

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Education and Lifelong Learning Committee: 11 November 2009

Subject: Inspection of West Dunbartonshire Psychological Service – Action Plan

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To provide Members with information on the Action Plan produced following the publication of the inspection report of West Dunbartonshire Psychological Service.

2. Background

- 2.1** Inspectorate of Education noted three points for action in the published report. These were as follows:

- Develop a more robust and systematic way of collecting data to evaluate impact of services at all levels including corporate levels.
- Establish more formal relationships with stakeholders and partners, and engage them further in service planning.
- Review planning and policy arrangements to more effectively meet strategic and corporate objectives.

3. Main Issues

- 3.1** The Action Plan has been developed through professional dialogue within the Psychological Service team, taking into account the broader authority and corporate context.
- 3.2** Given the size of the Psychological Service and the nature of their work, the Action Plan has been developed to sit within the overall Improvement Plan for 2009/12 which is a high level strategic plan.
- 3.3** Developments will be taken forward through the following three areas of activity:
- i. Develop protocols for gathering evidence of impact of Educational Psychologist's contribution at individual school and Authority levels through:
 - termly reflection with manager on impact of Educational Psychology intervention on pupil progress;

- annual interactive discussion with Head Teacher/Head of Centre to inform Service level agreement;
 - annual reflection with groups and with manager on impact of Educational Psychology in group;
 - cross border research in developing methods of evaluating the impact of training.
- ii. Development of Cluster groups in the Authority is an opportunity to consult with and engage colleagues in the development and delivery of the Service:
- we will consult with Early Years cluster groups in 09 to10;
 - on-going consultation and negotiation as clusters develop.
- iii. Service Plan for 2009 to 2012 has been revised and is more closely aligned with Educational Service's Plan and actions are at a higher more strategic level. Operational plans are developed at the level of the individual and linked to their personal development plans.

4. Personnel Issues

4.1 This report has no implications for personnel.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The Action Plan will be met within existing budgets.

6. Risk Analysis

6.1 HMIE will make no further visit in connection with this inspection. The District Inspector will continue to monitor the progress made as part of HMIE's contact with the Council.

7. Conclusions & Officers' Recommendations

7.1 Members are requested to note the contents of this report.

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Appendix 1: Extract from Psychological Service Improvement Plan 2009/2012.

Background Papers: Inspection Report of West Dunbartonshire Psychological Service previously distributed.

Wards Affected: All Wards