

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Educational Services Committee: 20 February 2013

Subject: Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire - Update

1. Purpose

- 1.1** This report updates Members on activity and progress with regard to implementing West Dunbartonshire's Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** The Educational Service Committee is recommended to:
- (a) note the progress made in the past three months with the Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire; and
 - (b) to note that a further update will be submitted to the Committee at its May 2013 meeting.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Strategy to Raise Attainment and Achievement in West Dunbartonshire was agreed by the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee (now known as the Educational Services Committee) in September 2011. A further recommendation was agreed that a report on progress with the implementation of the Strategy should be presented to every Education and Lifelong Learning Committee (now known as the Educational Services Committee) as a standing item. This is the seventh such update.

4. Main Issues

4.1 Leadership for Learning Visits/Standard Tables and Charts

The revised format for Leadership for Learning visits was presented to Committee in August 2012. By the November 2012 meeting of the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee the visits had taken place in 2 schools. Appendices 1-5 give the report from each school's visit.

4.2 Raising Attainment School Plans

Members were issued with each school's plans for raising attainment. Appendices 6-10 provide Members with an update on activity.

4.3 Masterclasses

Last session Educational services introduced masterclasses to supplement study support programmes already in place across our 5 secondary schools. The excellent evaluations of these masterclasses were presented to Committee and Members asked for the masterclass Programme to be extended this session. The Quality Improvement Team has begun planning for an enhanced programme to include Modern Studies, Biology and Human Biology.

4.4 Family Groups in Primary Schools

Family groups of primary schools serving catchment areas with similar socio-economic characteristics have met to share information and expertise about standards relating to the various levels within Curriculum for Excellence. Each Head Teacher has brought assessed writing to meetings and moderation exercises have taken place. Every HT is visiting a partner school in WDC. At the meeting the receiving HT will outline where the school is under the 3 HMIE questions. They will then provide evidence for the visiting HT to validate what the report stated. The visiting HT will then give feedback to the receiving headteacher. They will change roles and go through the process again. The following week a teacher will visit a teacher in the other school to look at learning and teaching. Again at a later date the roles will be reversed so every school will have a visitor and every school will be visited.

- 4.5** Standardised assessments will be undertaken with P3, P5 and P7 and will take place at the beginning of March. This will give us more data and allow schools to evaluate programmes as a result of the outcome of the assessments.

5. People Implications

- 5.1** The seconded Raising Attainment teachers will remain in post for the for the academic session. Opportunities for professional development will continue for this team to reflect particular issues as we go forward.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1** There are no financial implications as a direct result of this progress report.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1** Failure to implement an authority-wide strategy to raise attainment will disadvantage our young people and may become a reputational risk to the Council.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1** Educational services has carried out a screening in equality for this report. The report was found not to be relevant to the specified equality duty because the content provides an update on service delivery rather than stating a change in policy.

9. Consultation

- 9.1** Legal Services and the Section 95 Officer have been consulted in relation to the content of this report.

10. Strategic Assessment

- 10.1** This report reflects the Council's aspiration to improve life chances for children and young people which is one of the strategic priorities for 2012 - 2017.

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Appendices:	Appendix 1 Report from Clydebank High School's Visit Appendix 2 Report from Dumbarton Academy School's Visit Appendix 3 Report from Our Lady and St Patrick's High School's Visit Appendix 4 Report from St Peter the Apostle High School's Visit Appendix 5 Report from Vale of Leven Academy School's Visit Appendix 6 Clydebank High School Plan for Raising Attainment - Update Appendix 7 Dumbarton Academy School Plan for Raising Attainment - Update Appendix 8 Our Lady and St Patrick's High School Plan for Raising Attainment - Update

Appendix 9 St Peter the Apostle High School Plan for
Raising Attainment - Update
Appendix 10 Vale of Leven Academy School Plan for
Raising Attainment - Update

Background Papers: EIA Screening

Wards Affected: All wards