

PLEASE NOTE TIMES OF MEETING

Ref: DS

Date: 30 April 2021

A meeting of the Education & Communities Committee will be held on Tuesday 11 May 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.

ANNE SINCLAIR
Interim Head of Legal Services

BUSINESS

1. Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest	Page
<p><u>COMMUNITIES</u></p> <p>PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>2. Education & Communities: Performance Report for the Communities Part of the Committee Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development</p>	<p>p</p>
<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>3. Update on Crawl Holes for Community Pitches Managed by Inverclyde Leisure Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development</p>	<p>p</p>
<p>4. Review of GTVO and U19s Grants and Community Hall Waivers Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development</p>	<p>p</p>

5.	Report on Outstanding Community Remits for the Education & Communities Committee Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p
6.	Communities Update Report Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	
<u>EDUCATION</u>		
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT		
7.	Education & Communities Committee: Performance Report for the Education Part of the Committee Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p
NEW BUSINESS		
8.	Report on Outstanding Education Remits for the Education & Communities Committee Report by Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	p
9.	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	

Please note that because of the current COVID-19 (Coronavirus) emergency, this meeting will not be open to members of the public.

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.

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.

Enquiries to – **Diane Sweeney** – Tel 01475 712147

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/24/21/HS
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott/ Iain Cameron	Contact No:	01475 712828
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 Communities – Period 12 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Communities as at 28 February 2021 is a projected underspend of £139,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £38,000 since the last Committee.

The projections include net Covid costs of £1.533 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget, including £1.461 million from Scottish Government grants. This is an increase of £216,000 since last Committee.

2.2 Communities capital report

Overall, the Committee is projecting to contain the costs of the 2020/23 Capital Programme within available budgets. Expenditure at 31 March 2021 is 186.90% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (100% of revised projection) subject to the final year end accounting process and accruals. Net advancement of £378k (86.90%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £65k (14.94%) from that reported to the last Committee.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:
- notes the content of this report; and
 - notes the progression of survey works in relation to the new tennis facility.

4.0 UPDATES

4.1 Communities – Period 12 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Communities as at 28 February 2021 is a projected underspend of £139,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £38,000 since the last Committee.

The projections include net Covid costs of £1.533 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget, including £1.461 million from Scottish Government grants. This is an increase of £216,000 since last Committee.

Main areas of underspend are:

- Community Safety Employee Costs projected to underspend by £93,000.

Main areas of overspend are:

- Inverclyde Leisure Management Fee is projected to overspend by £1.461 million as a result of additional payments to support their cashflow as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic. This will be funded from the Council's Covid Fund;
- Libraries & Museum Income projected to under recover by £68,000 due to buildings being closed as a result of Covid-19; and
- School Lets Income projected to under recover by £90,000 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Earmarked Reserves for 2020/21 total £152,000, of which £60,000 is projected to be spent in the current Financial Year. As at 28 February 2021 expenditure is £40,000 or 66.7% of the project total for 2020/21. Spend as at 28 February 2021 per profiling was expected to be £103,000 resulting in slippage of £63,000 or 61.2%.

Further details can be found in Appendix 1.

4.2 Communities Capital Programme

Overall, the Committee is projecting to contain the costs of the 2020/23 Capital Programme within available budgets. Expenditure at 31 March 2021 is 186.90% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (100% of revised projection) subject to the final year end accounting process and accruals. Net advancement of £378k (86.90%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £65k (14.94%) from that reported to the last Committee.

Lady Alice Bowling Club:

Lady Alice Bowling Club is now progressing this project 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 lease agreement.

Indoor Sports Facility for Tennis:

The service continues to work with sportScotland and Inverclyde Leisure in relation to progressing the Indoor Tennis Centre at Rankin Park. sportScotland is supportive of Inverclyde Leisure acting as the Council's agent for building new facility through a leisure procurement framework.

IL has appointed Alliance Leisure as the main contractor and will undertake work in line with the procurement framework which was approved by all funders including the Council at the stage two funding application process. A funding agreement will be in place between the Council and IL in respect of payments to Alliance Leisure.

Structural and grounds survey works have now commenced on the revised site within Rankin Park. When these surveys are completed, full planning permission will be sought and the statutory open space public consultation will be carried out.

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 and Communities Committee. The Parklea project is now completed and was handed over to the Council in March 2021. The next planned carpet replacement at Lady Octavia Sports Centre 3G pitch is being progressed with tender documents now issued and works programmed for summer 2021 subject to tender return, evaluation and formal acceptance.

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. Building warrant has been submitted with quotations for works being progressed. Works are anticipated to be fully complete by the end of the second quarter 2021 as previously reported.

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. Works are anticipated to be fully completed by the end of the second quarter 2021 as previously reported.

Whinhill Golf Club Lifecycle Works:

Technical Services is developing work packages. First phase is progressing towards completion with external doors and new security shutters being installed and new window delivery imminent and project to complete by the end of April. A second phase is planned to address the external roughcast and reroofing. Further phases will potentially address internal alterations including a refurbishment of toilets and relocation of starter's accommodation, subject to overall budget availability.

Waterfront Leisure Centre Training Pool Moveable Floor:

Surveys completed through external mechanical and electrical consultant with technical specification prepared and being agreed in consultation with Inverclyde Leisure. Tender documents 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 were prepared to allow a stage 2 cost comparison against available budget with revised value engineered proposals now agreed to bring within affordability. Building warrant now submitted with tender drawings being prepared.

Community Hub King George VI:

The Council has been awarded funding of £1.184m from The Scottish Government Regional Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) for the second phase relating to the refurbishment and conversion of the King George VI building in Port Glasgow into a community facility. Property Services has commenced the initial design work.

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.

The Inverclyde Shed Meet, Make + Share:

The Council, in partnership with the Inverclyde Shed has been awarded funding of £504k from The Scottish Government Regional Capital Grant Fund (RCGF) to transform a vacant light industrial unit in East Blackhall Street into a community workshop. The workshop or 'shed' will act as a hub for people to share their expertise, learn new skills and put them to good use in the wider community. The service is working closely with the Inverclyde Shed committee on applying for planning permission and getting the funding agreement in place.

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?

	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

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
	Est Total Cost	Actual to 31/3/20	Approved Budget 2020/21	Revised Est 2020/21	Actual to 31/03/21	Est 2021/22	Est 2022/23	Future Years
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Communities								
Lady Alice Bowling Club Refurb	210	17	0	1	1	0	192	0
Indoor Sports Facility For Tennis	635	0	0	0	0	600	35	0
Leisure Pitches AMP - Lifecycle Fund	1,843	112	250	578	578	172	611	370
Grieve Road Community Centre	200	92	90	80	80	28	0	0
Wemyss Bay Community Centre Refurbishment	100	46	38	48	48	6	0	0
Whinhill Golf Club Lifecycle Works	250	0	50	66	66	174	10	0
Waterfront Leisure Centre Training Pool Moveable Floor	325	0	0	8	8	302	15	0
Watt Institution Creativity Space	55	0	0	0	0	50	5	0
The Inverclyde Shed Meet, Make + Share	505	0	0	0	0	0	505	0
Port Glasgow Community Hub (King George VI)	1,184	0	0	0	0	0	1184	0
Complete On Site - Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save	7	0	7	0	0	7	0	0
Complete On Site	37	0	0	32	32	0	5	0
	5,351	267	435	813	813	1,339	2,562	370
CFCR								
Craigend Resource Centre (Grant Funded)	1,287	0	0	202	202	1,085	0	0

COMMUNITIES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****CURRENT POSITION****Period 11 - 1st April 2020 to 28th February 2021**

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	1,884	1,755	(129)	(6.8%)
730	Property Costs	737	611	605	(6)	(1.0%)
1,213	Supplies & Services	1,157	1,127	2,554	1,427	126.6%
2	Transport Costs	3	3	3	0	-
78	Administration Costs	79	79	79	0	-
1,131	Other Expenditure	1,121	1,067	1,007	(60)	(5.6%)
(291)	Income	(307)	(269)	(107)	162	(60.2%)
4,552	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	4,520	4,502	5,896	1,394	31.0%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19			(1,533)	(1,533)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE excluding Earmarked Reserves	4,520	4,502	4,363	(139)	

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	1,611	1,657	46	2.9%
1,184	Sports & Leisure	1,112	1,159	2,587	1,428	123.2%
516	Community Safety	557	557	457	(100)	(18.0%)
1,014	Community Halls	989	949	976	27	2.8%
252	Grants to Vol Orgs	252	226	219	(7)	(3.1%)
4,552	TOTAL COMMUNITIES	4,520	4,502	5,896	1,394	31.0%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	0	0	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19			(1,533)	(1,533)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE excluding Earmarked Reserves	4,520	4,502	4,363	(139)	

COMMUNITIES**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****MATERIAL VARIANCES****Period 11 -1st April 2020 to 28th February 2021**

<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>28-Feb-21</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>
	Libraries & Museum						
(25)	Libraries & Museum Income	(70)	(64)	(2)	(2)	68	(97.1%)
	Sports & Leisure						
709	IL Management Fee	624	572	1,509	2,085	1,461	234.1%
141	Under 19s Sports Grants	141	129	102	120	(21)	(14.9%)
	Community Halls						
0	Letting Officers Employees Costs	125	106	70	97	(28)	(22.4%)
28	Waivers	25	23	0	0	(25)	(100.0%)
(107)	School Lets Income	(135)	(124)	(6)	(45)	90	(66.7%)
	Community Safety						
472	Employee Costs	498	421	347	405	(93)	(18.7%)
	Covid 19 Material Variances					1,533	
Total Material Variances		1,208	1,063	2,020	2,660	1,452	

EARMARKED RESERVES POSITION STATEMENT

COMMITTEE: Communities

<u>Project</u>	<u>Lead Officer/ Responsible Manager</u>	<u>Total Funding 2020/21</u>	<u>Phased Budget Period 11 2020/21</u>	<u>Actual Period 11 2020/21</u>	<u>Projected Spend 2020/21</u>	<u>Amount to be Earmarked for 2021/22 & Beyond</u>	<u>Lead Officer Update</u>
		<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>	
Community Fund (Participatory Budgets)	Tony McEwan	152	103	40	60	92	£65k funding 18 months post from P7 20/21. £48k pays for last 12 months of post in 21/22. £7k w/b to General Reserves.
Total		152	103	40	60	92	

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/19/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712748
Subject:	Update on crawl holes for community pitches managed by Inverclyde Leisure		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Education and Communities Committee as to the current position for crawl holes for community pitches operated by Inverclyde Leisure and to ask the Committee to allocate a specific resource to open the crawl holes during the day and to close them at night.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 At the Education and Communities Committee on 10 March 2020, the Committee requested an update on issues involved in opening up crawl spaces at Inverclyde Leisure managed pitches. Inverclyde Leisure manage three 3G community pitches for Inverclyde Council. These are at Parklea, Broomhill and Drumshantie Road Gourock. The pitches are high quality and are predominantly used for bookings for local clubs to play games and to train. When the pitches are not in use for bookings, crawl holes have been installed to enable those local to the area to use the facilities. There are inevitable tensions between the provision of crawl holes and maintaining a facility that is of sufficient quality for club lets. Crawl holes at the IL pitches have been closed since the beginning of lockdown to discourage groups of people assembling on the pitches and also that there were no IL staff able to check the safety of the facility each day.
- 2.2 Whilst the direction of travel remains to reach a compromise between the use of pitches for lets and also the provision of crawl holes for community use, then a solution needs to be reached, at least on a trial basis.
- 2.3 The provision of crawl holes is primarily to allow young people to use the pitches between lets and to discourage them risking their health and safety when climbing over the high fences which surround the 3G pitches. However, if the crawl holes are left open in the evening after the last let, pitches are often damaged or used as a gathering place for anti-social behaviour.
- 2.4 As most of the anti-social behaviour takes place at night, the proposal is to pilot the provision of a dedicated resource to opening the crawl holes in the morning and closing them at night at a cost of £19k per year, but this may be less when lets resume. The funding for this resource would be taken from the U19's sports grants. The pilot will open the crawl holes at Drumshantie Road and Broomhill pitches in the first instance. Parklea has several grass pitches next to the 3G pitch which can be used by the community when they are not let.
- 2.5 In addition to the crawl holes for IL managed pitches, this paper seeks permission for officers to commence working on proposals for the future of the Broomhill pitch. This could include the possibility of changing the use of this pitch to a MUGA attached to the primary school which would reduce the costs associated with the pitch maintenance and rejuvenation.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the current situation regarding crawl holes at pitches managed by Inverclyde Leisure;
- approves the allocation of a resource to pilot the opening and closing of crawl spaces in the morning and at night; funded through the U19s sports grant budget; and
- agrees that a more detailed report be brought back to the Committee at a future date in relation to the use of the Broomhill pitch and that Council officers and Inverclyde Leisure begin initial consultation with the wider community.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 At the Education and Communities Committee on 10 March 2020, the Committee requested an update on issues involved in opening up crawl spaces at Inverclyde Leisure managed pitches. Inverclyde Leisure manage three 3G community pitches for Inverclyde Council. These are at Parklea, Broomhill and Drumshantie Road Gourock. The pitches are high quality and are predominantly used for bookings for local clubs to play games and to train. As such the pitch surface needs to be checked before each booking and needs to be of a high standard as would be expected for the clubs paying for the facilities.
- 4.2 When the pitches are not in use for bookings, crawl holes have been installed to enable those local to the area to use the facilities. This means that the pitches are available for young people to play on without the need for a booking or an organised game.
- 4.3 There are inevitable tensions between the provision of crawl holes and maintaining a facility that is of sufficient quality for club lets. The provision of crawl holes means that the pitches are easily accessed and there have been frequent reports of anti-social behaviour, broken glass and other litter and vandalism. This usually occurs if the crawl spaces are left unlocked in the evening. Also, adult clubs have been known to use the crawl spaces to play without a let.
- 4.4 Young people have fewer opportunities to use the pitches. On the other hand, if the facilities were available for full-time community use (and not bookable lets), then the corresponding loss of income for the Council and IL would jeopardise the sustainability of the high quality pitches.
- 4.5 It is fair to say that the tension between crawl holes and bookable paid lets has been long-standing, however the situation has been exacerbated by the events of COVID-19. Inverclyde Leisure have had to make use of the Government scheme to furlough staff to ensure longer-term financial sustainability. This has meant that staff have not been available to regularly check the surface of the pitches and ensure they are safe to use. Young people have not been able to visit the homes of their friends and have increasingly used spaces such as the pitches to meet and congregate. Unfortunately anti-social behaviour (including broken glass on the pitch) has increased and made the pitches dangerous for use. In addition, despite it being against the rules to do so, adult teams have arranged games on the pitches without a let – using the crawl holes to gain entry.
- 4.6 The situation outlined in paragraph 4.5 has meant that Inverclyde Leisure had to close the crawl holes during lockdown to ensure safety. Inverclyde Leisure have installed hinged gates at two of the pitches to enable the closure of the crawl holes. Broken glass has repeatedly been left on the pitch meaning that the surface is unsafe. In addition, the opening of the crawl holes has been viewed to have encouraged the use of the pitch for unauthorised adult football games and also large gatherings.
- 4.7 Whilst the direction of travel remains to reach a compromise between the use of pitches for lets and also the provision of crawl holes, then a solution needs to be reached, at least on a trial basis.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 Most, but not all, of the antisocial behaviour happens at night. The proposal is to have a dedicated resource to open the crawl holes for two of the three pitches for community use during the day and to close the crawl holes for the three pitches at night (or after the last let). Parklea will not be affected during the pilot phase because it has grass pitches close by. This measure will reduce the opportunity for anti-social behaviour. As previously, any booked lets will have priority. Lighting will not be available unless there is a let because the intention of this proposal is to allow youngsters who wish to use the facility to do so on an ad hoc basis. Lighting the pitches without a let will encourage anti-social gatherings and defeat the purpose of what is being proposed.

5.2 To allow the crawl holes for the three pitches to be opened in the morning and then to be closed at night every day, the following resource is needed:

- Staffing costs of £280 per week (7 days) @ 52 weeks = £14,560
- Van Hire including fuel, servicing, insurance & road tax = £ 3,640
- Materials = £ 500

The total cost for this will be approximately £19,000. It should be noted that these are the costs when there are no pitch hires due to COVID-19. The cost may be less when the pitches are fully operational for hire. Because the cost is to promote sport across various different interest groups but primarily for young people, then the proposal is to vire the required money from the under 19s pitch waivers budget.

5.3 This arrangement allows 2 hours to open all of the crawl holes and most importantly – check that the facilities are safe for use. The plan would be to open the crawl holes between the hours of 8 am and 10 am. The exact times cannot be given because of the length of time taken to ensure the pitch is safe is unknown. If the pitch is not deemed to be safe to open, despite a reasonable time for cleaning and checking, then the crawl hole will remain closed. The same process will be undertaken at night – closing the crawl holes between 7 pm and 9 pm or if appropriate after the last let. Again the exact time cannot be given.

5.4 This proposal has the advantage of allowing ad hoc use for those who wish to use the facilities in a variety of ways for the intended purpose. It will discourage anti-social behaviour as much as possible. However, if the crawl holes are used on a regular basis by adult teams or private enterprises to avoid paying costs, then Inverclyde Leisure will reserve the right to close the crawl holes and this will be reported to the next Committee. If during the COVID-19 pandemic, adult teams use the facilities for organised games against the guidelines, then Inverclyde Leisure will also close the crawl holes until the appropriate authorities have been informed and taken all appropriate action.

5.5 This proposal is a pilot and an evaluation will be reported back to the Education and Communities Committee in January 2022 (or earlier if required). Whilst it will go some way to doing so, it will not completely alleviate the tension between a free community facility and the maintenance of a high quality pitch available for lets.

5.6 An option for future consideration is for the Broomhill pitch to be altered and to become a MUGA for St Patrick’s Primary School. This is feasible because it has relatively low use and the lets currently using the pitch could be accommodated elsewhere. There could be a small saving linked to this going forward. If agreed by the Committee, officers will work with Inverclyde Leisure to consult on this option and provide members with a fully-costed proposal.

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
	U19s Sports Grant	2021/22	£19k		

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**

N/A.

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.
x	NO

6.5 **Repopulation**

N/A.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 N/A.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/23/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712824
Subject:	Review of GTVO and U19s Grants and Community Hall Waivers		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Education and Communities Committee with a summary of the recent consultation on GTVO, U19s sports grants and Community Hall Waivers (GTVO review) and seek approval to combine these funding streams into one 'Community Grants' model from 2021/2022 with a cap of £10,000 per organisation.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The consultation element of the GTVO review has now concluded. Views of stakeholders and elected members were sought through questionnaires and also two elected member briefings. In particular, views were sought on a proposal to cap grants and move towards a model of combining all funding streams into one 'Community Grants Fund' where organisations could apply for support for:
- facilities/core Costs: running costs linked directly to the delivery of activities/services provided by the group/organisation (i.e. heating/lighting/rent);
 - project Costs: costs linked directly to a specific project being delivered by the groups/organisation (i.e. resources/uniform/event); and
 - fee waivers: support for organisations towards costs for the hire of Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Leisure premises.
- 2.2 Although respondents were generally satisfied with the current process, the review did highlight a number of areas where improvements could be made. These improvements would provide elected members with fuller information around the rationale for officers' recommendations while still ensuring the efficient decision-making process of the Grants Sub-Committee. The capping of grants would also mean that there is the potential for a more groups to access funding from the Council.
- 2.3 This report provides a revised framework for GTVO which takes into account suggestions made by stakeholders and elected members.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:
- notes the findings of the review into GTVO; and
 - agrees to the changes being proposed to the GTVO process from 2021/2022.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director of Education, Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The purpose of the Grants to Voluntary Organisations (GTVO) and U19s sports grants is to support small community, voluntary and sports organisations who contribute to improving the quality of life and wellbeing of the people of Inverclyde. Currently, individual grants can be made up to a maximum of £25,000.

4.2 For both GTVO and U19s sports grants, there are normally two rounds of submissions within a financial year. The Community Hall Waivers is usually on case by case application up to maximum of 3K. Most of the budgets are allocated in the first round, with the balance normally being allocated in Round 2. Organisations complete applications which are often sponsored by elected members. The CLD team then undertake a number of checks around governance and the financial position of organisations and then make recommendations to the Grants sub-committee on the amount to be awarded. The recommended amount of grant is informed by a number of factors:

- whether the organisation is constituted;
- the purpose of the grant;
- previous grants awarded;
- grants given from other organisations;
- the financial position of the organisation;
- community benefit; and
- improving equality.

4.3 The Education and Communities Committee agreed in September 2020 that a review of GTVO and U19s sports grants should be undertaken from December 2020. Following agreement by the Corporate Management Team in February 2021 on the scope of the review, consultation was undertaken with elected members and also recent recipients of the grants.

4.4 The review sought views on the following:

- The application and decision-making process;
- The impact of GTVO and U19s sports grants;
- The impact of COVID-19;
- The process in respect of equalities (are there groups that are being excluded?);
- Analyses of other Councils' approaches;
- Consultation on a revised proposal where grant funding streams would be combined and a cap of individual grants introduced; and
- GTVO in the context of PB.

4.5 Summary of findings from the consultation process

4.5.1 Stakeholders

There was a good response rate to the applicant survey, with 55% (72) returning their questionnaire. There was a high level of satisfaction reported from applicants, particularly around the support provided by officers through the application process. Guidance was found to be clear although many respondents would prefer a longer lead in time for applying. A clear majority of respondents supported the idea of combining the funding streams as long as it did not represent an overall reduction in the GTVO budget. Almost all respondents supported a capping of grant to a single organisation at £10,000. All agreed that there should be more transparency over the decision making process for all grants and that more publicity around the impact of grants from the Council would be welcomed.

4.5.2 Elected members

Two briefings were held for elected members, in addition to the questionnaire which was issued. It was clear from the consultation with elected members that the decision-making around grants should continue to lie with the grants sub-committee. There was broad support for the grant amounts currently recommended by officers under the current guidelines but

members would prefer more supporting information in the Grants Sub-Committee papers, particularly for those grants which are more substantial. There is also scope to improve the presentation of the report to sub-committee members and provide better categorisation of grants. Overall, there was a general degree of satisfaction with the current grants process amongst elected members; merit in combining the grants to a single community grants fund and the capping of grants at £10,000. However, members did advise that they would like to see how this would work in practice.

5.0 COMMUNITY GRANT FUND PROPOSAL

5.1 In recent years, many applications from organisations request support for a combination of core costs, funding for one-off projects or fee waivers.

5.2 Taking this into account it is proposed to bring together the three current schemes (GTVO, Under 19's sports grant fund and Community Waivers) into a Community Grants Fund which would make it easier for applicants to apply for grant.

5.3 The Community Grants Fund would consider grants under the following headings:

- Facilities/Core Costs: running costs linked directly to the delivery of activities/services provided by the group/organisation (i.e. heating/lighting/rent));
- Project Costs: costs linked directly to a specific project being delivered by the groups/organisation (i.e. resources/uniform/event); and
- Fee Waiver: support for organisations towards costs for the hire of Inverclyde Council and Inverclyde Leisure premises.

5.4 Applications will be considered from organisations where funding is being sought for various projects/activities and/ or running costs and awards will not exceed £10,000 per organisation.

5.5 In order to apply to the Community Grants Fund, applications would only be considered if:

- Groups / organisations are actively based and provide services in Inverclyde;
- Applying as a sports club, it is actively operating, training and playing in Inverclyde or are setting up to do so;
- The group is non-profit or in the context of a voluntary sports club have an under 19s section/players;
- The group has Public Liability Insurance, where applicable
- The group has a constitution, set of rules or Memorandum and Articles of Association which is dated and signed as 'adopted' by an office bearer on behalf of the group;
- The group has a bank or building society account which requires at least two signatures on each cheque or withdrawal;
- The grant will be spent within one year of the date of award letter; and
- The organisation is registered with Inverclyde Council.

These provisions are in line with existing criteria although there will be an increased emphasis on how the funding would be used to benefit the wider Inverclyde community. Additionally, there will be a condition of grant that groups will consent to acknowledging the impact of Council Community Grant in publicity or marketing materials.

5.6 In order to ensure continuing best value, the Council will not consider applications:

- which cover goods or services that the group orders or receives prior to the date of the award letter;
- which ask to cover core salary costs;
- for activities which have a closed membership or that could deliberately disadvantage other groups or residents of Inverclyde;
- for private clubs for commercial activities, but would consider requests to support initiatives designed to widen access to, and increase participation of disadvantaged and under-represented groups; or
- for organisations that contract with, or intend to contract with, the private sector.

- 5.7 The purpose of the Community Grants Fund is to enable the Council to provide financial support to community, sports and voluntary organisations within Inverclyde. Organisations would apply for grants and would need to specify in their applications how much funding they are requesting against the three categories of: operational costs, project costs and fee waiver costs. It is also proposed to cap grants to each organisation at £10,000 which would enable more organisations to benefit from financial support by the Council.
- 5.8 Organisations will need to specify how the awarding of a grant would contribute to and benefit the wider community in line with our local priorities of: repopulation, inequalities or environment, culture and heritage. Examples of these community benefits could be: a number of free or subsidised places offered to those on low incomes; measures to improve participation of under-represented groups; or improve visitor numbers to the area.
- 5.9 A revised application is being developed and will include the following changes:
- Applicants will be asked to identify the outcome they wish to achieve from receiving grant support and how this contributes to the aims of the LOIP. This section will be given more prominence in the form;
 - Applicants will now specify the amount they are requesting against each of the categories (stated in 5.7 above);
 - Elected members will no longer be required to support a group's application. This will allow all members of the grant sub-committee to fully participate in the debate and decision-making at the meeting.
- 5.10 A minimum of 4 weeks will be provided for applicants to apply for grants. This will address concerns by groups that sometimes the application window is too narrow.
- 5.11 The report to the Grants sub-committee will be more detailed so that elected members are provided with as much information as possible which support officers' recommendations. The revised report will also provide enhanced data on categories, equalities information and historic grant amounts. An example of how entries will be detailed in the revised report forms appendix 1 to this report.
- 5.12 The Grants sub-committee will meet twice a year to consider officer recommendations in relation to community grants. It is anticipated that the majority of grants will be allocated in the first meeting of the year. A second meeting will allow for any remaining balances to be re-allocated.
- 5.13 An annual report will be prepared each year to the Education and Communities Committee, supported by an elected member briefing, providing case studies of how grants have been used. This will address concerns around the lack of publicity around grants. This report will also provide assurance to members around the governance of the grants.
- 5.14 In conclusion, evidence provided throughout the review did not support radical change to the grants process. This report therefore seeks to set out how the current process could be improved by providing elected members with better quality information, ensuring applications are furthering the aims of the Council, advancing equality; and ensuring that funding reaches as many organisations as possible.

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**

None.

6.3 **Human Resources**

None.

6.4 **Equalities**

Equalities

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

x	YES (see attached appendix)
	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:-

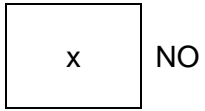
Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

x	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
	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.
--	---



6.5 **Repopulation**

None.

7.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 The CMT has reviewed this proposal and has fully endorsed the report's recommendations.

8.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 N/A.

Appendix 1 – Sample report

KEY	
A:	facilities / core costs
B:	Project / event costs
C:	Fee waiver

Organisation Category: Care Groups

Applicant name	Details of Organisation	Amounts requested	Total requested	Purpose of grant including target group	LOIP priority(s)	Historic award(s)	Recommendation £	Conditional Y/N	Reason for recommendation
Inverclyde Enable	Registered charity – 4 on committee. Bank balance Jan 2019 £ xx Beneficiaries 30.	A: £2,700 B: 0 C: 0	£2,700	Support towards weekly transport costs to allow members to travel to and from the club. Young people/disabled.	Inequalities	£1,500 18/19	A: £1,500 B: C:	Y	Meets criteria but conditional as waiting for end of grant report for previous year being rec'd
Inverclyde Family Contact Centre	Registered charity – 7 on committee, 20 volunteers. Bank balance Mar 2019 £xx Beneficiaries 200.	A: £16,810 B: 0 C: 0	£16,810	Support towards increased venue costs to ensure we can continue our work in modern premises meeting the needs of the children we aim to help.	E, C & H	£4,000 18/19	A: £6,000 B: C:	Y	Meets criteria but conditional as waiting for end of grant report for previous year being rec'd

Total requested by care groups: £19,510

Total amount recommended to care groups: £7,500

Organisation Category: Cultural

Applicant name	Details of Organisation	Amounts requested	Total requested	Purpose of grant including target group	LOIP priority(s)	Historic award(s)	Recommendation £	Conditional Y/N	Reason for recommendation
Hillend Art Club	Registered charity, 7 on committee. Bank balance Apr 2019 £xx. Beneficiaries 15.	A: 930 B: 0 C: 0	£930	Monthly tutor, supplies and an art based outing. Young, adults, older people	E,C & H	£500 18/19	A: £500 B: C:	Y	Conditional on end of grant report being received. Reduced award due to budget limitations
Inverclyde Juvenile Pipe Band	Registered charity – 7 on committee. Bank balance Sept 2018 £xx. Beneficiaries 50.	A: 5,000 B: 0 C: 0	£5,000	Support to purchase beginner drums to enable practice and development of skills on actual instrument. Full pipe band kit (4 snare, 4 tenor, 1 bass).	E,C & H	£3,000 18/19	A: £2,500 B: C:	Y	Conditional on end of grant report being received. Only £2500 of award meets criteria

Total requested by cultural groups: £5,930

Total amount recommended to care groups: £3,000

Organisation Category: Sport

Applicant name	Details of Organisation	Amounts requested	Total requested	Purpose of grant including target group	LOIP priority(s)	Historic award(s)	Recommendation £	Conditional Y/N	Reason for recommendation
Inverclyde Cricket Club	Not charity – 8 committee, 12 volunteers. Bank balance Sept 2018 £xx. Beneficiaries 68.	A: 2,660 B: 0 C: 0	£2,500	Continue success of Growing Cricket in Inverclyde – further develop the playing pathway from school to club, expand the existing primary school programme, further develop the club junior coaching programme.	E, C & H	£1,500 18/19	A: B: £1,000 C:	Y	Conditional on grant report being received meets criteria
Newark Angling Club	Not charity – 8 on committee, Bank balance Jan 2019 £xx. Beneficiaries 50+.	A: 0 B: 600 C: 0	£600	To subsidise Junior and older members who have limited resources. Travel £500, trophies £100. All ages	Inequalities , E,C & H	£500 18/19	A: B: £500 C:	N	Bank balance sufficient to support the purchase of trophies

Total requested by Sport groups: £3,100

Total amount recommended to Sport groups: £1,500

Summary information:

<Insert pie charts and graphs on awards by category etc>

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/20/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No:	01475 712748
Subject:	Report on Outstanding Community Remits for the Education and Communities Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Education and Communities Committee on outstanding remits for Communities.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report gives updates on the progress with the following outstanding remits for the Communities part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.2 Updates considered in this report are:

- 5Rights for children and young people
- Overall Impact on Users of IL Spend to save Project at Boglestone Community Centre and Usage of Mountain Bike Track at Rankin Park
- Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial Services to Police Scotland
- No Knives Better Lives – Update Report on 10 year evaluation

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Committee is asked to note the updates in this report.

3.2 The Committee is asked to note the update on Rankin Park usage and agree that a further report on maintenance of the track and signage will be brought back to a future Committee.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 5Rights for children and young people

In May 2018, the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Communities presented a report on the 5rights for children and young people. 5Rights is a framework to empower children and young people in the digital world. At the meeting Inverclyde agreed to become a 5Rights signatory.

4.2 Overall Impact on Users of IL Spend to save Project at Boglestone Community Centre and Usage of Mountain Bike Track at Rankin Park

In May 2019 the Committee considered a report by the Head of Inclusive Education, Culture and Communities outlining the status of the projects forming the Communities Capital Programme and highlighting the overall financial position. The Committee asked that a future report be submitted on a) the overall impact on users of the Inverclyde Leisure Spend to Save project at Boglestone Community Centre and b) usage (including education usage) of the mountain bike track at Rankin Park.

4.3 Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial Services to Police Scotland

In May 2019, the Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications advising of proposed changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland and the potential employee and financial implications for the Council.

4.4 No Knives Better Lives – Update Report on 10 year evaluation

Inverclyde continues to support the Scottish National programme No Knives Better Lives. In 2019 the Programme, piloted in Inverclyde, celebrated its 10th year and a report was submitted to the Inverclyde Council Education and Communities Committee in November 2019 highlighting its publication. The Committee agreed to a further report regarding the national 10 year programme.

5.0 UPDATES

5.1 5Rights for children and young people

Inverclyde Council signed up to the 5Rights framework. Because of changes in personnel, the anticipated action plan was not taken forward as expected. Events of COVID-19 have seen the Council move on significantly with the use of digital learning and this has been the case nationally. Education Services have had to move very quickly to facilitate access to digital learning and as a result are working with schools and the wider community to evaluate the current practice and provision across Inverclyde. This includes digital access, protocols and pedagogy. The West Partnership have also identified digital learning as a main priority moving forward. The rights identified in the 5rights strategy are still pertinent however it no longer makes sense to approach the rights in a separate action plan and they will be embedded in the Inverclyde Education Services improvement plan and linked to the ongoing work of the West Partnership.

5.2 Overall Impact on Users of IL Spend to save Project at Boglestone Community Centre and Usage of the Mountain Bike Track at Rankin Park

Boglestone Activity & Community Centre re-opened its doors on June 2019 after an extensive partnership refurbishment project. The improvements at the site included the extension of the low cost budget gym using the old derelict café area. The main hall area was also transformed into a large adventure play area and a Café was introduced to serve the local community.

The Boglestone facility now has a large low cost fitness gym with memberships available from £9.99 to help promote activity, health and wellbeing in the area. The centre is located in an area of deprivation. It is proving to be very popular now and attracts young children encouraging them to get active in the large adventure play area.

The developments have been a great addition to the community and the centre is now a popular attraction for neighbouring residents. With the additional increase in operating hours and added services to this centre, this had also led to increased employment within the local area, after the Boglestone development demonstrating an increase in usage by 60%. Prior to lockdown the facility had around 1500 club live members actively using the new service provision at Boglestone.

5.2.1 Mountain Bike trail at Rankin Park

Initially there was some school usage as a part of a trial period with bikes being hired. The expected funding to possibly purchase bikes to support educational use did not come to fruition and since this time there has not been a huge interest from schools to pursue this further.

There is no way of monitoring usage by the general public but we are aware that there is usage and that this is popular with cyclists who know about the track. Officers will explore signage to promote the area and this should promote increased usage.

Last year some maintenance work was undertaken due to weather damage and trees falling down on the site. Further work needs to be undertaken to ensure and co-ordinate ongoing maintenance on the site. This will be explored and a further update will be brought to the Education and Communities Committee.

5.3 Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial Services to Police Scotland

In May 2019, the Committee considered a report submitted by the Head of Organisational Development, Policy and Communications advising of proposed changes to the provision of cleaning and janitorial services by Police Scotland and the potential employee and financial implications for the Council. Following a tender process by Police Scotland for Soft Facilities Management (FM) services, a contract was awarded to Churchill Cleaning Services in January 2020. The intended contract commencement date was 30 March 2020 but this was adjusted to 6 July 2020 due to the COVID-19 situation. Consultation took place in respect of TUPE and HR implications, following which 6 employees transferred to Churchill Cleaning Services on the transfer date. The financial implications in respect of the service transfer have been contained within the Directorate.

5.4 No Knives Better Lives – Update Report on 10 year evaluation

Inverclyde continues to endorse No Knives Better Lives (NKBL) within-school based and youth work settings. An improvement action plan for 2021/22 has been prepared which includes the delivery of NKBL within a traditional youth work setting and a detached youth work setting owing to restrictions of indoor based youth work due to COVID-19. Inverclyde Council CLD has a lead worker and will be responsible for rolling out NKBL in a restorative justice setting and by June 2021 Inverclyde will have delivered a session in the new NKBL product based on an interactive game. Other key priorities in 2021/2022 will be supporting youth work deliverers in rolling out NKBL across their respective work streams and a twilight session for staff within primary and secondary schools.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

There are no financial implications in 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					

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications in this report

6.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications in this report

6.4 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:-

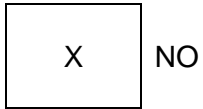
Has there been active consideration of how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome?

<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.
--------------------------	---



6.5 **Repopulation**

N/A.

7.0 **CONSULTATIONS**

7.1 N/A.

8.0 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- 8.1
- Agenda item number 9 Education and Communities Committee 08 May 2018 (5Rights)
 - Agenda item number 3 May 2019 Education and Communities Committee (Review of spend to save IL and Usage of Bike track)
 - May 2019 –report on Local Authority Provision of Cleaning and Janitorial services to Police Scotland
 - Agenda item number 6 Education and Communities Committee 05 November 2019 (No Knives Better Lives)

Report To:	Education and Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Ruth Binks, Corporate Director, Education, Communities, HR and OD	Report No:	EDUCOM/22/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Tony McEwan, Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources	Contact No:	01475 712828
Subject:	Communities Update Report		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with an update on the Communities aspects of the service.

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 Updates are provided on:

- Regeneration Capital Fund (RCGF);
- Fair Trade Status; and
- The financial position of Inverclyde Leisure

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Education and Communities Committee:

- notes the content of the report; and
- agrees to delegate responsibility to the Director of Education, Communities and OD to submit on behalf of the relevant organisations in para 4.1 below, applications to the Regeneration Capital Grant Fund for 2022/23.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director Education
Communities and Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Regeneration Capital Grant Fund (RCGF)

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 (subject to available budget). Applications for stage 1 applications for 2022/23 funding have been opened with a closing date of June 2021. Two applications are being considered within the authority area; the 32nd Greenock and District Scout group and Parklea Branching Out. Both applications were unsuccessful in funding for the round in 2021-22 and the service will support both applications 2022/23 and provide further updates to the Education and Communities Committee. Committee is asked to note this and to give the Director of Education, Communities and OD delegated responsibility to submit applications on behalf of the organisations.

4.2 Inverclyde Fairtrade Zone Application / Successful Renewal

Inverclyde Council has been a recognised Fairtrade zone since 2013 and the latest extension of this status has been secured by the Council until 2023.

Fairtrade is about better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world.

In Inverclyde there has been a significant increase in the volume and variety of Fairtrade activity since our initial zone status application back in 2013. In the latest renewal application Inverclyde was complimented on its sustained Fairtrade work undertaken by our schools, the strength of its community led partnership and for the wider community work going on with the most recent example in Dec 2020 where a very successful “pop up shop” opened in the Watt Institution.

Inverclyde Council Cultural Services works alongside the Community Champion who chairs the local steering group and drives much of the activity on the ground. Moving forward in the next renewal period (Feb 2023) it is the intention to further develop the Council’s community links, develop a Fairtrade Directory on the Discover Inverclyde website, increase our social media presence and build on the success of pop up shops in a variety of new venues. The Council will also explore ways in which to raise public awareness of our zone status and promote Inverclyde as a Fairtrade Zone with the erection of road Signs or have a Billboard presence – Welcome to Inverclyde A Fairtrade Zone.

The renewal of the status will support the work being done by the Council examining historical links to the transatlantic slave trade.

4.3 Inverclyde Leisure

Due to the impact of Covid 19 restrictions, Inverclyde Leisure (IL) has suffered significant impacts upon its service provision in 2020/21 and generate sufficient income in order to produce a break even position.

Continued Covid-19 restrictions have led to a number of facilities having to close for extended and unknown periods of time. Inverclyde Council has already deficit funded IL in 20/21 by £951k, in addition to the approved management fee. Looking at the 20/23 budget IL had identified in late 2020 a funding gap of approximately £2.28m. The second lockdown from the end of December 2020 until April 2021, has meant that IL has updated its projections to reflect a further deficit of £771K for 21/23. This is mainly due to the delay in the recovery process for the fitness industry and IL having to re-build its customer direct debit base. The Inverclyde Leisure Board of Directors has expressed its thanks for the Council’s continued support through this challenging time.

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

(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?

X

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

NO

5.5 Repopulation

N/A

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 None

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/26/21/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 11 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Education as at 28 February 2021 is an underspend of £618,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £167,000 since the last Committee

The projections include net Covid costs of £5.121 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget. This is an increase in expenditure of £478,000 since 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 March 2021 is 202.75% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (100% of revised projection) subject to the final year end accounting process and accruals. Net advancement of £3.320m (102.75%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £1.185m (36.68%) from that reported to the last Committee.

The Committee is requested to note the agreement of the final accounts for the St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension project and the Lady Alice Refurbishment & Extension project and approve the allocation of funding from existing model resources (complete on site allocation / E&R COVID pressures allowance) to contain the projected over-expenditure. Further detail is attached to this report as Appendices 1(a) & 1(b).

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

4.0 RELEVANT UPDATES

4.1 Education – Period 11 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report

The projected Revenue Budget Outturn for Education as at 28 February 2021 is an underspend of £618,000 which is a decrease in expenditure of £167,000 since the last Committee

The projections include net Covid costs of £5.121 million which will be fully funded by the Council's agreed Covid-19 budget. This is an increase in expenditure of £478,000 since last Committee.

4.1.1 Main areas of underspend are:

Main areas of underspend are:

- An underspend of £485,000 for Facilities Management Catering Supplies due to reduction in number of school meals being produced during Covid-19 pandemic.
- An underspend of £485,000 for Education Catering Recharge as a result of the FM Catering Supplies underspend noted above.
- An underspend of £150,000 for the ASN Review budget due to delays in starting the process.

Main areas of overspend are:

- An overspend of £926,000 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 £141,000 for Non Teacher Employee. An overspend of £257,000 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 £103,000 for Facilities Management Cleaning Materials as a result of additional cleaning required as part of the Council's response to Covid-19.
- An overspend of £510,000 for Facilities Management Catering Resources as a result of payments to Foodbanks and purchase of food items for vulnerable people.
- An overspend of £150,000 for purchase of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required in schools.
- An overspend of £650,000 on IT Equipment required for Schools Digital Connectivity as part of Home Learning.
- An overspend of £2.060 million for payments made to families entitled to Free School Meals during school lockdowns and holidays.
- A shortfall in School Meal Income of £704,000 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 £1.154 million is projected to be spent in the current Financial Year. As at 28 February 2021 expenditure of £943,000 (81.7%) has been incurred. Spend at 28 February 2021 per profiling was expected to be £1.808 million, therefore slippage to date is £865,000 or 47.8% and relates mainly to the Early Years 1140 Hours earmarked reserve.

Further detail is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

4.2 Education capital report

Overall, the Committee is projecting to contain the costs of the 2020/23 Capital Programme within available budgets. Expenditure at 31 March 2021 is 202.75% of the 2020/21 restated approved budget (100% of revised projection) subject to the final year end accounting process and accruals. Net advancement of £3.320m (102.75%) being reported. This is an increase in net advancement of £1.185m (36.68%) from that reported to the last Committee.

The Committee is requested to note the agreement of the final accounts for the St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension project and the Lady Alice Refurbishment & Extension project and approve the allocation of funding from existing model resources (complete on site allocation / E&R COVID pressures allowance) to contain the projected over-expenditure. Further detail is attached to this report as Appendices 1(a) & 1(b).

That the Committee notes that the use of powers delegated to the Chief Executive to issue an acceptance for the Gourrock Primary School Extension Completion Works was authorised by Provost Brennan, Councillors Clocherty and Robertson, and the Chief Executive.

4.2.1 PROJECTS COMPLETED ON SITE

Lady Alice Primary School Refurbishment & Extension:

The Committee has previously been advised that final account negotiations were ongoing and that additional funding would be required to address projected over expenditure. Updates were provided from September 2018 through to May 2019 with the majority of over expenditure in previous years. The final account has now been agreed with the Contractor and the final position is summarised in Appendix 1(a). The final position is being contained within the current funding model and existing complete on site allowances.

St Mary's Primary School Refurbishment & Extension:

The Committee has previously been advised that final account negotiations were ongoing and that additional funding would be required to address projected over expenditure. Updates were provided throughout 2020 and early 2021 with the majority of over expenditure in 2020/21. The final account has now been agreed with the Contractor and the final position is summarised in Appendix 1(b). The final position is being contained within the current funding model through a combination of the use of existing complete on site allowances and an allocation of £98k from the Covid pressures contingency under the Environment & Regeneration capital programme.

4.2.2 PROJECTS ON SITE / UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Gourrock Primary School Extension:

As previously reported, tenders were issued in December 2020 with a return in February 2021. The Committee is requested to note the use of powers delegated to the Chief Executive to progress a formal legal acceptance for the project following the tendering exercise to address a completion works contract and the insolvency of the original main contractor in February 2020. The Committee is also requested to note the approval by Emergency Powers of allocations of £528k of future Education Capital Lifecycle funding and £500k of Covid pressures allowance from the Environment & Regeneration Capital programme allocation. The ability to progress the project and the costs connected with it have been significantly impacted by the COVID situation from the initial construction lockdown, phased restart of the industry and slow return of consultants from furlough, to the extended period of security and other related site costs. The projected cost of completion has also been impacted by the deterioration of the partially completed project over a 12 month period requiring extensive allowances for replacement of previously completed / partially completed building elements. The project is also being impacted by inflation and the continuing COVID environment restricted working practices in addition to having limited market interest being a less attractive proposition for contractors due to the partially completed nature of the works.

Hillend Children's Centre Refurbishment:

Works are progressing on site with internal partitions and extension structure complete. Mechanical and electrical first fix works are well advanced with wall linings also substantially completed. Roof covering works are complete with external wall cladding ongoing. The main focus over the next period will be internal fit-out, second fix mechanical and electrical works and final finishes. As previously reported the project is currently projected to complete mid to end 2nd Quarter 2021.

Former Kelly Street Children's Centre Landscaping Works:

Formal acceptance issued with pre-start meeting held and works to commence on site at the end of April 2021.

4.2.3 INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARD REFRESH

As previously reported the first phase works covering 5 primary schools was completed in 4th Quarter 2020. The second phase works covering 3 secondary schools was completed by the end of March 2021.

4.2.4 SCHOOL ESTATE LIFECYCLE WORKS 2020/21

The 2020/21 financial year lifecycle programme, although impacted by COVID, was maximised as far as possible with works undertaken across the estate and opportunity taken of periods of low school occupancy. Works included flooring, decoration, LED lighting upgrades, and sports pitch works with the largest single project the 3G pitch carpet replacement completed at Inverclyde Academy in March 2021. The 2021/22 programme will be developed throughout the year but includes projects such as the 3G MUGA pitch carpet replacement at Wemyss Bay Primary School and a live project for the upgrade of building mounted/site lighting to LED at 9 primary schools.

4.2.5 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
Wellpark Children's Centre	April 2021

4.2.6 PROJECTS ON SITE / UNDER CONSTRUCTION / MOBILISATION

Rainbow Family Centre Extension

The works are progressing on site with the substructure completed and external superstructure brickwork and roofing nearing completion. First fix joinery and first fix mechanical and electrical installations are well advanced with internal wall linings progressing. External works are partly complete on the formation of block parking bays. As previously reported the Contractor is 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 the substructure completed and external superstructure and roofing well advanced. First fix joinery and first fix mechanical and electrical installations are progressing with internal wall linings commenced. Formation of car parking bays and access hardstanding is partly complete. The Contractor is currently reporting 3 weeks behind programme due to a combination of adverse weather and site logistics.

Glenpark Early Learning Centre

Advance services connection work completed with formal acceptance issued for outdoor teaching unit. Building warrant submission made by Contractor. Site programme will be dependent on receipt of warrant with projected start on site in June 2021.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 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					

5.2 Legal

N/A.

5.3 Human Resources

N/A.

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

(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?

X

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

NO

5.5 Repopulation

N/A.

6.0 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 N/A.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A.

EDUCATION 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 31/03/21</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>	<u>£000</u>
SEMP Projects								
Hillend Children's Centre - Refurbishment Lifecycle Fund	1,484	113	500	770	770	551	50	0
Gourock PS - Extension	10,217	3,934	400	1,138	1,138	762	2,882	1,501
St Mary's PS - Refurbishment & Extension	2,056	1,483	250	81	81	469	23	0
Demolish Kelly Street Children's Centre	7,055	5,949	611	1,106	1,106	0	0	0
Kelly Street Site Landscaping (St. Mary's PS)	46	23	16	23	23	0	0	0
Demolish Sacred Heart Primary School	221	0	41	24	24	187	10	0
Interactive Whiteboard Refresh	366	0	0	1	1	149	216	0
Complete on site	700	0	75	694	694	6	0	0
	115	0	0	27	27	0	88	0
TOTAL SEMP	22,260	11,502	1,893	3,864	3,864	2,124	3,269	1,501
Early Learning & Childcare Expansion (1140hrs) Projects								
Craigmarloch - Internal Alterations	6	0	10	2	2	4	0	0
Gourock YAC - Internal & External Alterations	277	182	40	95	95	0	0	0
Larkfield Children's Centre - New Build	2,906	260	500	1,155	1,155	1,345	146	0
Rainbow Family Centre - Extension	2,378	201	578	1,370	1,370	698	109	0
Wellpark Children's Centre - Alterations	40	0	80	20	20	20	0	0
Glenpark Early Learning Centre - Outdoor	164	0	120	26	26	128	10	0
ELC Complete on site	1,087	1,068	10	19	19	0	0	0
TOTAL ELC EXPANSION	6,858	1,711	1,338	2,687	2,687	2,195	265	0
CFCR Projects								
Education Connectivity	414	0	0	6	6	408	0	0
	414	0	0	6	6	408	0	0
TOTAL ALL PROJECTS	29,532	13,213	3,231	6,557	6,557	4,727	3,534	1,501

LADY ALICE PRIMARY SCHOOL
REFURBISHMENT AND EXTENSION

Appendix 1(a)

TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT: APRIL 2021

Project No. 16/013

ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIFIC APPROVAL IN TERMS
OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

VARIATIONS IN THE CONTRACT RESULTING IN
THE APPROVED COST BEING EXCEEDED

1. Architects Instructions

New Boilers, flues, sump pumps and BMS control panels.	£50,392
Works to below ground plant room (new slab and tanking to address water ingress).	£31,302
Window repairs (new gaskets etc.) and electric actuators).	£78,055
Works to existing toilets (previously refurbished).	£48,765
Stairlift to stage (and associated structural alterations).	£21,269
Upgrade existing lighting to LED.	£56,288
Additional external works (tarmacadam playground overlay / fencing).	£50,770

2. Extension of Time

Agreed costs for 11 week extension of time on the project.	£82,817
--	---------

Total increase in project works £419,658

Original Approved Budget	£3,756,000
Final Project Cost	£4,176,000
Percentage Increase	11.18%

TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT: APRIL 2021

Project No. 17/010

**ITEMS REQUIRING SPECIFIC APPROVAL IN TERMS
OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

**VARIATIONS IN THE CONTRACT RESULTING IN
THE APPROVED COST BEING EXCEEDED**

1. Architects Instructions

Exposure of existing below ground drainage resulted in increased drainage works.	36,985
Exposure of existing partitions and internal walls revealed the walls were a poorer condition than anticipated resulting in additional repairs including plaster repairs.	51,661
Costs associated with revised structural requirements following opening up of existing building including additional steelwork, structural timber framing and additional contractor design costs and plant costs.	120,841
Additional stonework repairs to external walls required.	14,100
Additional works to external roof finishes and internal roof space.	23,164
Repairs to existing internal floors following opening up of existing building at both ground floor and upper floor levels due to floors being in a poorer condition than anticipated.	58,609
Additional builderswork to suit mechanical and electrical services required following opening up of existing building and excavation of external areas	70,218
Underpinning and essential repairs to rear boundary wall following inspection on site revealing that walls in poorer condition than anticipated; associated works outside site boundary in neighbouring property	50,403
Provision of ceilings to additional rooms within existing building following opening up of existing rooms revealing soffits in poor condition	52,109
Revised works at staircases / stairwells at each end of the existing building due to construction of existing historic building	30,873
Omission of allowance for canopy omitted from scope of works	- 16,572
Omission of allowance in contract sum for areas of render to inner face of external walls not required	- 85,000
Omission of provisional sums and dayworks allowances	- 257,720

2. Direct Loss and Expense

Cost associated with pre-COVID delays and extensions of time related to the unforeseen additional structural and other works to the existing building.	170,073
--	---------

3. Costs associated with COVID 19

Costs associated with Covid 19 lockdown period and phased construction restart including revised working practices.	97,540
---	--------

4. Fees and charges

Additional fees and charges for professional services for prolongation.	49,668
---	--------

5. Surveys minor direct works and utilities

Omit provisional allowance and add back actual costs	9,836
--	-------

Total increase in project works 476,788

Original Approved Budget	£6,591,000
Final Project Cost	£7,068,000
Percentage Increase	7.24%

EDUCATION**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****CURRENT POSITION****Period 11 - 1st April 2020 to 28th February 2021**

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	45,449	46,375	926	2.0%
25,031	Employee Costs - Non Teachers	22,739	27,795	27,936	141	0.5%
16,598	Property Costs	8,091	8,119	8,006	(113)	(1.4%)
5,420	Supplies & Services	5,349	5,991	6,227	236	3.9%
2,638	Transport Costs	2,033	2,101	2,219	118	5.6%
645	Administration Costs	689	685	668	(17)	(2.5%)
5,292	Other Expenditure	18,147	32,931	34,751	1,820	5.5%
(19,673)	Income	(12,353)	(31,307)	(29,915)	1,392	(4.4%)
81,071	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	90,791	91,764	96,267	4,503	4.9%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	(134)	(134)	0	
	Loan Charges / DMR	0	(4,808)	(4,808)	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19			(5,121)	(5,121)	
	TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE excluding Earmarked Reserves	90,791	86,822	86,204	(618)	

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	159	10	6.7%
58,529	Education	61,864	62,570	66,173	3,603	5.8%
95	Facilities Management	110	110	1,130	1,020	927.3%
9,237	School Estate Management Plan	14,557	14,728	14,728	0	-
67,861	TOTAL EDUCATION SERVICES	76,531	77,408	82,031	4,623	6.0%
9,402	ASN	10,337	10,346	10,229	(117)	(1.1%)
1,614	Community Learning & Development	1,685	1,746	1,746	0	-
2,020	Other Inclusive Education	2,089	2,115	2,102	(13)	(0.6%)
13,036	TOTAL INCLUSIVE EDUCATION	14,111	14,207	14,077	(130)	(0.9%)
81,071	TOTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE	90,791	91,764	96,267	4,503	4.9%
	Earmarked Reserves	0	(134)	(134)	0	
	Loan Charges / DMR	0	(4,808)	(4,808)	0	
	Additional Funding Covid-19	0	0	(5,121)	(5,121)	
	TOTAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE excluding Earmarked Reserves	90,791	86,822	86,204	(618)	

EDUCATION**REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT****MATERIAL VARIANCES****Period 11 - 1st April 2020 to 28th February 2021**

<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>28-Feb-21</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	45,449	41,662	43,768	46,375	926	2.0%
25,031	Employee Costs - Non Teachers	27,795	23,163	23,132	27,936	141	0.5%
528	Gas	527	439	378	471	(56)	(10.6%)
897	Electricity	942	707	612	859	(83)	(8.8%)
1,191	ED Cleaning Contract	1,144	1,049	997	1,072	(72)	(6.3%)
0	FM Cleaning Materials	0	0	96	103	103	-
1,053	FM Catering Supplies	979	897	340	494	(485)	(49.5%)
3,253	ED Catering Recharge	3,666	3,361	2,415	3,181	(485)	(13.2%)
0	FM Catering Supplies - Covid-19	0	0	320	510	510	-
0	FM PPE / Hans Sanitiser - Covid 19	0	0	135	150	150	-
0	IT Digital Access Equipment	0	0	634	650	650	-
77	School Milk	107	98	31	47	(60)	100.0%
29	Outdoor Education Supplies	29	0	0	0	(29)	-
90	Pupil Transport - Consortium	60	39	75	106	46	76.7%
30	Pupil Transport - Vocational	33	30	8	12	(21)	(63.6%)
416	ASN Transport	352	352	445	422	70	19.9%
3	EMA Administration	25	23	1	5	(20)	(80.0%)
8	Early Years Framework	37	34	6	7	(30)	(81.1%)
350	ASN Placements	371	340	191	337	(34)	(9.2%)
0	ASN Review	211	0	0	61	(150)	(71.1%)
0	Food Payments - Covid-19	0	0	1,556	2,060	2,060	-
(30)	Music Tuition Fees	(34)	(34)	0	0	34	-
(900)	School Meal Income	(981)	(752)	(252)	(277)	704	(71.8%)
(32)	Breakfast Club Income	(62)	(57)	0	0	62	(100.0%)
(6,442)	FM Income	(6,448)	(5,910)	(4,747)	(5,891)	557	(8.6%)
	Total Covid-19 Material Variances					5,141	
Total Material Variances						4,488	

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 11 2020/21</u>	<u>Actual To Period 11 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	0	87	Contingency for Beacon funding.
Autism Friendly	Tony McEwan	189	16	15	32	157	CVS post now funded until end of March 2021. No other expenditure expected at this time.
Year of Young People Legacy	Tony McEwan	40	20	8	10	30	Due to Covid-19 there are restrictions on type of event that can take place which reduces the spend for 2020/21 to £10k from the previously budgeted £20k. It is envisaged that two events will now take place in 2021/22 once restrictions are lifted.
Early Years 1140 c/f	Michael Roach	2,043	1,772	920	1,112	931	Projected expenditure has been fully reviewed - by end of FY £198k will have been used for Covid Response, £788k on Infrastructure Works and the balance on Training & Resources. Of £931k c/f, £427k remains unallocated. Plans have been submitted to the Scottish Government to ask permission to allocate this funding to new initiatives.
Total		2,359	1,808	943	1,154	1,205	

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/21/21/RB
Contact Officer:	Ruth Binks	Contact No:	01475 712748
Subject:	Report on Outstanding Education Remits for the Education and Communities Committee		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Education and Communities Committee on outstanding remits for the Education part of the Committee.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 This report gives updates on the progress with the following outstanding remits for the Education part of the Education and Communities Committee.

2.2 Updates considered in this report are:

- Review of Secondary Parentpay Usage
- Placing Request Appeals and future pressure on the learning estate

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Education and Communities Committee is asked to note the updates in this report.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Review of Secondary Parentpay Usage

In October 2018 the Committee approved the removal of cash payments for school meals and school trips as appropriate from primary schools starting in August 2019. The Committee also noted that a review of secondary schools would take place a further report brought back to the Committee.

4.2 Placing Request Appeals and Future Pressures on the Learning Estate

In September 2019, the Sheriff Court upheld the Council's position to refuse placing requests to St Columba's High School. The Committee agreed that a future report would be brought back on future pressures on the learning estate. The Committee also asked for a further report to be brought back to the Committee following receipt of the Sheriff's written decision.

5.0 UPDATES

5.1 Review of Secondary Parentpay Usage

A review of cashless catering was undertaken in the secondary estate. Currently, secondary schools have flexible arrangements in place to pre-pay for school meals. Parentpay is also in use in our secondary schools for reducing the amount of cash being held by the school. Following a discussion with secondary pupils from several of our secondary schools, their preference at this time was not to move completely to a cashless system as they enjoy the flexibility the current system affords them. Any parent who wishes to pay for everything through Parentpay already has that option but as pupils become older and more independent, they appreciate the flexibility that the mixed option provides.

Scotland Excel is currently undertaking the development of a national procurement framework for cashless catering in schools and this is expected to be introduced later in 2021. The recommendation is to keep the current arrangements in place until it becomes necessary to change.

5.2 Placing Request Appeals and Future Pressures on the Learning Estate

5.2.1 Placing request Appeals

To date, no written judgement confirming the verbal decision of the Sheriff has been received from the court about the appeals for St Columba's High School in 2019 and it is probably fair to say that given the length of time, this will not be forthcoming. Whilst the council policy stood up to rigorous scrutiny in court, feedback from the process identified that parents felt that the policy in place for village primary schools was unfair. The policy in place was also putting pressure on St Columba's High School.

At the beginning of 2020, a statutory consultation process was subsequently undertaken to amend the policy in place for transition to secondary schools from the village schools. This was agreed and the new policy has now been implemented. Admissions to schools and placing requests were considered at the beginning of 2021 and the revision to the village schools policy has reduced the pressure on capacity for St Columba's High School for pupils within the catchment area.

5.2.2 Placing Requests for academic Year 2021/22

The initial admissions and placing request process for academic year 2021/22 has now been completed and appeals for this year will be heard during May/June 2021. All schools in

Inverclyde were able to accept those within their catchment area who were entitled to, and wanted to, attend.

Every secondary school in Inverclyde received placing requests. The current position is as follows:

Inverclyde Academy accepted 7 – refused 0
 Clydevie Academy accepted 58 – refused 0
 Port Glasgow High School accepted 10 – refused 0
 St. Stephen’s High School accepted <5 – refused 0
 Notre Dame High School accepted 26 – refused 33
 St. Columba’s High School accepted 11 – refused <5

All primary schools in Inverclyde were able to accept placing requests with the exception of Ardgowan Primary School. 5 places were granted to Ardgowan and 7 were refused.

5.2.3 Future pressures on the learning estate

Work is ongoing to monitor the future capacity of the learning estate and the impact of any new building developments. Current analysis indicates that proposed developments could lead to pressure on pupil capacities in the following: St Columba’s High School and Wemyss Bay, St Andrew’s, Aileymill and St Ninian’s primary schools.

New housing development can increase usage of community infrastructure such as schools, sometimes resulting in new or extended infrastructure being required. In such circumstances, the Council considers it reasonable to seek a financial contribution from the developers of new housing towards the cost of the new infrastructure required as a result of the development. The Council will prepare Supplementary Guidance setting out the types of community infrastructure developer contributions will be sought for, in what circumstances they will be sought, and the level of contribution that will be sought. With regard to educational requirements, the Planning Service liaises with Education colleagues on the implications of new housing development on schools through the annual housing land audit and during the Plan preparation process.

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

There are no legal implications in this report

6.3 Human Resources

There are no HR implications in this report

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.
X	NO

6.5 Repopulation

N/A

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 N/A

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 N/A.

Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	11 May 2021
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/25/21/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 This report considers the following expedited business and relevant updates:

- Opening of schools
- Update on the Attainment Challenge
- Audit Scotland report on improving outcomes for young people through school education
- SQA qualifications
- Early Learning and childcare expansion programme update
- Scottish Government recovery grants for education
- Review of ASN support staff
- West Partnership Interim Action Plan
- School Transport Contract Renewals 2021
- Phasing for free school meals
- Bring Your Own Device
- The Standards and Quality report for Education

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 The Education and Communities Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of this report.
- Agree the proposed phasing for free school meals and the request to the Policy and Resources Committee for £192K funding to support this
- Approve the proposed changes to Bring Your Own Device in all educational establishments

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 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 reopening of schools

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/cecg-guidance/>

The Education Continuity (No. 10) Direction expired on 2 April and no further direction is currently planned, given the next phase of re-opening. All schools and early years establishments are now open to all pupils.

Guidance documents continue to be published by Education Scotland and the Scottish Government.

5.2 Scottish Attainment Challenge – summary of progress report, 2015 – 2020

Education Scotland has recently published summary of progress reports on each local authority's progress in relation to the Scottish Attainment Challenge, these have been written in conjunction with our senior managers and the LA Attainment Advisor.

As well as acknowledging the outcome of the Education Scotland inspection of the authority's approach to delivering the Attainment Challenge and its overall strategy in addressing the poverty related attainment gap as remaining strong, the following strengths and next steps were identified:

In November 2020, the Education Scotland link attainment advisor worked alongside local authority project leads to analyse data and evidence of impact which identified the following key strengths:

- The leadership approach taken by Inverclyde in supporting the aims of the SAC and its implementation.
- Collaborative working across schools and between partners and schools is highly valued. This collaboration leads to improved outcomes for children. Highly effective professional learning has led to more skilled teaching. Through training and support in literacy, numeracy, health and wellbeing the quality of teaching, learning and assessment has improved.
- The use of data is now an integral part of school improvement and the local authority continue to prioritise the development of data literacy. Processes for data analysis supports the review of the poverty related attainment gap and inform decisions in addressing this gap.
- Overall, there are improving trends in the attainment for children and young people in

Inverclyde affected by poverty. Data shows improvement over time and the poverty related attainment gap is decreasing. Initial positive destinations for young people from areas of disadvantage in Inverclyde are improving and are above national levels. There are many factors which contribute to this including the work by staff funded by SAC across primary and secondary schools.

Next steps identified include:

- Strengthen reporting of outcomes of PEF spend to ensure the impact of the fund is maximised.
- Review care experience children and young people's fund plans to ensure improved educational outcomes for this group of children and young people.

This report, alongside the ongoing evaluations of the evidence of impact from the Attainment Challenge team and school leaders, is now informing the next iteration of the SAC plan for the year 2021/22. This is due to be submitted to the Scottish Government in early May 2021 and as soon as this has been approved it will be shared with committee alongside the Education Services plan for 2021/22.

5.3 **Audit Scotland report on improving outcomes for young people through school education**

In 2019, Audit Scotland carried out audit work to look at how effectively the Scottish Government, councils and their partners were improving outcomes for young people through school education. This work was paused in March 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. It was restarted in October 2020 to look at the impact of Covid-19 on school education and the response taken by the Scottish Government, councils and their partners. This report draws together the key findings from these two pieces of work. Audit Scotland recognise that this is a fast-changing situation and this report only covers actions taken by the Scottish Government, councils and their partners up until early January 2021. They also recognise that the global Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant effect on education systems, children and young people and families across the world

The report contains several key messages as outlined below.

1. Those involved in planning, delivering and supporting school education were working well together prior to the pandemic.
2. Both national education policy and the curriculum reflect the importance for pupils of different pathways and opportunities, and outcomes beyond exam results.
3. There is wide variation in education performance across councils, with evidence of worsening performance on some indicators in some councils.
4. The poverty-related attainment gap remains wide and inequalities have been exacerbated by Covid-19.
5. Council spending on primary and secondary school education across Scotland increased by 5.1 per cent in real terms between 2013/14 and 2018/19, from £4.1 billion to £4.3 billion. Most of the real-terms increase in spend can be attributed to the Attainment Scotland Fund, which the Scottish Government set up in 2015/16 to close the poverty-related attainment gap. When this is excluded, real-terms spending increased by 0.7 per cent during the period, to just over £4.1 billion. The Scottish Government had put over £200 million of extra money into Covid-19 mitigation measures and education recovery by early January 2021.

The full report can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/report/improving-outcomes-for-young-people-through-school-education>

The report uses a limited range of measures, however members of the committee are asked to note the continuing and improving strong performance of Inverclyde.

5.4 **SQA qualifications**

As a result of the cancellation of all exams in Scotland in 2020-21, we developed a common

approach to the SQA Alternative Certification Model at all levels to ensure a consistently robust methodology across all centres in the authority. All SQA guidance can be found at <https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/95579.html>

We focused on supporting all senior phase pupils to successfully complete qualifications and reach the highest levels of attainment possible whilst safeguarding the health and wellbeing of our school communities. In response to the unprecedented challenges faced by all of our communities, we developed new systems of delivery for teaching, learning and assessment, blending face to face teaching in schools with remote learning models as required at different points in the school year.

At every stage, we have followed guidelines and advice published by the Scottish Government, Education Scotland and SQA, ensuring we engaged with all our stakeholders as we navigated the varying challenges. To date, our main stages of development have included:

- Developing clear guiding principles for all practitioners which are updated with each SQA publication;
- Detailed quality assurance guidance for subject, centre, authority and West Partnership level verification and moderation activity;
- Set up and development of Subject Network Teams to facilitate discussion, collaboration and cross-authority quality assurance;
- Auditing of all subject departments engagement with SQA Understanding Standards to plan for the phased return to school in February;
- Engagement of SQA Appointees within Subject Networks as required;
- Fortnightly meetings with Education Officers and Heads of Service across the West partnership to ensure a consistent and robust approach;
- Chairing of fortnightly meetings between SQA Liaison Manager and SQA Coordinators in all 8 schools to ensure information is up-to-date and queries resolved timeously;
- On-going collaboration between Education Officers and Head Teachers to develop a shared and meaningful response to each challenge including a robust timeline for final stage of ACM to ensure all pupils have a consistent experience of assessment across Inverclyde;
- Two data analysis meetings to be held with each school in May and June prior to final submission of provisional results;
- Regular collaboration with two partner authorities (ERC & SLC) at each stage of the process.

As part of the national scrutiny of local authorities' implementation of the ACM, we will meet with colleagues from HMIE on Friday 23 April to present our approach.

5.5 **Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Programme Update**

Inverclyde Council submitted its expansion plan to Scottish Government in March 2018. The plan provided details of current services and the developments required to deliver 1140 hours. Since this time the plan has been subject to change in line with local need and the timeline for infrastructure developments.

On Wednesday 1 April 2020, The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (Modification) (No. 2) Revocation Order 2020 was approved by the Scottish Parliament due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This meant that there was no statutory duty to provide 1140 hours from August 2020; however Inverclyde Council was in a position to implement the programme ensuring families benefitted at the earliest stage.

Scottish Government has now revoked the 1 April 2020 order meaning that the statutory duty for 1140 hours will be in place for August 2021. Only minor modification to staffing models and the provision for children with additional support needs are required for August 2021.

Inverclyde Council has received specific revenue grant funding from Scottish Government since 2018. This funding has increased incrementally since this date and is ring fenced to support the roll-out of the 1140 hours expansion. Over the past 2 years there has been an underspend in this budget.

The current uncommitted earmarked reserve for 2019 / 20 is approximately £427,000 and £440,000 which there are currently plans in place for. The underspend for 2020 / 21 is approximately £1,640,000.

Inverclyde Council Officers met with Scottish Government colleagues to share information on the current underspends and seek guidance and approval for the use of the underspend to support young children and their families across Inverclyde.

The plan for utilising the underspend can be summarised into 3 main categories of COVID-19 recovery interventions, early level recovery and infrastructure developments. Scottish Government has approved the use of the underspend.

5.6 Scottish Governments Recovery grants for Education

Inverclyde continues to receive grants for educational recovery. The grants and their usage are intended to allow schools in Inverclyde to support pupils for any gaps in learning as previously reported to Committee. This includes teachers, support staff and resources. At the time of writing, the additional money for the summer holiday programme has yet to be confirmed, however officers are working with educational establishments and partners to progress proposals for hands on, experiential activities which will be offered to all pupils over the summer period. This will be in addition to the core summer provision already in place and the pilot for childcare.

5.7 Review of ASN support staff

Recognising the increase in the levels and complexity of needs pupils with additional support needs have in our establishments, a review was undertaken to revise the job outlines of three groups of staff which exist in our establishments in order to better support pupils.

This review has resulted in classroom assistants, additional support needs assistants and learning assistants being amalgamated into one role of 'pupil support assistant' which will enhance the offer to establishments and better support our young people with additional support needs. Although many in the role of classroom assistant and additional support needs assistant will see their grade move from grade 2 to 3, the expectations of the job will also increase. However, this review will be supported by a comprehensive training programme for affected staff. This review has been supported by Unison and the Head of Culture, Communities and Educational Resources and Unison have begun engaging with affected staff to support them into the new role from August 2021.

5.8 West partnership interim action plan

The West Partnership Improvement Plan 2020 to 2023 sets out the key areas for collaborative action to bring about improvement across the partnership region.

In January 2021, a further plan, the Interim Action Plan was drawn up at the request of Directors to address the challenges of the current and immediately foreseeable educational landscape. In particular, the challenges of delivering a meaningful education provision whilst most children and young people are unable to attend school.

The Interim Action Plan is based almost entirely on the existing plan for 2020 to 2023. It recognises the need to prioritise and accelerate certain aspects of the West Partnership's Plan 2020 to 2023. It acknowledges too that other aspects of the plan will be paused temporarily or placed on a maintenance basis.

The Interim Action Plan identifies 7 priority projects, each of which has a specific relevance during the period of Covid-19 restrictions. They include: important and heavily subscribed leadership activities; supporting learners with additional needs; tracking learners' wellbeing; as well as our significant contribution to the national digital learning offer, West OS.

[Resources – The West Partnership](#)

5.9 **School Transport Contract Renewals 2021**

Given the current uncertainty around the restrictions on school transport due to COVID-19, SPT has advised that it will not be able to procure the volume of contracts required this year to start in August 2021 (circa 800 +) through its standard tendering process. The standard process involves tender timeframes, evaluations, analysis and standards checks along with Council approvals and school/parent/operator notifications before the August start date. In addition, this the standard tendering process will be challenging for operators to cope with due to the volume of tendering and may not produce the normally expected standard based on best value.

SPT has confirmed with its procurement department that, in circumstances such as this, a Public Body may invoke Regulation 33 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 to conduct a non-standard procurement approach in order to procure the required services (new 1 year contracts being offered).

The Education and Communities Committee is being asked to note the intention of SPT to extend current school transport contracts for 1 year from August 2021.

5.10 **Phasing of free School Meals**

The Scottish Government have announced its intention to roll out free school meals to all primary pupils no later than August 2022, phased over academic year 2021/22. In Inverclyde primary schools, pupils in Primary 1-4 receive free school meals. P1-3 are currently funded by the Scottish government and pupils in P4 are funded by Inverclyde Council.

The Members Budget Working group considered different options for the phasing of free school meals in Inverclyde. The proposed intention in Inverclyde is to phase in free school meals for all pupils in primary school as soon as practically possible over the course of academic year 2021/22 – starting with P5 in August 2021. This approach gives schools and the service the opportunity to overcome any practical implications of managing the full roll out of free school meals whilst managing the significant ongoing challenges of providing lunches and maintaining a COVID safe environment.

The cost of introducing free school meals for all P4-7 pupils in August 2021 is approximately £192K over academic year 2021/22. A phased approach would cost less than this. The Policy and Resources Committee will be requested to allocate the £192,000 out of the Covid Recovery Fund for the roll out of free school meals. Officers will report to the November Education and Communities Committee with an evaluation of the initial P5 roll out and proposed next phasing.

5.11 **Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)**

Since 2011, students and staff in our secondary school establishments have been able to access the Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD) Wi-Fi network to enable them to continue with their learning on their own personal devices within our school building. Access to the BYOD network was further extended to Primary School and ELC staff in 2018.

Changes to the volume and range of devices now seeking to be connected to this network have resulted in a number of challenges for schools, particularly around managing access to the network. Constant changes to digital security certification and the platforms that devices use, have resulted in some devices working less efficiently on our network or indeed no longer connecting.

Education Services is now looking to simplify access to BYOD, to allow students to be able to bring the devices they have been using for remote learning, including those being issued to Primary and Secondary pupils in response to the pandemic, into the school buildings. It will also allow schools more flexibility in the range of devices able to be used to support learning and to re-engage with those which are currently not working.

Education Services have been working with our ICT Services colleagues to redesign the access

process, in line with other Wi-Fi networks currently operated by the Council. Education Services therefore request from committee, approval to put into place appropriate network and security changes to allow access to work more effectively, across all of its establishments.

5.12 **Education Services Standards and Quality Report 2020/21 and Service Improvement Plan 2021/22**

The service produced its Standards and Quality Report 2019/20 later in 2020 than would have been normal practice due to the pandemic. As well as this the Service Improvement Plan which would normally run from April to April was only written from August 2020 to April 2021.

In order to capture and evaluate the work of the service since August 2020 and revert back to the usual timescale of planning from April to April each year, a standards and quality report has now been produced and can be found here:

<https://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/education-and-learning/education-services-in-inverclyde>

The report seeks to capture the significant amount of work undertaken by the service, schools and its partners in a short space of time and under the pandemic and lockdown conditions which include the second lock down for most of the Spring term.

The report outlines much of the service's response to remote learning and seeks to outline its effectiveness and impact.

As well as this the report outlines the next steps for the service and all establishments, which will now support them to produce their annual improvement plans.

The report will be produced in a published form with support from the authority's graphics team.

The service improvement plan is still in draft form but the Standards and Quality Report outlines its key priorities and focus. A final version of the plan will be produced during May 2021.

Highlights included in the S and Q are:

- The strength of leadership of the service and across all establishments throughout the pandemic in creating clear guidance on aspects such as the recovery curriculum alongside adjustments to service delivery in line with government guidance
- Ongoing partnership working to ensure pupils' needs were being met through the challenging contest of the pandemic
- Successful introduction of the Wellbeing service in partnership with HSCP and Action for Children
- Strong response of schools to the challenges of remote learning during lockdown 2 and the improvements made to the quality of provision and the engagement of families in comparison to lockdown 1
- The strong performance of the senior phase in comparison to the national picture in 2020

The successful revalidation of the authority by the GTCS which recognised the quality of our training for all staff and the leadership of professional development.

6.0 OPERATIONAL LOG

6.1 There is no operational log for 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**

N/A

7.3 **Human Resources**

N/A.

7.4 **Equalities**

Equalities

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

X

YES

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?

X

YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.

NO

(c) Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

X

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

NO

7.5 Repopulation

N/A.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

8.1 N/A.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

9.1 N/A.