

ANGUS COUNCIL

PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE
FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE

13 June 2000
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REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY SERVICES

No 668/00

PROVISION OF FINGER GUARDS IN COUNCIL PROPERTIES – PHASE 1

Abstract

This report seeks approval to the provision of supplementary funding from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund to allow the first phase of the installation of finger guards in selected non-housing properties.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committees for their respective interests are recommended to:-

1. note the requirement for remedial safety measures to be carried out in specific non-housing properties;
2. note the agreed funding package from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund and the Education Client Revenue Budget for Phase 1 of the programme;
3. approve the bid for supplementary funding in the sum of £33,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund for Phase 1 of a remedial safety measures programme;
4. instruct the Director of Property Services to progress Phase 1 of these works immediately and submit further reports detailing the later phases of this programme.

1 INTRODUCTION

Recent discussions with the Health and Safety Executive have identified an increasing national trend in the number of incidents of children trapping their fingers, between the door and the hinge side of the frame.

Following an investigation of Angus Council accident statistics it is noted that there have been several recent accidents involving children's fingers being damaged in doors. Fortunately none of these resulted in the loss of any fingers or tips.

Following detailed investigation into the matter, and after undertaking a risk assessment, it has been determined that the appropriate course of action is to install appropriate protection at doors likely to present a risk.

Suitable proprietary finger guards have been researched and, following successful field trials in Andover and Letham Primary Schools, it has been determined that such finger guards should be fitted to the door stop on the hinge side only of all door openings, in Council non-housing properties, likely to present a risk.

All new and upgraded buildings will have finger guards installed at doors likely to present a risk.

Due to the large number of buildings and doors to be protected it is considered appropriate to undertake a three year phased programme of finger guard installation commencing with buildings where occupants are most vulnerable, as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1

Primary & Nursery Schools - Part 1	All doors where practicable.	Phase 1 2000/01
Primary & Nursery Schools - Part 2 Secondary Schools, Children's Residential and Day Care Units	All doors where practicable except in Secondary Schools where only doors in the public areas and public toilets will be protected.	Phase 2 2001/02
Sports/Leisure Centres, Public Halls & Baths, Libraries & Museums	All doors except staff areas	Phase 3 2002/03

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The full cost of the installation of the guards has been estimated at £139,000 inclusive of fees and it is proposed to carry out the works in three phases as indicated in Table 1 with funding arrangements as indicated in Table 2.

The cost of carrying out these remedial safety measures cannot be contained within the Property Maintenance elements of the respective departmental revenue budgets and it is therefore necessary for supplementary funding to be made available from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund. In recognition of the dangers to young children, the Education Department is proposing to make funding available from other parts of their Revenue Budget in 2000/01 and 2001/02. However, it should be noted that the funding for Phase II in 2001/02 will be subject to the availability of adequate financial resources.

Table 2

Phase	Education Client Revenue	Renewal & Repairs Inc Fees	Total
1	£20,000	£33,000	£53,000
2	£20,000	£33,000	£53,000
3	£0	£33,000	£33,000
Totals	£40,000	£99,000	£139,000

3 CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Director of Law & Administration, Director of Finance and the Director of Education have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

4 CONCLUSION

The Committees for their respective interests are recommended to note the requirement for remedial safety measures to be carried out in specific non-housing properties; note the agreed funding package from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund and the Education Client Revenue Budget for Phase 1 of the programme; approve the bid for supplementary funding in the sum of £33,000 from the Property Renewal and Repair Fund for Phase 1 of a remedial safety measures programme and instruct the Director of Property Services to progress Phase 1 of these works immediately and submit further reports detailing the later phases of this programme.

REFERENCES

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Article</u>	<u>Subject</u>
Finance and Information Technology Committee	15 June 1998	922/98	Strategic Review of Renewal and Repair Funds.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Provision of finger guards - Phase1

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

M G Lunny
Director of Property Services

Appendix 1

Provision of Finger Guards – Phase 1

Site Name	Costs per Property
Barry Primary School	£570
Colliston Primary School	£840
Hayshead Primary School	£3,390
Inverbrothock Primary School	£3,000
Inverkeilor Primary School	£390
Kinloch Primary School	£6,140
Ladyloan Primary School	£3,480
Muirfield Primary School	£3,360
Panmure Community Centre	£960
St Thomas' Primary School	£1,560
Timmergreens Primary School	£2,880
Warddykes Primary School	£3,300
Carlogie Primary School	£4,710
Carmyllie Primary School	£1,950
Ferryden Primary School	£2,070
Grange Primary School	£4,710
St Margaret's Primary School	£510
Seaview Primary School	£2,910
Seaview Primary School Annexe	£1,350
4 Real Centre	£330
Southesk Primary School	£1,590
Total	£50,000