

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Educational Services Committee: 4 June 2014

Subject: Validated Self-Evaluation

1. Purpose

- 1.1** This report informs Members about the publication of West Dunbartonshire Council's Validated Self-Evaluation (VSE) Report for Educational Services. (Appendix 1) <http://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk/council/performance-and-spending/education-vse/>

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** It is recommended that the Committee:
- (a) note the content of this positive report; and
 - (b) acknowledge the significant contribution of staff, young people and partners to the VSE activity and subsequent positive report.

3. Background

- 3.1** Members were informed of the forthcoming VSE at the Committee meeting of December 2013, and received an update at the May 2014 meeting of the Committee
- 3.2** The VSE considers the work of Educational Services in relation to improvements in performance, impact on learners and the overall capacity for improvement. This evidence is considered against the Single Outcome Agreement, the Council's priorities and the priorities of Educational Services.
- 3.3** The VSE visiting team from Education Scotland began the first engagement week with Educational Services on 20 January 2014. Subsequent meetings have taken place with the VSE Project Board, our Area Lead Officer and the Lead Facilitator.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1** The Education Scotland team of HM Inspectors and Associate Assessors are confident that the overall quality of West Dunbartonshire Council's Educational Services Self Evaluation is accurate and robust.

- 4.2 All participants in the VSE process demonstrated a strong commitment to ensure that their evaluative approaches were rigorous and were focussed upon securing improvement for the learners and communities of West Dunbartonshire.
- 4.3 The work of the VSE will be built on to deliver further change and improvement. This will be progressed through the Service Plan 2014/15.
- 4.4 Educational Services is now implementing the revised Improvement Framework to take account of VSE methodology.
- 4.5 Education Scotland and West Dunbartonshire's Educational Services will develop a Local Partnership Agreement to support the on-going drive for change.
- 5. **People Implications**
- 5.1 This report has no implications for personnel.
- 6. **Financial Implications**
- 6.1 This report has no financial implications.
- 7. **Risk Analysis**
- 7.1 Failure to engage in robust and challenging self-evaluation would result in the quality of our service impacting negatively on the people we serve.
- 8. **Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)**
- 8.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out and found that the VSE process will support our duty to secure improvement within the terms of Standards in Scotland's Schools Etc. Act 2000
- 9. **Consultation**
- 9.1 Legal Services, the Section 95 Officer and the VSE Project Board 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.

Terry Lanagan
Executive Director

Person to Contact: Laura Mason, Head of Service, Department of
Educational Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road,
Dumbarton G82 3PU
Telephone No. 01389 737304
E-mail: laura.mason@west-dunbarton.gov.uk

Appendices: Appendix 1 - VSE Report

Background Papers: EIA

Wards Affected: All Wards