

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Educational Services Committee: 5 March 2014

Subject: Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Post-Appeal Examination Results 2013

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To update Members on the post-appeal performance of West Dunbartonshire schools in the national Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) examinations of 2013 as requested by the committee on 4 December 2013.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Members are requested to:
- a) note the contents of this report and the attached appendices; and
 - b) congratulate the pupils, parents and carers, staff and centrally deployed staff for achievements in this year's examinations.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Educational Services Committee held on 4 December 2013 agreed that a report should be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee providing an update on the 2013 SQA examination results once the appeals process was concluded.
- 3.2** The Scottish Government bi-annually publishes Standard Tables and Charts (STACS) which give a detailed analysis of the national SQA Examination results. The second, post-appeal, version of this was published on 28 January 2014.
- 3.3** All data shown in this paper is post-appeal, i.e. after all successful appeals have been granted.
- 3.4** In Appendix 2, results for St Peter the Apostle High School from 2010 to 2013 are compared with the combined results for St Andrew's and St Columba's High Schools in the year 2009.
- 3.5** SCQF levels are shown in Appendix 3.

4. Main Issues

4.1 Across the authority, three measures improved as a result of the appeals process. They were:

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 by end S4 (up 1%)

3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S5 (up 1%)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S6 (up 1%)

All Authority post-appeal statistics can be seen in Appendix 1

4.2 Across the five secondary schools, 16 measures improved as a result of the appeals process. They were:

Clydebank High Schools

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 by end S4 (up 2%)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 by end S4 (up 2%)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S5 (up 1%)

Dumbarton Academy

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 by end S4 (up 1%)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 by end S4 (up 1%)

1 or more awards at SCQF Level 7 by end S6 (up 2%)

Our Lady and St Patrick's High School

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 by end S4 (up 1%)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 by end S4 (up 1%)

St Peter the Apostle High School

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 by end S4 (up 1%)

3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S5 (up 1%)

Vale of Leven Academy

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 by end S4 (up 1%)

3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S5 (up 1%)

3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 by end S6 (up 1%)

All school level post-appeal statistics can be seen in Appendix 2.

4.3 The format the Scottish Government uses to report SQA results will change to the new Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool for the 2014 SQA Exam Diet. As a result there will be no pre or post appeal STACs publication in the future.

5. People Implications

5.1 This report has no implications for personnel.

6. Financial Implications

6.1 This report has no direct financial implications.

7. Risk Analysis

7.1 Failure to accurately analyse SQA performance and failure to take appropriate action to tackle underachievement and to raise attainment could put individual pupils and groups of learners at risk of failing to achieve their potential.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

8.1 Because the content provides an update on service delivery rather than stating a change in policy, there are no equalities issues with this report.

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.

Terry Lanagan

Executive Director of Educational Services

Date:

Person to Contact:	David Fulton, Quality Improvement Officer, Educational Services, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton G82 3PU. Telephone (01389) 737333. Email david.fulton@west-dunbaton.gov.uk
Appendices:	Appendix 1: WDC Whole School Results – Authority Level Appendix 2: WDC Whole School Results – School Level Appendix 3: The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework.
Background Papers:	Report on Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) Examination Results 2012 presented to the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee on – 07 November 2012.
Wards Affected:	All.