with the child as necessary.

Parents Claiming Support with Childcare costs.

The majority of parents of young people using our scheme are not able to claim support with child care costs. A very few of the children’s fees are however met by social services (4 in Easter 2004, 5 in Easter 2005).

Out of School Services

Name of Organisation	Kilmuir & Logie	The 3 o clock Club	Newmore Out of	Averon Leisure Centre
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	Easter Action & Development Group. (KALE)		School Club	Tigerz
Grant Amount	£1000	£2800	£1500	£8409
Reason for grant	Staff costs towards setting up new after school club in Milton.	One to one funding for special needs children attending the club.	Provide extra staff member, one session weekly for special needs.	Support funding
1. Number of new places created for out of school care.	32			8
2. Number of existing places saved				16
3. How many hours care has the grant provided.		387.5. Often several special needs children are in together.	54	
3. Number of places provided for lone parents	16	50	1	6
4. Number of places provided for children with special needs.	2	5		1
5. Total allocation of grant spent on the project so far.	£512.50	£1670	£327.55	£4383
6. Number of staff and volunteers involved in the project	Staff 4 Volunteers 0			Staff 6 Volunteers 0
7. Number of parents who use the Childcare Tax credit to help pay for their childcare	Unknown			16
8. Details and methods of providing information to parents and how this was achieved.	Notes to parents through school advertising in Community Newsletter.		Introduction pack, Newsletters, Noticeboard, word of mouth.	Job centre visit, leaflets, distribution and advertising.
9. Any comments or additional information relating to the grant.		Some money remains as predictions were estimated and children concerned were sick/absent/holiday.	Small amount of grant used so far due to club closure (building work) Will resume as normal next term.	This grant has enabled tigerz to work towards sustainability.

Day Care Services

Name of organisation	Pefferside Park Playgroup		Kilcoy Kindergarten	CAYP
Grant amount	£2500		£2500	
Reason for grant	Sustaining money for childcare facility		To purchase resources for new nursery	
Number of places sustained for day care 0-3 year olds per week (on average)	Places available		160 sessions	
	Places taken up		22 children	10
	Unallocated		23 sessions	
1. Number of places sustained for integrated care and Pre school education for 3-5 year olds per week. (on average)	Places available for pre school education	24	As yet we do not offer pre school but hope to have it in place by Aug.	
	Places taken up	18		21
	Places unallocated for	6	160 sessions	

	pre school education			
	Places available for wrap around care	24		
	Places taken up	14		10
	Places unallocated for wrap around care	10		
2. Out of school provision	Number of places available			
	Places taken up			9
	Number of places unallocated			
3 Number of places taken up by lone parents within the day care setting	2		2 full time	5
4. Number of places taken up by children with special needs				1
5. Total amount of grant allocation taken up by the project up to April 04	£2500		£2500	
6. Number of staff and volunteers involved in the project	3 staff and 3 volunteers + HPS support		4 full time staff	
7. Number of parents who use the Childcare Tax Credit to help pay for their childcare	2		5	
8. Details and methods of providing information to parents and how this was achieved	Newsletters, open evenings, information notice board		Parents provided with letter containing all details they require to access tax credits	
9. Comments and any additional information relating to the grant	Very welcome support.			

The Partnerships Priorities for 2005 – 2006

Priority	Points of Action	Area of need	Success criteria
Implementation of School Out document	Out of School Club sustainability	GROOVE Clubs Newmore Ullapool	All clubs sustainable with in 3 years of set up
	Childminding services.	Rural Areas in R+C See Strategic Document on the development of OOSC	A network of CMs specifically for OOS Care
	Clear Plan of how to implement across R+C	See Dev Plan	Implementation complete by 2006
	Link with schools and school Boards	Where appropriate	Need for service understood and developed
Childminding	The continued targeting of new childminders and grant support	Seaboard Other areas to be continually identified?	CMs in place and providing service
Sustainability	Requesting of Standardised information for the funding group from groups requesting sustainability funding. Looking at the long term picture of groups getting to sustainability	Cromarty Ullapool Gairloch	Organisations are assessed to be as sustainable as possible, having had appropriate business support
Community Planning	Clarity of the role of CC+FR P on the role in Community planning.	All R+C areas	Clarity on role and Responsibility
Information	To be available for Associated School Groups, and thus to be readily available for School Liaison Groups on the Childcare and Family Support Services in their areas with information on purpose of service and contacts where appropriate.	All R+C areas	Increased usage and understanding of Facilities by agencies
	For Parents via schools to be disseminated out – information on the Childcare Information Service and how to access this.	All R+C areas	
	A continual assessment should be undertaken of all Ross and Cromarty CC services and ensure that the correct information is on the CIS	All R+C areas	Increased usage of CIS
			All Providers update information regularly on the CIS

Publicity	Family Opportunity fairs in the West to be developed	West Coast	Clearer links and understanding of the need for service from the most Rural parts of R+C
	Develop materials with logo to be used at various events – during Healthy Highland week, job fairs etc .	All areas	Increase visibility of the CC+FR Partnership at appropriate events
Training relating to Qualification requirements	Ensure that the percentage of staff that do not have appropriate qualification is on the increase and is at an appropriate level by 06	All Areas All sectors	All that want to access can with in the deadline for gaining qualifications
Development of Full day/ wrap around Childcare facilities	Liaise with RACE, Economic Dev. and Working for Families and private sector. Ensuring the development of wrap around services in line with the Early Years review	Alness / Invergordon Dingwall and areas of need	Services developed All agencies engaged in the promotion and development of services
Implementation of Sure-start	Assessing effectiveness of various elements of Dev. plan	All Areas of R+C	Services in operation
Annual report	Written at end of financial year Achievements Grant Spend	All Areas of R+C	Published

Out of School Care Strategic Development Plan

Background

The publication of 'School's Out' by the Scottish Executive gives us the framework for the development of Out of School Care.

Scottish Executive Priorities for Action are:

In order to achieve this vision policy makers, service planners & service providers will need to focus on 3 priority areas:

- An OOSC place for all children whose parents want them to go to clubs
- Sustainability
- Services for older children (12-16 yr olds)
- Places for children in need & for children with additional support needs

Introduction

The report considers how it is possible to deliver a service to each of our primary school catchments – in achieving this we need to maximise the resource that we already have and be aware of the need for new developments to be carefully planned to meet known demand.

At present we have ten Out of School Clubs mainly in the most populated areas of Mid and East Ross. A number of these clubs are new and have just started to operate this summer. The two longer established clubs are just about able to cater for the demand and are sustainable.

Nearly all clubs are at present funded through the New Opportunities Fund, Rural Challenge, the Community Fund and Childcare and Family Resource Partnership Funds and are all working towards sustainability. A true picture of the sustainability of all new clubs will become clear over the coming year. This will be monitored through the CC+F Resource Partnership.

Childminding is thin on the ground in a number of areas and the known availability of spaces has been indicated for each area. These statistics are accurate but due to the nature of the business, variation occurs on a daily. On average it has been assumed in the calculations that any childminder will have 4 childcare places available.

Action points for the development of OOS Care

Sustainability

The sustainability of our existing Clubs will depend upon this strategy, in particular for the long holiday periods, but also on the ability of each club to recognise how best to provide their service to their community. We are in a good position in Ross and Cromarty where four of our new clubs are run by the Out of School Care Federation and it has already been proven to be a good model for keeping costs low and using resources wisely and not burdening parents with the responsibility, while still allowing for parental involvement.

Other clubs – with the exception of Newmore, Alness + Ullapool – are in financially sustainable position at present and with the recommendation from this report these clubs will see an increase in numbers. Ross and Cromarty Enterprise are also supporting with business advice for these groups.

These main stream services receive some referrals from Health and Social work – however it should be recognised that the advantages of using the clubs as a support for the family is at present underestimated and under utilised.

Action

To promote referrals to OOSC + Childminders to enable support to be offered to the family in a universal setting, from Social work and Health and Education.

- A study should be undertaken to establish the number of families, already receiving support from the statutory agencies, who could benefit from the service

Services for S1 +S2

None of our existing clubs offer a service to S1 + S2 and it is unclear at the present time what the demand is - but we are aware of a need from some communities where clubs have been established for a number of years..

Action –

Develop a model of delivery that is responsive to the needs of young people

- Undertake an initial survey of Secondary school families and those using Out of School care for older primary aged children, to indicate demand and type of service that may be required
- develop sustainable models of delivery, which are responsive to the demands of young people, working in collaboration with the youth development stream of Education, Culture and Sport.

Services for all that need

There are significant difficulties in having sustainable clubs where the primary school roll is less than 100 pupils - particularly during the longer Holiday periods.

Recommendation - There are spaces in most Out of School Clubs at present and these should be utilised before any further development is undertaken.

The only way that it is possible to link some of our primary school to an OOS Service is through transport. This transport can either be

- Part of the transport for home to school already in place – but not available for the drop of at a childcare establishment
 - *Issues – capacity, can the present transport system be flexible enough to cater for a few children going off the normal bus route?*
- A separate initiative which is funded by parental contribution and supported through the CC+FR Partnership.
 - *Issues – at this time of day most taxi services are at capacity with the school run.*

There is no easy solution but this is critically important in achieving the sustainability of existing clubs and in making OOSC available to those that need.

A good example is that families in Marybank, Conon and Maryburgh could all have access to the Club which will operate in Tarradale Primary if transport became available.

Action –

- To survey the need of families in all areas to assess demand for transport to their nearest OOSC

- For the CC+FR Partnership + ACSF to **urgently** address how transport could be offered when it is needed in any particular community.

There are a number of areas which will never have sustainable clubs and where transport to existing clubs will be difficult to provide or unacceptable in terms of the school locality. Here there is only one option to pursue in provision of OOS care places. Through **Childminding**

Action –

To develop childminding services to provide a comprehensive service for OOSC where clubs are likely to be unsustainable.

- Survey the demand for OOSC places required in the areas where school rolls do not indicate a sustainable club, and promote childminding specifically with an emphasis on Out of School care within these areas.
- The CC+FR Partnership will look at a model for supporting isolated childminders through networks and will look at the development of a package for those areas which will be unable to sustain a childminding service, i.e. where there is a demand for the service but it is financially unsustainable - a model of financial support should be developed to ensure the service is available. Support from RACE will be essential.

Places for children in need & for children with additional support needs

All of our existing clubs operate an inclusion policy and the CC+RF Partnership at present fund additional staff to enable children who require additional support to access their local community service.

There are a couple of good examples of where direct payments are being used to support children in main stream OOS Clubs. A funding stream for parents that allows for appropriate support to be offered within the child's own community. We will continue to look at these as opportunities not only for the children but also for the Clubs themselves.

There are also issues relating to cost for those children that may need a service but do not have a referral agent, ie S/W and are unable to afford access to their club. In areas designated as the more deprived such as Milton + Seaboard we should continue to support the development of registered Out of School Clubs which do not operate on a daily basis and which are affordable to the community. The best example of this is Milton. However this is not fully funded or registered at present. This should be achieved through co-operation with schools and School Liaison groups and children's services workers

We also have in place the Ross-shire Special Needs Playscheme who provide an exceptional service in holidays in Ross and Cromarty with an emphasis on inclusion.

Action –

To ensure that service are inclusive and that cost does not exclude those families that would benefit from access to such services.

- To continue supporting Ross-Shire Special Needs Playscheme and parents to look seriously at encouraging parents and children that can access their main stream provider where appropriate.????
- To work in partnership with Education and Culture and Sport to ensure that playschemes are developed using the same standards as Out of School Clubs for areas that are seen as the most deprived, and link funding opportunities to support these facilities.????
- Provide information and support to encourage referrals to the OOSC/ Childminders, from schools through School Liaison Groups and from S/W and Health.

In Conclusion

We already have a good network of clubs and childminders, and significant support from Ross and Cromarty Enterprise with business and financial support. However we now **need** to ensure, that **all** the agencies are signed up to, support develop, and/or referring to the OOS services.

This is yet another large agenda which must compliment all existing services and yet still target the most in need. Training and qualification of staff are critical to the success of this provision and an area which will need closer scrutiny as facilities develop and a key role for the Childcare and Family Resource Partnership.

Area by area assessment of service provision and indication of development needed.

<i>Area</i>	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare places Childminding</i>
Alness ASG						
Alness (Bridgend+ Coulhill)	506	Averon centre	24	56	10	
		Childminding	28	N/A		9
Obsdale	80	Childminding	None	N/A		0
Ardross	40	Childminding	4	N/A		0
Evanton	161	Childminding	16	N/A		2

Notes:

- At present there is sufficient provision in Alness- the OOSC facility is being financially sustained and is receiving business support from RACE.
- Milton run an unregistered Out of school Club 2 days per week at present which is well attended and seen as a valuable service and these children would not use a service in Invergordon

Action

- Transport links from Evanton, Ardross + Milton will be developed to allow the Averon Centre and Newmore facility to reach a sustainable level.
- The childminding capacity will be developed in Ardross and Obsdale with a target for 2 childminders for OOSC per community.
- Evanton may in the future require a separate club or childminding may continue to provide sufficient coverage – monitoring required

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminders	4	16

<i>Area</i>	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare Child Care Places with</i>
<i>Invergordon ASG</i>						
Newmore	58	Newmore OOSC None	16 N/A	24 N/A	6	
Milton	94	Childminding	8	N/A		4
Invergordon						
Park South lodge	415	Childminding	24	N/A		0

Notes:

- Newmore OOSC should be available to be accessed from Invergordon and Ardross the Newmore club **is unlikely** be sustainable after NOF money runs out in February 2006 – unless usage improves significantly

Action:

- Transport links from Invergordon primary schools will be developed to allow the Averon Centre facility and Newmore to reach a sustainable level. When the demand is sufficient then a separate facility will be developed in Invergordon.
- The childminding capacity is developed in Milton with a target of 2 childminders for OOSC per community.
- The Milton Club should become registered and funding should be put in place to assist the Club with consideration to ensure inclusion, with fees kept at an affordable rate, because of the special circumstances in this community

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminders	2	8
OOS Club	1	24

<i>Area</i>	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare Child Care Places with Childminders</i>
Fortrose ASG						
Culbokie	90	Racoons OOSC Club Childminding	16 8	35	8	0
Ferintosh	37	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Cullicudden	36	Childminding	4	N/A	?	0
Newhall	50	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Cromarty	96	CAYP	?	?	?	
Avoch	253	Racoons OOSC Club Childminding	24 4	Open June 04 N/A	?	2
Munlochy	81	Childminding	8	N/A	N/A	2

Notes:

- Culbokie OOSC will be made available from Ferintosh, Cullicudden and Newhall with transport links.
- An out of School service is provided by CAYP within their full day facility, and will be developed to target the primary aged children.
- Munlochy childminding capability will increase and if required links to the Avoch club should be sort.

Action

- To develop transport links for the Munlochy, Ferintosh, Cullicudden + Newhall communities to their nearest OOSC.
- The childminding capacity is developed in Newhall + Cullicudden.

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminding	4	16
OOS Club	0	0

Dingwall ASG	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare Child Care Places with Childminders</i>
Dingwall	477 EM 67 GM	3 O'clock Club - EM Childminding	40 44	200 N/A	35 ?	9
Strathpeffer	157	Racoons OOSC Club	22	81	13	
Marybank	44	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tarradale	209	Racoons OOSC Childminding	20 20	20 N/A	8 N/A	2
Maryburgh	117	Childminding	12	N/A	?	0
Conon	141	Childminding	16	N/A	?	2
Mulbuie	56	Racoons OOS Club (Tarradale)	20	20	8	
North Kessock	100	Racoons OOSC Club Childminding	16 4	63 N	10	
Tore	61	Childminding	4	N/A	2	2

Notes:

- The Dingwall OOSC is ready to expand their service to cope with demand.
- Tarradale is a new OOSC. This will be monitored in term of capacity for others to access.

Action:

- Transport between the Marybank, Maryburgh, Conon, Mulbuie + Tore and the existing OOSC will be developed and a Conon OOSC will be developed.
- Develop Childminding in Tore x1

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminding	1	4
OOS Club	1	24

<i>Area</i>	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare Child Care Places with Childminders</i>
Tain ASG						
Tain Craighill Knockbreak	387	TRACC Ankerville nursery Childminding	24 36	55 N/A	20	10
Inver	38	None	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hilton	61	None	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hill of Fearn	49	Childminding	4	N/A	N/A	2
Tarbet Old	38	None	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes:

- Tain has excellent coverage – except in the holidays as the OOSC does not operate

Action:

- To develop the OOSC for Holidays in Tain
- Develop Childminding in Inver x1, Hilton X2 Hill of Fearn x2 + Tarbet Old X 2

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminding	7	28
OOS Club	1	24 (Holiday only)

Area	<i>Numbers in primaries</i>	<i>Out of School facility</i>	<i>Places available Per day</i>	<i>Numbers On register</i>	<i>Places taken up approx per day OOSC</i>	<i>Spare Child Care Places with Childminders</i>
Ullapool/ Gairloch ASG						
Bualnaliub	34	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Applecross	19	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Achnasheen	5	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Inverasdale	21	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Kinlochewe	16	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scoraig	14	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Strathconon	7	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Strathgarve	12	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Torridon	6	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Achiltiebuie	26	Childminding	4	N/A	N/A	2
Badcaul	12	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shieldaig	8	none	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Poolewe	27	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ullapool	180	Ullapool OOSC Childminding	16 16	45	8	2
Gairloch	86	Toybox Childminding	16 8	40	4	0
Lochcarron	64	Childminding	1	N/A	2	2

Notes:

- Gairloch requires an OOSC to be developed.
- Ullapool OOSC requires sustaining money on annual basis -
- All other areas are very rural and sustainable services will be exceptionally difficult to develop and will only be developed on an as and when required basis, based on the communities needs.

Action:

- OOSC in Gairloch
- Ullapool OOSC should investigate further the potential of moving into a free let within the school when the opportunity arises
- Childminding services will be developed in all communities with 1 minder per community.

New places created between 05 -07

Facility	Number	CC Places approx.
Childminding	9	36

Total number of new OOS Childcare places required in Ross and Cromarty

OOS service	Number required	New Childcare places created
Childminding	27	108
New Out of School Clubs	5	80 24 (Holiday only)
Total new Childcare places required		212

Ian Goode
Childcare and Family Resource Officer June 04

Sure-start Development Plan 2005-06

Executive Summary

Introduction

The Sure-start review has been undertaken in Ross and Cromarty by the Early Years Sub Group of the Childcare & Family Resource Partnership, with the approval of the Area Children's Services Forum.

Progress has been made in the;

- Review of the services provided with Sure Start funding in Ross and Cromarty i.e. Family First, Home start, NCH, Highland Pre School Services
- Identification of existing services in the area
- Highlighting gaps in service provision.

As a result of the development of a Highland wide definition of vulnerability, a further review of Health Visitor's caseloads has been undertaken in order to identify where the most vulnerable families with children aged 0-3 years are located. This will allow resources to be targeted more effectively. Further, detailed information is also currently being collected on all the Voluntary sector providers (listed above). Service Level Agreements will then be developed for these organisations taking into account geographical spread of vulnerable families and identified need.

Recommendations

The review makes recommendations on five issues which meet the following Sure-Start aims:

- To improve children's social and emotional development
- Improve children's health
- Improve children's ability to learn
- Strengthen families and communities.

The recommendations focus on:

- Early intervention, in line with evidence that shows that support in the early stages is most effective in preventing or minimising problems at later stages and that it is vital to support the attachment between parent(s) and the new born.
- Improved integration of services to ensure that services are working effectively and to avoid duplication. This includes opportunities for staff to benefit from joint training and formal and informal networks.
- Skilled support to families, as a rapid response to meet an immediate need and ongoing support for a family with longer term needs.
- Parent Learning, in the recognition of the importance of raising confidence in parents through learning, including parenting skills and socialisation through group work, including supported parent and toddler groups.
- Issues of rurality such as poor transport, the lack of suitable venues for group work; sustainability and accessibility of services.

Development Plan

The following development plan indicates those recommendations that can be afforded within the budget for 2005/2006.

The Sure-start Review and this Development Plan have been presented to Ross and Cromarty Area Children's Service Forum and have been agreed by them.

Development Plan

LEAD OFFICER: Ian Goode, Childcare and Family Resource Officer		<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;"></th> <th style="text-align: right; width: 20%;"><u>2004/05</u></th> <th style="text-align: right; width: 20%;"><u>2005/06</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sure-start Funding</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 290,420</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£430,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mid Highland CHP (CEYW(SS))</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Core Funding (FLG'S)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£3,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACSF Funding (FLCo-ordinator)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CC+FR Partnership (£4000 FLC +£15,000 NCH Start up)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£19,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£461,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>2004/05</u>	<u>2005/06</u>	Sure-start Funding	£ 290,420	£430,000	Mid Highland CHP (CEYW(SS))		£5000	Core Funding (FLG'S)		£3,000	ACSF Funding (FLCo-ordinator)		£4,000	CC+FR Partnership (£4000 FLC +£15,000 NCH Start up)		£19,000	Total		£461,000
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AIM : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve children's social and emotional development • Improve children's health • Improve children's ability to learn • Strengthen families and communities 																								
OBJECTIVE	ACTION POINT	AREA OF DELIVERY	LEAD AGENCY	RESOURCES REQUIRED	BUDGET SOURCE	SUCCESS CRITERIA																		
Develop Family Liaison Groups (FLG's) for the Early Years	Multi-agency groups assessing needs of vulnerable children aged 0-5 and families and delivering services	R&C wide around Health Visitor caseloads	R&C ACSF Early Years Sub Group	Infrastructure – set up support £3,000	Sure-start from Core £3,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up +establish groups around the 7 Associated School groups • Membership agreed 																		
Resources to enable Family Liaison Groups to function	Transport to services and Childcare provision for attendance at meetings.	R&C wide	Family Liaison Groups / Social Work Services	£10,000	Sure-start £10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map transport services required • Enable childcare to be available to those whom most need • Use of existing resources e.g. Mobile Crèche, Sitter Service, Working Families Fund 																		

Develop Social Work Service posts to assist Health Visitors	Create Community Early Years Worker (Sure Start) to deliver non-specialist support as directed by FLG,s	R&C wide in FLG,s	R&C ACSF Early Years Sub Group	SC1/2 – S/W £13976 - £16673 pa Grade C - Health £13900 - £17060 pa £17060 x20% on costs = £20,472 x 2.5 fte = £51,180	Sure-start £46,180 Mid Highland CHP £5000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posts created and filled. • Prompt provision for families experiencing crisis situation.
Support for families-	Voluntary Sector provision of: Individual work Home-visiting, Fubby Loofers, Groupwork Homestart, Family First services Supported Toddlers	Around ASG in FLG's	Homestart for Mid and East Ross	£90,000	Sure-start £90,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of service information from providers • New and agreed SLA • Cases allocated and reviewed at FLG's.
			NCH for Mid and East Ross	£175,000	Sure-start £160,000 CC+FR Partnership £15,000	
			Family First for Ullapool, Poolewe, Aultbea, Lochcarron (and Kyle)	£34,300	Sure-start £34,300	
			HPS Supported Toddler Groups Alness, Edderton, Nigg Inver, Invergordon, Portmahomack, Balintore Milton, Ullapool, Gairloch Poolewe, Aultbea, Dingwall	£41,215	Sure-start £41,215	

Co-ordinate Early Years services	Create Area Co-ordinator to co-ordinate services at FLG's	In FLG's around ASG <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ullapool • Gairloch • Dingwall • Fortrose • Alness • Invergordon • Tain 	Social Work Services	Grade PO1-4 £24,888 - £27,015pa + 20% on costs 1 fte = £32,418	Sure Start £32,418	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post created and filled. • Liaison with all relevant service providers and FLG's initiated. • Prompt provision for families with vulnerable 0-3's.
Support for families	Create Family Learning Co-ordinator post to develop Parenting education in collaboration with local professionals and current projects e.g. Room 22, Tain Healthways, Dingwall, Black Isle H/Vs	Around ASG'S <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ullapool • Gairloch • Fortrose • Alness • Invergordon • Dingwall • Tain 	Family Learning Co-ordinator within NHS Highland (Mid Highland Community Health Partnership)	Grade AP1 1x 0.6 = £9600pa +20% on costs = £11,520 + + course delivery costs @ £10,000 + set up costs @ £2000 = £23,520	Sure-start £15,887 CC+FR Partnership £4000 ACSF £4000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The employment of Family Learning Co-ordinator • Delivery of Parenting Courses in 7 ASG areas • Sharing of good practice across R&C.
Total				£460, 633		

Appendix.

- All new posts are costed at the highest grade and include on –costs – there is therefore room for some slippage in these posts.
- The 2.5 fte Community Nursery Nurse Posts are likely to be deployed in
 - .5 post at Fortrose Health Base
 - .5 post at Dingwall Health Base
 - .5 post at Tain Health Base
 - 1 post on the West Coast.

