
Report To:	Education & Lifelong Learning Committee	Date:	1 November 2011
Report By:	Corporate Director: Education and Communities	Report No:	EDUC/48/11/MP
Contact Officer:	Maggie Paterson	Contact No:	01475 712824
Subject:	Duke of Edinburgh Award in Inverclyde		

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to:

- 1.1 update Committee on the recent successes and achievements of the Duke of Edinburgh Award in Inverclyde
- 1.2 advise Committee of plans to develop the Duke of Edinburgh Award in Inverclyde
- 1.3 invite Committee to accept the renewed licence for the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh Award on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Participation in and achievement of the Duke of Edinburgh (DoE) Award by young people in Inverclyde has increased year on year. The Authority has now been advised by DoE that we have the highest participation rate per head of population (aged 14-24) in Scotland. This year, for the first time in 10 years, 22 young people supported by the Community Learning and Development Service achieved their gold award, which was presented to them by the Duke of Edinburgh at Holyrood Palace in July 2011. The success of the award also saw 110 achieve bronze awards and 79 achieve silver awards which were presented to them at an awards ceremony held in Greenock Town Hall on 5 October 2011.
- 2.2 The Duke of Edinburgh operating licence is reviewed annually and renewed every 5 years. Following 5 years of successful operation, Inverclyde Council's licence has been renewed and Committee is invited to accept this on behalf of the Council.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that: Committee
 - note the progress and achievements of the Duke of Edinburgh Award in Inverclyde
 - endorse plans for the development of the Award in Inverclyde
 - accept the licence to deliver the Duke of Edinburgh Award on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director: Education & Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde Council's Duke of Edinburgh Award programme is delivered by the Community Learning and Development Service, with the support of Inverclyde schools. The Duke of Edinburgh in Inverclyde Support Group is also key to the success of the award. This group of volunteers who support the award through fund raising and assisting with expeditions, has recently been awarded charitable status.

In the reporting year 2010 -11, 401 young people participated in the DoE Award, with 108 achieving bronze, 67 silver and 22 achieving the gold award. At an awards ceremony on 5 October, 110 bronze and 79 silver awards were presented, some of these to young people from Glenburn School. At this ceremony the Council was advised that Inverclyde now has the highest participation rate per head of population aged 14-24 in Scotland.

- 4.2 The Duke of Edinburgh operating licence is reviewed every year to ensure that the operating authority is maintaining the quality and values associated with the award. The license is renewed every 5 years following satisfactory operation of the award.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Inverclyde takes pride in their inclusive approach to operating the Duke of Edinburgh Award which sees young people from all areas of Inverclyde, from a range of backgrounds and with diverse needs, participating equally in the award.

It is proposed that this is further extended to bring more young people with a range of additional support needs into the award so that all young people in Inverclyde between the ages of 14 and 24 have the opportunity and support to participate in the award.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance: None

Legal: None

Personnel: None

Equalities: The operation of the award and the developments proposed further the Council's compliance with Equalities Legislation.

7.0 CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.