

## **West Dunbartonshire Council**

### **Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services**

**Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 9 September 2009**

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**Subject: Standards and Quality Report 2008/2009**

#### **1. Purpose**

- 1.1** To inform Members of the publication of Educational Services' Standards and Quality Report for 2008/2009 (a copy of which is provided as Appendix 1).

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1** The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 requires Education Authorities to secure improvement in the quality of school education and to report annually on progress made to secure improvement.
- 2.2** To meet this requirement, and also in line with the Council's policy on Public Performance Reporting, this year's Standards and Quality Report, summarising the performance of the Education Services, has been produced and will be distributed widely.

#### **3. Main Issues**

- 3.1** This Standards and Quality Report is comprehensive, containing information on the performance of the Department against the Local Improvement Objectives which were set for the relevant period and the results of an HMIE independent inspection of the education functions of West Dunbartonshire Council published in June 2009
- 3.2** The Report also identifies areas targeted for improvement over the coming years which will form the basis of the Action Plan written in response to recommendations from HMIE.
- 3.3** The report will be distributed widely both within and outwith the Authority to a wide audience including Elected Members, educational establishments, Parent Councils, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education, Scottish Education Authorities, as well as parents, staff and a number of partner agencies.

#### **4 Personnel Implications**

There are no personnel implications

#### **5 Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications.

## 6 Risk Analysis

The production of a comprehensive Standards and Quality Report helps the department to set clear targets and minimises the risk of underperformance.

## 7 Conclusions and Officers' Recommendations

- 7.1** Performance has improved generally since the previous year and services continue to improve. Of particular note, is the successful HMIE report which assessed the department's performance as "very good" in three of the core quality indicators (QIs) and "good" in the other seven QIs against the HMIE six point scale and the programme of regeneration of the schools' estate which has delivered three new secondary schools.
- 7.2** Priorities in 2009/10 will be to build on the successes of the past year, to maintain improvements in attainment, particularly at SCQF 5, 6 and 7 and to implement the Action Plan generated as a result of HMIE recommendations.
- 7.3** Members are asked to:
- a) note the contents of this report; and
  - b) approve the proposals for the distribution of the Standards and Quality Report.

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**Appendix 1:** Standards and Quality Report

**Background Papers:** Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000; and HMIE Inspection report on the education functions of West Dunbartonshire Council, June 2009

**Ward Affected:** All