

West Dunbartonshire Council

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 15 December 2010

Subject: GLOW developments in West Dunbartonshire

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To provide members with background information relating to a presentation to be made at committee on the current and future development of GLOW in West Dunbartonshire.

2. Background

- 2.1** Members requested a presentation on the GLOW system be made to a future committee at its meeting on 24th August 2010.
- 2.2** GLOW is the national educational intranet to support developments within education including Curriculum for Excellence.
- 2.2** GLOW is provided through a partnership between Research Machines (RM) and Learning Teaching Scotland (LTS).

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** Communication, national resource access and content sharing are the strongest features of GLOW for educational establishments.
- 3.2** GLOW now also acts as a gateway to other educational resources and sites.
- 3.3** The GLOW intranet has been updated on a regular basis recently to enable establishment users to access a wider range of functions including blogs, forums etc.
- 3.4** There have been ongoing technical issues locally and nationally that have had an impact on roll-out and access.

4. People Issues

- 4.1** The management of GLOW at council level needs the continued presence of an officer post to deal with local and national technical issues. The ongoing development of GLOW has implications for staff training.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1** Current developments are addressed through central and delegated budgets. There is a need to consider refresh of hardware and software to manage further advances in technical applications.

6. Risk Analysis

- 6.1** If training provision and hardware and software refresh prevent access to available facilities and opportunities there is the risk of potential disadvantage to pupils and staff.

7. Equalities Impact

- 7.1** No significant issues were identified in a screening for potential equality impact of this report.

8. Conclusions and Recommendations

- 8.1** Members are requested:

- (a) to note the contents of this report; and
- (b) to seek clarification and any further information from the officer providing the presentation.

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Background papers None

Wards Affected: All wards