

4. BELFAST KIDSFIRST KINDERGARTEN - APPLICATION FOR FUNDING TOWARDS ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Barbara Ford, DDI 354-1707
Corporate Plan Output: Discretionary Funding	

The purpose of this report is to respond to an application from the Belfast Kindergarten's request for funding towards the adventure playground being built at the Kindergarten. There is a balance of \$8,574 in 2001/02 Discretionary Funding.

BACKGROUND

Representatives from the Kindergarten attended the Board's March meeting, and advised that they had fund raised \$5,000 for the project, estimated to cost \$15,000 in total. Applications have also been made to other organisations for funding.

Funding for playground equipment is the responsibility of the local Kindergarten committee rather than the Kindergarten Association. Play equipment of this type does not meet Hillary Commission criteria.

CRITERIA

The Board does not have any criteria for funding of kindergartens and preschools, although grants have been previously been made to these organisations. The criteria for funding to schools does not fit with these applications. Safety and security generally preclude any community use of equipment outside kindergarten use. The Board has previously made grants to pre-schools for a variety of items.

CONCLUSION

The criteria for schools cannot be applied to this type of application as there is no community use of the facility. However, based on the amount granted to schools for playground equipment the Board could consider a grant of \$2,500.

Recommendation: That \$2,500 from 2001/2002 Discretionary Funds be granted to Belfast Kidsfirst Kindergarten towards the adventure playground equipment.

Chairperson's Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted and that the Board advocate with Members of Parliament for funding for playground equipment for Kindergartens.