

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL

Report by the Executive Director of Educational Services

Educational Services Committee: 20 February 2013

Subject: 2012-17 Education Service Plan Q3 Performance Report

1. Purpose

- 1.1** This report informs members of the third quarter 2012/13 Performance Report on the 2012/17 Education Service Plan prepared by the Department of Educational Services. The report highlights our performance across all the services delivered by the Department for the period April to December 2012 (a copy of the Service Plan Progress Report is provided as Appendix 1).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1** Members are asked to note the contents of this report and the attached appendix.

3. Background

- 3.1** The Council's Performance Management Framework was developed via the Risk & Performance Management Working Group and agreed by the CMT and subsequently by Audit & Performance Review Committee on 14th January 2009. The Framework states that departments are required to bring a performance report on their Departmental Service Plan to the relevant service committee twice yearly.
- 3.2** While members will be aware that a 6 month progress report is normally presented to committee, due to the timing of the committee meeting, third quarter data was available and it was decided to include it to give members the most up to date information available.
- 3.3** Provided in the report, where applicable, are comparisons against our Local Authority family group which consists of six local authorities which are considered to be similar in size and socioeconomic factors. Our group comprises Clackmannanshire Council; Inverclyde Council; Midlothian Council; North Ayrshire Council; Renfrewshire Council; and West Dunbartonshire Council.
- 3.4** The performance of all Scottish local authorities is also used to give a fuller picture of our performance nationally where this data is available.
- 3.5** It should be noted that, because of concern over school pupil attainment in West Dunbartonshire, the Education and Lifelong Learning Committee (now known as Educational Services Committee) approved Educational Services' strategy to raise attainment. In the 2011/12 and 2012/13 school sessions, the

Service has invested significantly in seconded teachers, supported study and master classes in a bid to support our young people to achieve more.

4. Main Issues

- 4.1 The majority of the department's performance indicators indicate that the Department is achieving its targets and is improving in both the short and long term trends.
- 4.2 School leavers entering positive destinations in West Dunbartonshire has increased by 1.1% to 92.6% in 2011/2012 compared to 91.5% in 2010/2011. The Leavers from West Dunbartonshire in positive destination are 2.7% higher than the national average of 89.9% in 2011/12..
- 4.3 So far in the current school session only one inspection report has been published. That was for The Choices Programme. The report is again positive and in fact four of the five quality indicators were rated 'Good' and the fifth rated 'Very Good'.
- 4.4 The Early and Effective Intervention procedure and Attendance Review Committee (ARC) have reduced the numbers of referrals to the Scottish Children's Reporter Administration (SCRA) dramatically.
- 4.5 As at the end of the third quarter, 48% of educational establishments have been granted a Green Flag award from Eco-Schools Scotland. The authority is on track to achieve its target of 50% by the end of the current school session.
- 4.6 Primary school attendance over session 2011/12 improved slightly on the previous year's figure, although the target figure was missed by 0.6%.
- 4.7 Secondary school attendance over session 2011/12 improved by 1.4% on the previous year's figure and the target was exceeded by 0.4%.
- 4.8 The level of exclusion in West Dunbartonshire schools was reduced in session 2011/12 by 11 to 42 cases of exclusion per 1,000 pupils, 19 better than target.

5. People Implications

- 5.1 There are no personnel issues related to this report.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications related to this report.

7. Risk Analysis

- 7.1 Performance Reporting is itself a mechanism through which Educational Services manages the risk of failing to provide high quality services.

8. Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 8.1** Educational Services has carried out a screening in equality for this report. The report was found not to be relevant to the specified equality duty because the content provides an update on service delivery rather than stating a change of policy.

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.

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Appendix: Appendix 1 - Service Plan Progress Report

Background Papers: EIA Screening

Wards Affected: All