

Boyd Anderson Trust

Education, Children and Families Committee

13 September 2011

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform Elected Members of the proposal to curtail the existing arrangements regarding the Boyd Anderson Trust and to recommend the transfer of funding to another suitable organisation and to fund appropriate snow sport developments that directly relate to the life and legacy of George Boyd Anderson.
- 1.2 Education, Children and Families Committee is requested to approve the report and make a recommendation to Pensions and Trusts Committee to disburse the funding in the Boyd Anderson Trust.

2 Background

- 2.1 At its December 2010 meeting, the Pensions and Trusts Committee considered a report on the future arrangements for the various trust funds administered by the Council. The report provided an update on the steps being taken to consolidate and simplify the administration of the existing trusts. As part of this work, elected members approved the retention of eight existing trusts with sufficiently distinct objectives to remain on their own under the trusteeship of the Council. At the 21 March 2011 meeting of the Pensions and Trusts Committee, elected members were informed that the Children and Families Department were working on plans for the future of the Boyd Anderson Trust.

3 Main report

- 3.1 This report now sets out a proposal for the disbursement and utilisation of the capital in the Boyd Anderson Trust and the winding up of the current arrangements which only serve to utilise the current interest earned on the Trust capital. This interest equates to around £9,000 per annum. It is considered that disbursement of the Trust capital would save the ongoing requirement to administer the Boyd Anderson Trust and enable a one off strategic deployment of these resources to further the vision and ethos of Boyd Anderson.

It is proposed that the funding within the Trust be used for three purposes:

- i) the upgrade of Lagganlia Outdoor Centre in the Cairngorms;
- ii) a capital contribution towards the costs of upgrading Midlothian Snowsports Centre which lies in close proximity to Edinburgh;
- iii) transfer of an element of the Trust capital to Snowsport Scotland.

3.2 During his lifetime Mr George Boyd Anderson provided funds for the purchase of land and the creation of an outdoor centre at Lagganlia, which is owned and managed by the Council. On his death, he left the "Corporation of the City of Edinburgh" a property and some investments; this was regarded by the Council as an educational Trust. There is however no formal trust deed and the Trust has not been registered with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator. The terms of Mr Boyd Anderson's will are such as to leave a considerable degree of discretion as to the use of the funds, merely stating that they should be expended or otherwise applied for projects concerned with the development of skiing at Hillend, Edinburgh and in the Cairngorm area. The will did not place upon the Council the requirement to create a trust in perpetuity.

3.3 The Boyd Anderson Trust has a current value of £342k including fishing (and water access) rights on the river Feshie "valued" at £34k. It is intended that the Council retain these rights as they allow access for our school pupils to participate in water sports. The annual interest income is around £9k which is currently spent on ski initiatives. For many years interest accruing for Boyd Anderson's legacy has been used to encourage access to competitive skiing opportunities.

3.4 It is proposed that the balance of Trust funds £308k (after fishing rights) would be allocated based on the funding recommendations and rationale noted below:

Snowsport Scotland

3.5 It is proposed that £63k is transferred to a new restricted fund under the control of Snowsport Scotland who are in the final stages of setting up a charitable trust (NB the figure of £63k was the original sum in the 'Skiing Fund' in 1983). It is proposed that Snowsport Scotland adhere to the funding distribution of recent years which has included support for ski instruction, financial support to the Lothian Ski Racing Association and individual grant awards to support talented young skiers and snowboarders who come from Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Lagganlia

3.6 The Lagganlia Centre for Outdoor Education has been open for 40 years and was started by Boyd Anderson who, having gifted money to start Hillend Dry Ski Slope in Edinburgh, was looking for a property near the ski areas in the Cairngorms as a natural progression - he wanted children and young people from Edinburgh to get the opportunity to move to real snow on real slopes during the winter season. His signature is the first in the visitors' book and one of the chalet lodges was named "Anderson Lodge" in recognition of his inspirational vision in establishing this facility.

The following improvements are proposed to Lagganlia:

- i) the current artificial ski slope is refurbished. The current slope was built in 1998 and is showing its age. The design is now outdated and is actually causing sufficient wrist and thumb injuries for this to be a concern. It is recommended that a new synthetic surface is installed and minor adjustments are made to the slope to make it suitable for both ski and snowboard instruction;
- ii) a new ski resource centre is built next to the artificial slope. Currently, there is a fairly dilapidated ski store on the far side of the campus and children have to trek 200 metres to the slope before commencing introductory lessons. This investment would rationalise facilities on site together and provide a valuable indoor teaching space;
- iii) the Anderson Lodge is upgraded; and
- iv) the purchase of up to 12 Camping Huts.

It is further recommended that a condition of upgrading the Anderson Lodge and purchasing the Camping Huts is that Lagganlia are required to offer free/low cost trips for 'Looked After Children' and children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds at agreed times during the year. This is very much in line with the recent Council motion approved on 21 June 2011 (see Appendix 1 – recommendation F. It is proposed that £186k is allocated to fund these works via the Children and Families capital investment programme funded by the Boyd Anderson legacy.

Midlothian Ski Centre (Hillend)

- 3.7 As already mentioned Boyd Anderson was also responsible for establishing Hillend. This year Sportscotland announced a substantial £900k funding package for Hillend. This includes an investment of £500k in the ski facilities and included in these plans are the introduction of new nursery slopes. The Scottish Government has also introduced in tandem with this funding a new fund of £400k to allow primary school children in Edinburgh and the Lothians to experience skiing and receive ski instruction at Hillend. To mark Boyd Anderson's role in establishing Hillend and to help with the Primary School initiative we are proposing (when the new nursery slopes are completed) to fund the purchase of a "magic carpet travelator" for these slopes. In return for this contribution the nursery slopes would be named in honour of Boyd Anderson. The cost of a 50m travelator is estimated at £54k.

Branding/Signage

- 3.8 It is important in all these developments that the legacy of Boyd Anderson is not only recognised but promoted to all users of Lagganlia and Hillend and award recipients of his funding. It is therefore recommended a small contingency of £5k is allocated to cover the cost for signage and associated marketing materials.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this proposal other than those set out above. It is adding investment to popular and highly valued facilities.

5 Equalities Impact

- 5.1 The strategy is aimed at all children and young people in Edinburgh and there are particular initiatives targeted at disadvantaged groups within the city.

6 Environmental Impact

- 6.1 This strategy should encourage children to be more environmentally aware and appreciative of the natural environment.

7 Recommendations

Committee is asked to:

- 7.1 Approve the report and refer it to Pensions and Trusts Committee for a final determination re the disbursement of the Trust capital and the consequent closure of the Trust.

Gillian Tee
Director of Children and Families

Appendices	1. EC&F Council Motion June 21, 2011.
Contact/tel/Email	David Robertson, Resources Manager C&F 469 3149 and Robin Yellowlees, Service Manager – Children & Families Sports and Outdoor Education Unit – 469 3953
Wards affected	All
Single Outcome Agreement	Supports National Outcome 6 – ‘we live longer, healthier lives’ and National Outcome 4 – ‘our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.
Background Papers	None

City of Edinburgh Council

**EDUCATION, CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMITTEE MEETING :
21 June 2011**

**Motion 17 : Children and Families Residential Outdoor Centres –
Property Progress Report**

LIBERAL DEMOCRAT / SNP GROUP AMENDMENT

Add to recommendations:

- d) Congratulate the staff at the Benmore and Lagganlia Outdoor Centres for their work in making these inclusive and successful.
- e) Call on the Department to encourage Head Teachers to use the Centres for Outdoor Learning and report back on progress to the Education, Children & Families Committee on 8 March.
- f) Instruct the Director to address the issue of how children from disadvantaged backgrounds could be assisted to participate in Centre activities.

Signature of proposer

Cllr Marilynne MacLaren Date 21 June 2011

Signature of seconder

Cllr David Beckett Date 21 June 2011