
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	1 November 2022
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/51/22/MR
Contact Officer:	Michael Roach	Contact No:	01475 712850
Subject:	Education Update Report – Overview of National and Local Initiatives		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting

1.2 The purpose of this report is to ask members of the Education and Communities Committee to note updates relating to the Education Service both in terms of local development as well as national policy development.

1.3 The report includes update on:

- National conversation about education
- Gaelic medium secondary education
- Governance of external organisations – early years
- Update from Glasgow City Region Education Committee held on 22 September 2022
- GIRFEC refresh

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members of the Education and Communities Committee are asked to note the content of the update report.

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 National discussion – education

As part of the ongoing approach to education reform in Scotland, a national conversation has opened around the future of Scottish Education. The National Discussion will be co-convened by the Scottish Government and local government partners COSLA and has been launched this term.

3.2 Carol Campbell, Professor of Leadership and Educational Change at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, and Dr Alma Harris, Emeritus Professor Swansea University and Professor at Cardiff School of Education and Social Policy, Cardiff Metropolitan University, have agreed to co-facilitate the National Discussion.

3.3 A suite of resources to support establishments and education services to facilitate these conversations has been published and shared as well as with parent councils. The Head of Education will also facilitate a pupil voice event early in November with the cohort of pupil reps who attend regular consultation meetings with the DMT.

3.4 More information can be found here: <https://www.gov.scot/news/national-discussion-on-education/>

3.5 Update re Gaelic secondary education

Further to the update in August 2022 the bid made to Bòrd na Gàidhlig for full funding for the options appraisal has been successful.

3.6 A consultant has been appointed via a procurement process who has begun work on the options appraisal.

3.7 It remains the intention of the Advisory group to bring a report based on this options appraisal to committee early in 2023 outlining the viable options identified.

3.8 Early years governance of funded providers – private, voluntary and independent (PVI)

There are currently 16 funded providers within Inverclyde Council; 8 Private, Voluntary & Independent nurseries and 8 childminders.

3.9 Ongoing annual governance meetings take place with all PVI providers and in line with the Early Years Contract. Documentation and accounts are also submitted.

3.10 The Funded Provider must provide Inverclyde Council with a copy of Annual Audited Accounts. A Business Continuity Plan must also be in place before payments can be released.

3.11 The Funded Provider must inform Inverclyde Council immediately of any financial difficulties that it may be experiencing including when monthly expenditure exceeds monthly income for more than 2 months in a row.

3.12 The Funded Provider must provide Inverclyde Council with copies of Board / Management minutes at least twice per year.

3.13 Annual governance meetings have been carried out with all 16 funded providers and no issues have been raised through this process.

3.14 Update from Glasgow City Region Education Committee held on 22 September 2022

A meeting of the City Region Education Committee which provides strategic governance for the Regional Improvement Collaborative known as the West Partnership met on 22nd September 2022. The meeting discussed the terms of reference for the Committee as well as the election

of a new convenor. Angela Campbell from North Lanarkshire Council was appointed to the role of convenor. The Committee also considered the highlight report for 21/22 and the improvement plan for 22/23. A report by the Robert Owen Centre for Education Change was also submitted to the Committee and outlined the very strong practice of the development of the West Partnership. A link to the papers considered at the meeting can be found at the following link: [Committee Information - Meetings \(glasgow.gov.uk\)](http://glasgow.gov.uk/Committee-Information-Meetings)

3.15 GIRFEC Refresh

The refreshed Getting it right for every child policy statement and practice materials have now been published. These can be found at: [GIRFEC resources - Getting it right for every child \(GIRFEC\)](#). The refreshed practice will be considered by all stakeholders and be considered as part of Children's Services planning.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial		X	
Legal/Risk		X	
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X	
Data Protection		X	

4.2 Finance

There are limited financial costs associated with the information provided in this paper.

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					

4.3 Legal/Risk

There are no legal implications.

4.4 Human Resources

N/A.

4.5 Strategic

N/A.

4.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
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, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 N/A.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A.