

PLEASE NOTE TIMES OF MEETING

A meeting of the Education & Communities Committee will be held on Tuesday 9 March 2021.

The Communities business will commence at 1pm and the Education business at 4pm and separate invites will be issued for each part of the meeting.

This meeting is by remote online access only through the videoconferencing facilities which are available to participants and relevant Officers. The joining details will be sent to participants and Officers prior to the meeting.

In the event of connectivity issues, participants are asked to use the *join by phone* number in the Webex invitation.

Please note that this meeting will be recorded.

GERARD MALONE
Head of Legal and Property Services

BUSINESS

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<p>5. Education & Communities Committee: Expedited Business, Relevant Updates and Operational Log for the Education Part of the Committee Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development</p>	<p>p</p>
<p>Please note that because of the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency, this meeting will not be open to members of the public.</p> <p>The reports are available publicly on the Council's website and the minute of the meeting will be submitted to the next standing meeting of the Inverclyde Council. The agenda for the meeting of the Inverclyde Council will be available publicly on the Council's website.</p> <p>In terms of Section 50A(3A) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as introduced by Schedule 6, Paragraph 13 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, it is necessary to exclude the public from the meetings of the Committee on public health grounds. The Council considers that, if members of the public were to be present, this would create a real or substantial risk to public health, specifically relating to infection or contamination by Coronavirus.</p>	

Enquiries to – **Sharon Lang** – Tel 01475 712112

Report To: Education and Communities Committee

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development

Contact Officer: Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources

Subject: Education and Communities Committee: performance report for the Communities part of the Committee

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider performance reporting for the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides an update on communities revenue and capital budgets for period 9. Full details can be found in Appendices 1 and 2.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:
- notes the content of this report.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 UPDATES

4.1 Communities – Period 9 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Communities as at 31 December 2020 is an overspend of £1.178 million which is an increase in expenditure of £218,000 since last Committee.

The projections include net Covid costs of £1.279 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget. Excluding the Covid-19 costs, there is a projected underspend of £101,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £26,000 since the last Committee.

Main areas of underspend are:

- None – there are no underspends greater than £100,000.

Main areas of overspend are:

- Inverclyde Leisure Management Fee is projected to overspend by £1.177 million as a result of additional payments to support its cashflow as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. These costs are prior to the Level 4 lockdown and likely to increase in 2021/22.

Earmarked Reserves for 2020/21 total £152,000, of which £106,000 is projected to be spent in the current Financial Year. Expenditure to date is £20,000 or 18.9% of the project total for 2020/21. Spend to date per profiling was expected to be £9,000 resulting in expenditure being ahead of plan by £11,000.

Further details can be found in Appendix 1.

4.2 Communities Capital Programme

Lady Alice Bowling Club: Concerned over the limited progress being made by the club in respect of work to the clubhouse, officers called an urgent meeting in November 2020 with the management committee of Lady Alice Bowling Club. At the meeting officers raised concerns regarding the timescales of the project and the club's limited progress in identifying appropriate funding to support the overall costs of the works required. A decision was made by Inverclyde Council officers to put on hold all spend on the project until Officers can be assured that the management committee of Lady Alice Bowling Club could progress these issues. In December 2020 Officers met again with the management committee for an update of progress.

Lady Alice Bowling Club has now recognised the importance of moving this project forward and have established different working groups to support their process. The management committee is also working with Community Link Scotland to support it to identify and apply for external funding and is currently engaging with Legal Services to agree and sign off a 25 year lease agreement.

Through the Council's budget process it was agreed that the Council should continue to support the management committee of Lady Alice Bowling Club to identify and source external funding to match the shortfall in respect of the building and project costs before March 2022, and, the remaining Council contribution of £192k be held to 2022/23. This is pending the outcome of the external funding bids by the club, notwithstanding any urgent repairs to the clubhouse which would be funded from this sum.

Indoor Sports Facility for Tennis:

Following the decision by Sports Scotland and the LTA on 11 November confirming that the stage 2 re-application had been successful, a meeting has recently taken place with Inverclyde Council, Sport Scotland to discuss the project funding.

Leisure Pitches Asset Management Plan / Lifecycle Fund:

The lifecycle works continue to be progressed based on the revised asset plan agreed at the September 2020 Education & Communities Committee. The Parklea project is progressing towards completion which is anticipated to be early March 2021, subject to suitable weather conditions. The next planned carpet replacement is at Lady Octavia Sports Centre 3G pitch which is programmed for summer 2021.

Grieve Road Community Centre:

The works have been progressed in phases/trade packages with the majority of the planned work now completed. The installation of new high level windows in the main hall, introduction of a disability compliant toilet and relocation of an office, remain outstanding pending the receipt of statutory approvals to allow an installation date to be agreed. Works are anticipated to be fully complete by the end of the second quarter 2021.

Wemyss Bay Community Centre:

Similar to Grieve Road Community Centre, the works have been progressed in phases/trade packages with the majority of the planned work now completed. The installation of new high level windows in the main hall remains outstanding pending the receipt of statutory approvals and tender documents are to be issued imminently. Works are anticipated to be fully complete by the end of the second quarter 2021.

Whinhill Golf Club Lifecycle Works:

Technical Services is currently developing work packages in phases with replacement of windows and security shutters, to be completed in the first quarter 2021. A second phase is planned to address the external roughcast and reroofing. Further phases will potentially address some internal alterations including a refurbishment of toilets, subject to overall budget availability.

Waterfront Leisure Centre Training Pool Moveable Floor:

Technical Services has engaged an external mechanical and electrical consultant with surveys completed and a technical specification prepared. Tender documents are now being prepared.

Watt Institution Creativity Space:

National Heritage Lottery Funding has been secured through the 'Watt Voices' project to address internal alterations to an existing office space and formation of a creativity space. Outline proposals have been prepared to allow a stage 2 cost comparison against available budget.

Craigend Resource Centre:

Construction work on the Craigend Resource Centre is progressing as planned, with the current status as: groundworks and below slab drainage completed; steel frame erected; and ground floor slab completed. No major issues have been uncovered within the groundworks elements, which reduces the potential for unknown issues. The project costs are in line with expectations, and the Craigend Resource Centre operations continue in the existing centre adjacent to the build.

Further details can be found in Appendix 2.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

There are no financial implications connected to this report.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.2 Legal

There are no known Legal implications contained within this report.

5.3 Human Resources

There are no known Human Resources implications contained within this report and no posts will be created as a result of the project.

5.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
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NO

5.5 Repopulation

N/A

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

COMMUNITIES CAPITAL REPORT

COMMITTEE: EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES

Project Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<u>Est Total Cost</u>	<u>Actual to 31/3/20</u>	<u>Approved Budget 2020/21</u>	<u>Revised Est. 2020/21</u>	<u>Actual to 31/01/21</u>	<u>Est 2021/22</u>	<u>Est 2022/23</u>	<u>Future Years</u>
	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	
Communities								
Lady Alice Bowling Club Refurb	210	17	0	1	1	0	192	0
Indoor Sports Facility For Tennis	835	0	0	0	0	600	235	0
Leisure Pitches AMP - Lifecycle Fund	1,723	112	250	550	176	200	611	250
Grieve Road Community Centre	200	92	90	83	53	25	0	0
Wemyss Bay Community Centre Refurbishment	100	46	38	47	47	7	0	0
Whinhill Golf Club Lifecycle Works	250	0	50	50	3	190	10	0
Waterfront Leisure Centre Training Pool Moveable Floor	325	0	0	10	5	300	15	0
Watt Institution Creativity Space	55	0	0	0	0	50	5	0
Complete On Site - Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save	7	0	7	7	0	0	0	0
Complete On Site	37	0	0	0	0	0	37	0
	3,742	267	435	748	285	1,372	1,105	250
CFCR								
Craigend Resource Centre (Grant Funded)	1,287	0	0	975	159	312	0	0

COMMUNITIES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****CURRENT POSITION****Period 9 - 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2020**

2019/20 Actual £000	Subjective Heading	Approved Budget 2020/21 £000	Revised Budget 2020/21 £000	Projected Out-turn 2020/21 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
1,689	Employee Costs	1,730	1,883	1,782	(101)	(5.4%)
730	Property Costs	737	611	604	(7)	(1.1%)
1,213	Supplies & Services	1,157	1,127	2,289	1,162	103.1%
2	Transport Costs	3	3	3	0	-
78	Administration Costs	79	79	79	0	-
1,131	Other Expenditure	1,121	1,067	1,020	(47)	(4.4%)
(291)	Income	(307)	(269)	(98)	171	(63.6%)
4,552	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	4,520	4,501	5,679	1,178	26.2%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19			(1,279)	(1,279)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE excluding Earmarked Reserves	4,520	4,501	4,400	(101)	

2019/20 Actual £000	Objective Heading	Approved Budget 2020/21 £000	Revised Budget 2020/21 £000	Projected Out-turn 2020/21 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
1,586	Libraries & Museum	1,610	1,609	1,650	41	2.5%
1,184	Sports & Leisure	1,112	1,160	2,334	1,174	101.2%
516	Community Safety	557	557	489	(68)	(12.2%)
1,014	Community Halls	989	949	980	31	3.3%
252	Grants to Vol Orgs	252	226	226	0	-
4,552	TOTAL COMMUNITIES	4,520	4,501	5,679	1,178	26.2%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	

COMMUNITIES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****MATERIAL VARIANCES****Period 9 -1st April 2020 to 31st December 2020**

<u>Out Turn</u> <u>2019/20</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Proportion</u> <u>of Budget</u>	<u>Actual to</u> <u>31-Dec-20</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Projection</u> <u>2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>(Under)/Over</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Over / (Under)</u>
(25)	Libraries & Museum Libraries & Museum Income	(70)	(53)	(2)	(2)	68	(97.1%)
709	Sports & Leisure IL Management Fee	624	468	1,440	1,801	1,177	188.6%
0	Community Halls Letting Officers Employees Costs	125	87	66	93	(32)	(25.6%)
28	Waivers	25	19	0	0	(25)	(100.0%)
(107)	School Lets Income	(135)	(70)	(6)	(36)	99	(73.3%)
472	Community Safety Employee Costs	498	345	287	437	(61)	(12.2%)
	Covid 19 Material Variances					1,279	
Total Material Variances		1,067	796	1,785	2,293	1,226	

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Communities

<u>Project</u>	<u>Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager</u>	<u>Total Funding 2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Phased Budget Period 9 2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Actual Period 9 2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Amount to be Earmarked for 2021/22 & Beyond</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
Community Fund (Participatory Budgets)	Tony McEwan	152	9	20	106	46	£65k funding 18 months post from P7 20/21 and £87k payments to be made to various Community Groups P10 20/21. £48k pays for last 12 months of post in 21/22. £7k w/b to General Reserves. YTD payment £17k Gourock Golf Club and £3k Craigend Resource Centre.
Total		152	9	20	106	46	

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	9 March 2021
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/14/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Education and Communities Committee: expedited business, relevant updates and operational log for the Communities part of the Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log for the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This is the first update report provided to the Education and Communities Committee for services which fall under the remit of the Communities part of the committee.

2.2 This report considers the following expedited business and relevant updates:

- Regeneration Capital Grant Funding;
- Successful funding bids for culture recovery planning;
- CLD annual report;
- GTVO and U19s Sports Grants;
- Subsidised Swimming for Under 16s;
- Inverclyde Leisure 3 year plan; and
- The operational log for the communities part of the committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the contents of this report;
- grants delegated authority to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisation Development after consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and Chief Financial Officer to accept the Regeneration Capital Grants Fund (RCGF) on behalf of Inverclyde Council;
- approves the annual report on CLD service;
- approves one grant of £10,000 in respect of Fort Matilda Tennis Club through GTVO;
- approves the proposals for Under 16 swimming as outlined in paragraph 4.5; and
- approves the Inverclyde Leisure strategic plan.

4.0 UPDATES

4.1 Regeneration Capital Grant Fund

The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF), delivered in partnership with COSLA and local government, supports locally developed place-based regeneration projects that involve local communities, helping to support and create jobs and build sustainable communities. Applications to the fund are made on an annual basis and, where justified, can potentially cover more than one financial year.

Inverclyde submitted 3 applications to stage 2: The Inverclyde Shed | Meet, Make + Share, Parklea Garden Hub, Greenock Town Centre and King George VI Building.

In January 2021 confirmation was received from the Scottish Government RCGF that two projects were successful: King George VI Community Hub at 9-11 King Street, Port Glasgow; and The Inverclyde Shed. Awards were £1.1m and £504,804 respectively.

It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- grants delegated authority to the Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisation Development after consultation with the Head of Legal & Property Services and Chief Financial Officer to accept the Regeneration Capital Grants Fund (RCGF) on behalf of Inverclyde Council.

4.2 Successful funding bids for culture recovery planning

In February 2020, Creative Scotland announced the recipients of 'Culture Collective' programme funding, including £275,000 for a local consortium led by Inverclyde Council and in partnership with the Beacon Arts Centre, RIG Arts, CVS Inverclyde and Inverclyde Youth Theatre (Kayos). Officers from all 5 organisations worked together to design a series of projects which, over the course of the next 18 months, will be used across Inverclyde to allow freelance creative practitioners and organisations to develop their programmes and pilot new local partnership and community projects and new collaborative ways of working. The project will investigate key themes specific to Inverclyde: health and social care (focus on adult mental health); young people; regeneration of communities; outdoor work; and engaging with areas that have low arts engagement and barriers to access.

The project will create one post – Arts Co-ordinator – which will be hosted by CVS Inverclyde. The Libraries, Educational Development and Arts Manager will manage and monitor the overall project, the budget and associated procurement. There was no match fund expected by Creative Scotland as part of the bidding process. All project activity will be risk assessed, accounting for Covid-19 restrictions. The health and safety of all staff, volunteers, partners, participants and contractors will be paramount at all times.

In addition the Beacon Arts Centre's application to the Weston Culture Fund was successful and it has been awarded £170,000 to support community engagement and artistic plans over the next 12 months.

4.3 Community Learning and Development Annual Report

The annual report of the CLD service provides information on activities, developments and achievements over the last year to August 2020, in relation to the following areas:

- Adult learning;
- Adult literacies;
- Family learning and work with parents;
- English for speakers of other languages (ESOL);
- Youth work including school-based/community-based programmes and youth participation; and
- Community engagement.

The annual report also gives the service an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of the service while informing elected members, stakeholders and participants on the impact of CLD's work. Although Covid-19 had a detrimental impact on the service's ability to deliver on its improvement actions last year, CLD made a significant contribution to the Council's humanitarian response to the pandemic. Staff supported the delivery and provision of meals to hubs, meals to children and families who were shielding or isolating; the provision of resource packs, learning sessions and ICT to adults and pupils at home and the delivery of childcare hubs over the summer holidays for key workers. In addition, the service ensured transport was provided to and from hubs for our most vulnerable children. The annual report provides further information on the extent of the support which was provided and indeed continues through this year. A copy of the report is attached as an appendix and can also be found through the following link:

[Link to CLD Annual Report 2019-20](#)

4.4 Grants to voluntary organisations and Under 19s sports grants

A second round of grants applications took place in January 2021. In line with current policy for 2020/2021 the Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources, in consultation with the Convener of the Grants Sub-Committee, approved £56,017 worth of GTVO and £4,648 Under 19s sports grants.

34 applications for grants were made, requesting a total of £199,725.10. This included applications deferred from Round 1. 27 grants were approved totalling £56,017.16 and one grant of £10,000 is submitted to this Education and Communities Committee for approval.

In respect of Under 19s Sports Grants for 2020/2021, a total of £48,124.28 was available. 4 applications for grants were made, requesting a total of £8,348.24. In full consultation with the Chair of the Grants Sub-Committee, 4 grants were approved, totalling £4,648.24.

It is recommended that one organisation, Fort Matilda Tennis Club, receives a grant of £10,000 and in line with current standing orders, the Education and Communities Committee is asked to approve the award of this grant. The grant will be used to complete replacement works on courts at the club. A similar award was made to Ardgowan Tennis Club in the first round of GTVO.

4.5 Subsidised Swimming for Under 16s

At the meeting on Tuesday 19 January the Education and Communities Committee considered options for providing subsidised swimming for under 16s following a decision of the Council in December 2020 to agree as part of the budget process a saving of £100,000 from the £180,000 budget. The committee asked that consideration be continued to the March Committee for a further detailed report providing further details and financial implications relative to (1) the possible provision of the extra £27,000 being allocated from the Under 19s Sports Subsidy rather than the GTVO (2). The proposal comprised the following:

- (a) that Inverclyde Leisure be paid for each swim rather than a set annual sum;
- (b) that under 11s swim be continued on the same basis;
- (c) that children 11 to under 16 be able to access free swimming with the presentation of a Young Scot Card to enable customer information to be gathered;
- (d) that the remaining budget be allocated from COVID funding for the period 2021/22; and
- (e) that a report be brought back to a future Committee providing information on customers using swims who were entitled to free school meals.

Officers have worked with Inverclyde Leisure to consider the practical implications of proposals and propose the following:

- That the Committee asks the Council as part of the 2021/23 Budget consideration to defer the saving until March 2022;
- That during the year 2021/22 Inverclyde Leisure be paid for each swim rather than a set

annual sum;

- That in order to access a subsidised swim young people under 16 register free of charge for an Under 16 residents' swim card. This card will be provided by Inverclyde Leisure and will ask for proof of address and an agreement that data can be shared with the Council. This method is thought to be the most pragmatic approach. The Young Scot Card would be too costly to link with the IL database already in place and the Council and IL would not be able to monitor data of usage. The Under 16 residents' swim card would entitle users to a free swim during the year April 2021 to end of March 2022; and
- That a report is submitted to a future committee to consider how the allocated £80,000 per annum to subsidise swimming is implemented.

4.6 The Board of Inverclyde Leisure approved its strategic plan at its meeting on 30 November 2020. The link to this strategy can be accessed:

<https://www.inverclydeleisure.com/media/1373/il-strategic-plan-20-23.pdf> and has been subject to a members briefing.

4.7 The operational log for this report is attached as Appendix 1.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

There are no financial implications connected to this report.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

5.2 Legal

There are no known Legal implications contained within this report.

5.3 Human Resources

There are no known Human Resources implications contained within this report and no posts will be created as a result of the project.

5.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

YES

X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required
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(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

5.5 Repopulation

N/A.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 None.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

71 None.

Education and Communities Committee

Operational Decision Log – Culture, Communities & Educational Resources

From: 5 February 2021

To: 11 February 2021

Week 5

**Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
RB/KB**

Education, Communities & Organisational Development – OPERATIONAL LOG 2021

	Service Issue	Action taken	Reported to CMT	Supporting Report Yes – N/A	Implemented	Officer
	<u>CULTURE, COMMUNITIES AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES</u>					
5.	Apply for Connecting Scotland: address digital poverty gap in partnership during ongoing pandemic by supplying laptops, Ipad's and MiFi devices to families, care leavers and vulnerable adults.	If bid is successful all devices will be supplied by Connecting Scotland in partnership with the Council and the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations and will be distributed and coordinated by Community Learning and Development Serviced: all costs to be contained within grant.	9.2.21	Yes	9.2.21	Service Manager, CLD, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	9 March 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/17/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No:	01475 712748
Subject:	Education and Communities Committee: performance report for the Education part of the Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider performance updates for the Education part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 Education – Period 9 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Education as at 31 December 2020 is an overspend of £4.025 million which is an increase in expenditure of £734,000 since the last Committee.

The projections include net Covid costs of £4.476 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget. Excluding the Covid-19 costs, there is a projected underspend of £451,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £338,000 since the last Committee.

2.2 Education capital report

Overall, the Committee is projecting to contain the costs of the 2020/23 Capital Programme within available budgets. Expenditure at 31 January 2021 is 115.72% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (69.68% of revised projection), there is net advancement of £2.135m (66.08%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £434K (13.43%) from that reported to the last Committee.

The Committee is requested to note the current over-expenditure of £172K on the recently completed St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension project (an increase of £126K from that reported to the last Committee) and that a more detailed report will be brought back to a future Committee upon agreement of the final account for the project. The future years lifecycle fund will be utilised to contain this within existing model resources pending a review of overall model allowances including the COVID pressure allowances.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The Education and Communities Committee is asked to:
- note the contents of this report.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

5.0 RELEVANT UPDATES

5.1 Education – Period 9 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Education as at 31 December 2020 is an overspend of £4.025 million which is an increase in expenditure of £734,000 since the last Committee.

The projections include net Covid costs of £4.476 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget. Excluding the Covid-19 costs, there is a projected underspend of £451,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £338,000 since the last Committee.

5.1.1 Main areas of underspend are:

- An underspend of £400,000 for Facilities Management Catering Supplies due to reduction in number of school meals being produced during Covid-19 pandemic.
- An underspend of £400,000 for Education Catering Recharge as a result of the FM Catering Supplies underspend noted above.

Main areas of overspend are:

- An overspend of £956,000 for Teachers. Additional costs of £1.167m have been incurred as a result of the Council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic. These costs are partially offset by savings on Supply Teachers.
- An overspend of £167,000 for Non Teacher Employee. An overspend of £412,000 for Facilities Management as a result of additional cleaners employed to deal with Covid-19 is partially offset by additional turn over savings mostly within Early Years and Schools.
- An overspend of £277,000 for Education Cleaning Recharge as a result of additional cleaning required as part of the Council's response to Covid-19.
- An overspend of £429,000 for Facilities Management Catering Resources as a result of payments to Foodbanks and purchase of food items for vulnerable people.
- An overspend of £250,000 for purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required in schools.
- An overspend of £435,000 on IT Equipment required for Schools Digital Connectivity as part of Home Learning.
- An overspend of £1.579 million for payments made to families entitled to Free School Meals during school lockdowns and holidays.
- A shortfall in School Meal Income of £646,000 as a result of low uptake of meals as a result of school closures.

Earmarked Reserves for 2020/21, excluding those for Asset Plans and Strategic Funds, total £2.359 million of which £1.412 million is projected to be spent in the current Financial Year. To date expenditure of £931,000 (65.9%) has been incurred. Spend to date per profiling was expected to be £1.366 million, therefore slippage to date is £435,000 or 31.8% and relates to the Early Years 1140 Hours earmarked reserve.

Further detail is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

5.2 Education capital report

Overall, the Committee is projecting to contain the costs of the 2020/23 Capital Programme within available budgets. Expenditure at 31 January 2021 is 115.72% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (69.68% of revised projection), there is net advancement of £2.135m (66.08%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £434K (13.43%) from that reported to the last Committee.

The Committee is requested to note the current over-expenditure of £172K on the recently completed St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension project (an increase of £126K from that reported to the last Committee) and that a more detailed report will be brought back to a future Committee upon agreement of the final account for the project. The

future years lifecycle fund will be utilised to contain this within existing model resources pending a review of overall model allowances including the COVID pressure allowances. Further detail is attached to this report as Appendix 2.

5.2.1 PROJECTS RECENTLY COMPLETED ON SITE

St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension:

As previously reported the final account negotiations are still ongoing and additional funding will be required to address projected over expenditure. The Committee is requested note the current over expenditure of £172K (an increase of £126K from that reported to the previous Committee) and that a more detailed report on the final position will be brought back to a future Committee upon agreement of the final account for the project. The Committee is also requested to note and approve the temporary allocation of future years lifecycle funding to contain the expenditure within the current funding model. The overall position will be reviewed including potential allocation from the COVID contingency and reallocation of current complete on site allowances.

5.2.2 PROJECTS ON SITE / UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Gourock Primary School Extension:

Tenders for the completion works were issued on the Public Contracts Scotland (PCS) web portal during week commencing 7th December with a return currently programmed for 19th February 2021. As previously reported it is anticipated that the cost of the completion works contract will exceed the available remaining budget. Subject to tender return and evaluation, and in order to minimise any further delay on restarting the project, the acceptance of the most economically advantageous tender will be progressed through the use of emergency powers. Engagement with the Head Teacher and wider stakeholders will continue as the project is progressed towards recommencement of works on site.

Hillend Children's Centre Refurbishment:

Works are progressing on site with internal partitions and timber kit structure for the extension substantially complete. Mechanical and electrical first fix works are progressing well with wall linings also commenced ahead of second fix works which will commence in the near future. Roof covering works are imminent with external wall cladding rail installation ongoing. As previously reported the project is currently reporting behind programme with completion anticipated in 2nd Quarter 2021.

Former Kelly Street Children's Centre Demolition / Landscaping Works:

The formal acceptance of the project has been delayed due to the inability to conclude the Building Warrant process in relation to Scottish Water approval for drainage connection of the site which is currently still awaited. A site start will be programmed upon receipt of Building Warrant and formal legal acceptance.

5.2.3 INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD REFRESH

The first phase works covering 5 primary schools has been completed as previously reported. The second phase works covering 3 secondary schools has commenced and is projected to be substantially completed by the end of March 2021.

5.2.4 SCHOOL ESTATE LIFECYCLE WORKS 2020/21

Lifecycle works continue to be addressed with further flooring and decoration works being progressed and some work brought forward due to the current low school occupancy e.g. new gym hall timber floor within St John's PS. The larger value sports pitch lifecycle works are also progressing with rejuvenation of pitches complete at Port Glasgow Community Campus and St Columba's High School, and with the 3G pitch carpet replacement ongoing at Inverclyde Academy.

5.2.5 **DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF 1140 HOURS OF EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE - INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS PROGRESS COMPLETED PROJECTS**

Project/Establishment Name	Date Completed
Blairmore Nursery Expansion (2-3s)	April 2018
St Joseph's Primary School Nursery Class (2-3s and 3-5s)	December 2018
St Francis Primary School Nursery Class (2-3s and 3-5s)	December 2018
Binnie Street Children's Centre (Outdoor)	June 2019
Kilmacolm Primary School Nursery Class (Outdoor)	September 2019
Wemyss Bay Primary School Nursery Class (Outdoor)	September 2019
Blairmore Nursery (Outdoor)	October 2019
Rainbow Family Centre (Outdoor)	December 2019
Gibshill Children's Centre (Outdoor)	February 2020
Craigmarloch School	August 2020
Gourock YAC	October 2020

5.2.6 **PROJECTS ON SITE / UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

Rainbow Family Centre Extension

The works are progressing on site with the substructure and timber kit installation completed and external superstructure brickwork ongoing. Roofing work, first fix joinery and first fix mechanical and electrical installations have commenced. External works are partly complete on the formation of block parking bays. The Contractor is currently reporting 4 weeks behind programme due to a combination of adverse weather, difficult ground conditions and site logistics.

Larkfield Children's Centre New Build

The works are progressing with initial groundworks including vibro-compaction ground improvement, foundations, gas membrane and underbuilding works substantially completed. Formation of car parking bays and access hardstanding is ongoing with main floor slab casting awaiting a suitable weather window. The Contractor is currently reporting 3 weeks behind programme due to a combination of adverse weather and site logistics.

Wellpark Children's Centre

Building warrant approved with works now commenced on site. Structural alterations and infill works are progressing. A site start will be programmed upon receipt of Building Warrant which has been submitted. Project is projected to be substantially completed by the end of March 2021.

5.2.7 **PROJECTS AT PRE-CONSTRUCTION STAGE**

Glenpark Early Learning Centre

Advance services connection work has been completed with formal acceptance now issued for outdoor teaching unit. The Contractor will now provide all information to allow submission of the necessary building warrant. Site programme will be dependent on receipt of warrant with projected start on site in 2nd Quarter 2021.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

6.2 **Legal**

The legal basis for the closure of schools is provided by Education Continuity Directions from the Scottish Government.

6.3 **Human Resources**

N/A.

6.4 **Equalities**

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

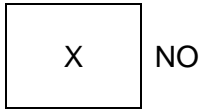
Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
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6.5 Repopulation

N/A.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 N/A.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.

EDUCATION CAPITAL REPORT
COMMITTEE: EDUCATION & COMMUNITIES



Project Name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Est Total Cost	Actual to 31/3/20	Approved Budget 2020/21	Revised Est. 2020/21	Actual to 31/01/21	Est 2021/22	Est 2022/23	Future Years
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
SEMP Projects								
Hillend Children's Centre - Refurbishment	1,484	113	500	700	563	621	50	0
Lifecycle Fund	10,217	3,934	400	900	578	1,000	2,882	1,501
Gourock PS - Extension	2,056	1,483	250	50	13	500	23	0
St Mary's PS - Refurbishment & Extension	6,763	5,949	611	814	814	0	0	0
Demolish Kelly Street Children's Centre	46	23	16	23	23	0	0	0
Kelly Street Site Landscaping (St. Mary's PS)	221	0	41	15	0	196	10	0
Demolish Sacred Heart Primary School	366	0	0	0	0	150	216	0
Interactive Whiteboard Refresh	700	0	75	550	220	150	0	0
Complete on site	407	0	0	0	0	0	407	0
TOTAL SEMP	22,260	11,502	1,893	3,052	2,211	2,617	3,588	1,501
Early Learning & Childcare Expansion (1140hrs) Projects								
Craigmarloch - Internal Alterations	6	0	10	6	2	0	0	0
Gourock YAC - Internal & External Alterations	275	182	40	93	93	0	0	0
Larkfield Children's Centre - New Build	2,906	260	500	950	599	1,550	146	0
Rainbow Family Centre - Extension	2,389	201	578	1,200	796	868	120	0
Wellpark Children's Centre - Alterations	40	0	80	30	6	10	0	0
Glenpark Early Learning Centre - Outdoor	164	0	120	25	23	129	10	0
ELC Complete on site	1,078	1,068	10	10	9	0	0	0
TOTAL ELC EXPANSION	6,858	1,711	1,338	2,314	1,528	2,557	276	0
CFCR Projects								
Education Connectivity	414	0	0	414	0	0	0	0
Additional COVID Pressure Allowance	506	0	0	0	0	0	506	0
	920	0	0	414	0	0	506	0
TOTAL ALL PROJECTS	30,038	13,213	3,231	5,780	3,739	5,174	4,370	1,501

EDUCATION**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****CURRENT POSITION****Period 9 - 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2020**

2019/20 Actual £000	Subjective Heading	Approved Budget 2020/21 £000	Revised Budget 2020/21 £000	Projected Out-turn 2020/21 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
45,120	Employee Costs - Teachers	46,096	50,562	51,518	956	1.9%
25,031	Employee Costs - Non Teachers	22,739	28,413	28,580	167	0.6%
16,598	Property Costs	8,091	8,085	8,252	167	2.1%
5,420	Supplies & Services	5,349	5,550	5,843	293	5.3%
2,638	Transport Costs	2,033	2,094	2,233	139	6.6%
645	Administration Costs	689	678	678	0	-
5,292	Other Expenditure	18,147	22,538	24,010	1,472	6.5%
(19,673)	Income	(12,353)	(26,173)	(25,342)	831	(3.2%)
81,071	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	90,791	91,747	95,772	4,025	4.4%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	(73)	(73)	0	
	Loan Charges / DMR	0	(4,808)	(4,808)	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19			(4,476)	(4,476)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE excluding Earmarked Reserves	90,791	86,866	86,415	(451)	

2019/20 Actual £000	Objective Heading	Approved Budget 2020/21 £000	Revised Budget 2020/21 £000	Projected Out-turn 2020/21 £000	Projected Over/(Under) Spend £000	Percentage Over/(Under)
174	Corporate Director	149	149	157	8	5.4%
58,529	Education	61,864	62,545	65,959	3,414	5.5%
95	Facilities Management	110	110	794	684	621.8%
9,237	School Estate Management Plan	14,557	14,738	14,738	0	-
67,861	TOTAL EDUCATION SERVICES	76,531	77,393	81,491	4,098	5.3%
9,402	ASN	10,337	10,345	10,265	(80)	(0.8%)
1,614	Community Learning & Development	1,685	1,745	1,745	0	-
2,020	Other Inclusive Education	2,089	2,115	2,114	(1)	(0.0%)
13,036	TOTAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION	14,111	14,205	14,124	(81)	(0.6%)
81,071	TOTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE	90,791	91,747	95,772	4,025	4.4%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	(73)	(73)	0	
	Loan Charges / DMR	0	(4,808)	(4,808)	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19	0	0	(4,476)	(4,476)	
	TOTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE excluding Earmarked Reserves	90,791	86,866	86,415	(451)	

EDUCATION**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****MATERIAL VARIANCES****Period 9 - 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2020**

<u>Out Turn</u> <u>2019/20</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>Heading</u>	<u>Budget</u> <u>2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Proportion</u> <u>of Budget</u>	<u>Actual to</u> <u>31-Dec-20</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Projection</u> <u>2020/21</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>(Under)/Over</u> <u>Budget</u> <u>£000</u>	<u>Percentage</u> <u>Over / (Under)</u>
45,120	ED Employee Costs -Teachers	50,562	33,708	31,279	51,518	956	1.9%
25,031	Employee Costs - Non Teachers	28,413	19,662	18,465	28,580	167	0.6%
528	Gas	513	342	253	463	(50)	(9.7%)
897	Electricity	930	620	499	884	(46)	(4.9%)
1,190	ED Cleaning Contract	1,144	858	932	1,421	277	24.2%
1,053	FM Catering Supplies	979	734	333	579	(400)	(40.9%)
3,253	ED Catering Recharge	3,249	2,437	1,464	2,849	(400)	(12.3%)
0	FM Catering Supplies - Covid-19	0	0	252	429	429	-
0	FM PPE / Hans Sanitiser - Covid 19	0	0	243	250	250	-
0	IT Digital Access Equipment	0	0	379	435	435	-
29	Outdoor Education Supplies	29	0	0	0	(29)	-
90	Pupil Consortium Travel	93	70	53	139	46	49.5%
416	ASN Transport	352	352	445	422	70	19.9%
3	EMA Administration	25	15	1	5	(20)	(80.0%)
8	Early Years Framework	37	21	1	7	(30)	(81.1%)
350	ASN Placements	371	216	110	337	(34)	(9.2%)
0	Food Payments - Covid-19	0	0	1,368	1,579	1,579	-
(30)	Music Tuition Fees	(34)	(34)	4	5	39	-
(900)	School Meal Income	(981)	(685)	(229)	(335)	646	(65.9%)
(32)	Breakfast Club Income	(62)	(43)	0	0	62	(100.0%)
(30)	Music Fees	(34)	(26)	1	5	39	(114.7%)
(6,442)	FM Income	(6,448)	(4,299)	(3,138)	(6,383)	65	(1.0%)
	Total Covid-19 Material Variances					4,606	
Total Material Variances						4,051	

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Education & Lifelong Learning

<u>Project</u>	<u>Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager</u>	<u>Total Funding 2020/21</u>	<u>Phased Budget To Period 9 2020/21</u>	<u>Actual To Period 9 2020/21</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2020/21</u>	<u>Amount to be Earmarked for 2020/21 & Beyond</u>	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
		<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	
Beacon Arts	Tony McEwan	87	0	0	27	60	Contingency for Beacon funding.
Autism Friendly	Tony McEwan	189	16	15	189	0	CVS post funded until end of Sept 2020, assumes balance spent by year end
Year of Young People Legacy	Tony McEwan	40	0	0	20	20	£40k of original funding written back to General Reserves. Now projecting £20k to be spent 20/21 and £20k c/f for use in 21/22.
Early Years 1140 c/f	Michael Roach	2,043	1,350	916	1,176	867	£90k committed for Glenpark & Wellpark work in 21/22, £350k committed for new nursery fit out in 21/22 and £427k unallocated at this time.
Total		2,359	1,366	931	1,412	947	

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	9 March 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/16/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No:	01475 712748
Subject:	Education and Communities Committee: expedited business, relevant updates and operational log for the Education part of the Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log for the Education part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The First Minister made an announcement on Tuesday 16 February 2021 confirming the current procedures in place for the management of COVID-19 and also the process for the phased re-opening of schools.

2.2 This report considers the following expedited business and relevant updates:

- Arrangements for the phased reopening of schools February 2021
- Support for Mental Health
- Arrangements for Remote Learning
- Update on SQA qualifications
- Vaccinations for Education Staff and asymptomatic testing programme in schools and early years settings
- Scottish Government Recovery Grants
- Education Equality Mainstreaming report
- Food and nutritional guidelines for schools
- Operational log

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Education and Communities Committee is asked to:

- note the contents of this report.
- Agree the use of the educational recovery funding as outlined in paragraph 5.6.
- Agree the education equality outcomes as outlined in paragraph 5.7.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The First Minister made an announcement on Tuesday 16 February 2021 confirming the current procedures in place for the management of COVID-19 and also the process for the phased re-opening of schools.
- 4.2 This report considers the expedited business, relevant updates and the operational log relevant to the Education part of the Education and Communities Committee.

5.0 RELEVANT UPDATES

5.1 **Arrangements for the phased reopening of schools February 2021**

The latest government guidance for the re-opening of schools and early years settings can be found at:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-schools-reopening/>
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-early-learning-and-childcare-services/>

The scientific advice underpinning the phased reopening of schools can be found at <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/covid-19-education-recovery/cerq-guidance/>

This guidance has been followed up by the Education Continuity (No 9) Direction which gives a legal basis for the implications of the guidance until March 12 2021.

The First Minister confirmed the arrangements for the phased reopening of schools for some children on 16 February 2020. These arrangements include:

- A full-time return of early learning and childcare for all children below school age;
- A full-time return to school for pupils in primaries 1 - 3; and
- A part-time return, albeit on a limited basis, for senior phase pupils to allow in-school practical work that is necessary for the completion of national qualification courses. Initially though, it is intended that there will be no more than around 5-8% of a secondary school roll physically present at any one time for these purposes.

Schools communicated arrangements for return on Wednesday 17 February 2021.

All P4 – 7, S1 – 3 and those S4 – 6 pupils not involved in practical subject assessments, will continue to learn remotely until at least 15 March 2021.

Guidance documents were published by the Scottish Government on Friday and today about the phased return to schools / centres. Schools have updated their existing policies and procedures.

5.2 **Support for Mental Health in place for young people during the COVID pandemic**

Since August 2020 Action for Children have run our new wellbeing service. This includes provision for 1:1 counselling for pupils as well as group interventions and curriculum-based models of support. This service continues to meet with the HOE and Principal Educational Psychologist on a fortnightly basis to review the period of implementation and to reflect on changes needed in respect of service delivery during the second lockdown. A good number of referrals had been received and processed over the autumn term and the counselling in place has continued since January albeit via virtual means in the majority of cases. All parents in Inverclyde have been written to in order to raise awareness of the service and this has seen a number of referrals being made since January 2021. We have also written to all senior phase pupils since January to raise their awareness and a number of self-referrals have now been received.

More on the offer can be found here: <https://services.actionforchildren.org.uk/inverclyde-children-and-young-peoples-wellbeing-service/>

All schools continue to identify vulnerable pupils and families who may require further support during lockdown. This is being done in partnership with social work and Barnardo's. This has included the offer of time in school hubs, especially where there are concerns around pupil or family mental health and wellbeing and contact with school, staff in the hubs is seen as being an essential means to offer support. School leaders, including guidance and pastoral team staff in secondary schools, continue to make regular phone calls to identified families on a regular basis.

5.3 **Remote learning**

The Education Scotland guidance for remote learning can be accessed at <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/supporting-remote-learning/supporting-remote-learning>

Actions taken by Education services to support schools since January 2021 have included:

- Local Authority guidance produced for schools clearly outlining expectations (taking into account the national guidance)
- Two authority wide remote learning audits have taken place
- Regular briefings for Heads Of Establishments
- School / Early Years Establishment policies all in place and quality assured
- All schools gathering feedback on an ongoing basis via questionnaires
- Established team of Digital Champions including fortnightly briefing and sharing meetings
- Coaching and Modelling Officers (CMOs) recorded 200+ videos (20% of West Online content)
- CMOs have developed an ongoing professional learning offer for rest of term including 1:1 support
- Education Officers – met twice with each Head of Establishment
- Reflective and challenge questions meeting planned between Heads Of Establishment and Education Officers for February
- Training events around tracking and supporting engagement
- Cluster benchmarking meetings to share best practice
- Auditing of Education Scotland's overview of practice against Local Authority provision
- Established one stop shop for all documents and advice on a Glow Digi Blog

Education Services continue to provide ongoing support and challenge schools to develop their remote learning offer to families. All schools have now developed and shared a school policy on remote learning with parents, making their provision clear. Schools are also carrying out questionnaires for parents to feedback including pupil focus groups. Similar processes for the Learning at Home offer for children attending ELC are in place. We continue to share the outcomes of Education Scotland's scoping work relating to remote learning including recommendations being made.

Education Officers continue to meet with Heads of Establishment on a regular basis to review each school and centre's provision and policy. This will continue whilst remote learning remains in place for cohorts of pupils.

On 15 February 2021 Education Scotland held meetings with education services and head teachers to gather information and evidence around the following theme: 'Local authority approaches to assuring the quality of remote learning'.

5.4 **SQA qualifications**

At the time of writing we have had it confirmed that the date for submission of teacher estimate data has now been extended to 25 June 2021.

In addition, senior phase pupils will come into school on a part-time basis from 22 February to complete assessments linked to practical subjects. This will be split over half days in Inverclyde schools with no more than 8% of the school roll attending in each slot and with a clear focus in each subject on the areas that cannot be covered remotely.

The service has adjusted its timeline for the support and challenge for schools in moderating the data to be submitted SQA and continues to liaise with schools regarding both the timeline and procedures with each announcement released..

At this time the emphasis remains on teaching and learning whether face-to-face or remotely with guidance on assessment now focused on the latter part of the session. We continue to monitor the guidance from SQA and meet with them on a fortnightly basis.

All Councils are working closely with the SQA and guidance is issued as it becomes available. All guidance can be found at <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/95579.html>

5.5 Vaccinations for Education Staff and asymptomatic testing programme in schools and early years settings

The Scottish Government has agreed that staff carrying out certain care practices with children who have significant needs will be classed as health care staff and are entitled to a vaccination. This equates to approximately 240 staff working across all settings in Inverclyde but predominantly within Craigmarnloch School and Hillend Nursery.

The vaccinations across the GGC Health Board took place on Sunday 14 February at the Louisa Jordan Centre.

A programme of lateral flow testing began in schools and nursery classes from 10 of February 2021. All staff are offered 2 tests a week, along with all senior phase pupils returning to school. Using the tests is only one mitigation factor and remains optional for all. Where a member of staff or pupil receives a positive outcome they report this to the NHS / Public Health team and are asked to then take a full Covid test. They will also be asked to inform the Head of their establishment and contact tracing will commence.

Support to schools / ELCs is being offered in relation to understanding the administration needs of the roll out of the testing programme along with any financial support necessary to administer.

5.6 Scottish Governments Recovery grants for Education

Inverclyde will receive a £717,000 share of a £45M grant to support schools with recovery and ongoing costs relating to remote learning. The intended use of the grant is:

- Delegated powers have been used to agree that £180,000 will be sent on Wi-Fi infrastructures in some of our primary schools to support the delivery of online aspects of remote learning.
- £210,000 will be devolved to schools to support remote learning and recovery costs incurred.
- The balance will be used to support staffing of recovery teachers.
- £64,000 from the Early Learning and Childcare budget will be used to support recovery and home learning in Early Learning settings.

5.7 Education Authority Equality Mainstreaming Report 2021, Progress on Education Equality Outcomes 2017/21 and the Proposed Education Equality Outcomes 2021/25

The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, as a public body, to publish Equality Outcomes every four years and report on their progress via a Mainstreaming Report every two years. Additionally, Councils, as Education Authorities, are required to publish details specific to Education Equality Outcomes and Mainstreaming activity on the same two and four year cycle. Reports require to be published by 30 April in the relevant year.

A report has been devised which covers progress made with the delivery of the Education Equality Outcomes 2017/21 since 2019. Details are also provided on the Protected Characteristic workforce profile for the Council's Education Service, covering the financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20. This report can be accessed at [Equality Mainstreaming Reports](#)

Having undertaken consultation, the proposed Education Equality Outcomes for the period 2021/25 are:

- Ensure the curriculum meets the needs of black and minority ethnic pupils

- Reduce identity-based bullying and harassment in our educational establishments
- Reduce the attainment gap for pupils with additional support needs.

5.8 **Food and nutritional guidelines for schools**

The revised nutritional requirements for food and drink in schools (Scotland) Regulations 2020 have now completed their Parliamentary journey and are due to be implemented in schools on 08 April 2021.

The school food regulations apply to all food and drink served anywhere in the school across the school day, including breakfast clubs, lunch service, tuckshops, social enterprise activities, classes where food is being used and vending machines.

To support the new requirements the Scottish Government have been working with local authority representatives, Education Scotland and other stakeholders to develop a guidance document designed to support the preparations being made for 8 April 2021.

The 'Healthy Eating in Schools' guidance was published on Wednesday 10 February 2021 and can be accessed on the Scottish Government website at the following link [Publications - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot).

6.0 **OPERATIONAL LOG**

6.1 The operational log for Education and Communities is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

7.0 **IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 **Finance**

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
N/A					

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
N/A					

7.2 **Legal**

The legal basis for the closure of schools is provided by Education Continuity Directions from the Scottish Government.

7.3 **Human Resources**

N/A.

7.4 Equalities

Equalities

(a) Has an Equality Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES
X	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, no Equality Impact Assessment is required

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:-

Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
X	NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
X	NO

7.5 Repopulation

N/A.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 N/A.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 N/A.

Education and Communities Committee

Operational Decision Log – Education Services

From: 29 January 2021

To: 4 February 2021

Week 4

**Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
RB/KB**

Education, Communities & Organisational Development – OPERATIONAL LOG 2021

	Service Issue	Action taken	Reported to CMT	Supporting Report Yes – N/A	Implemented	Officer
	<u>EDUCATION SERVICES</u>					
4.	The Scottish Government announced a further grant to local councils for schools at the beginning of the second lockdown. This grant of £45M can be spent on either staffing, devices or IT support as well as family support. The grant is ring fenced and is intended to be spent by the end of June 2021. The exact amount to be awarded to Inverclyde has been confirmed as £717,000.	<p>To spend a proportion of the money on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT infrastructure in schools where this is currently causing issues - £180,000 • A devolved amount of money to schools to be spent on resources to support remote learning - £206,000 	4.2.21	Yes	4.2.21	Michael Roach

Education and Communities Committee

Operational Decision Log – Education Services

From: 5 February 2021

To: 11 February 2021

Week 5

**Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development
RB/KB**

Education, Communities & Organisational Development – OPERATIONAL LOG 2021

	Service Issue	Action taken	Reported to CMT	Supporting Report Yes – N/A	Implemented	Officer
	<u>EDUCATION SERVICES</u>					
4.	Schools Attainment Challenge: purchase of devices to support digital access for schools and learners to aid remote learning.	Utilise available Schools Attainment Challenge project plan funding of £200,000 to target and support digital access and remote learning for P4-P7 pupils who do not have access to devices at home: 600 devices for pupils and schools	9.2.21	Yes	9.2.21	Head of Education