
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	9 May 2023
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/23/23/MR
Contact Officer:	Michael Roach	Contact No:	01475 712850
Subject:	Education Update Report – Overview of Local and National 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:

- Care Inspectorate inspection outcomes
- Education reform update
- Tier 2 and 3 mental health support update
- Learning hours consultation

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

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

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

3.1 Care Inspectorate inspection outcomes

There have been no inspections since the last Committee.

3.2 Education reform update:

Phase 3 of the Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment

Since the last Committee in March 2023 an interim report from the Hayward review has been published (full details in link below) that has recommended an end to S4 exams for students who will continue with a subject beyond that year. It also proposes a “Scottish Diploma of Achievement” to better represent students’ full range of achievements while at school. This would see an end to senior secondary students sitting high-stake exams three years running, at the end of S4, S5 and S6.

Since the interim report was published stakeholders had until 7 April to share further views as previously reported to committee.

Hayward briefing report

[Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment: Phase 3 Briefing Paper \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Information/Scottish-Government/Independent-Review-of-Qualifications-and-Assessment/Phase-3-Briefing-Paper)

Full interim report from Hayward

[Independent Review of Qualifications and Assessment in Scotland: interim report - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Information/Scottish-Government/Independent-Review-of-Qualifications-and-Assessment-in-Scotland/interim-report)

3.3 Education bodies reform update

There have been no updates provided as to the reform programme relating to education Scotland or the SQA since the last committee. More on the reform process and programme can be found here: [Education reform programme - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Information/Scottish-Government/Education-reform-programme)

3.4 Tier 2 and 3 mental health provision

Consideration has been given to a previous question asked at committee regarding how the introduction of Tier 2 mental health and wellbeing services in Inverclyde has impacted upon the rates of referral to the local Inverclyde CAMHS service. Whilst it was not possible at this point in time to acquire the specific data regarding CAMHS referrals in Inverclyde the data for CAMHS across Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board indicates that in the past two years there has been a 30% increase in referrals. Since the pandemic, referrals to CAMHS have mainly been emergency/urgent referrals (for example, suicidal or eating disorders). It would therefore be difficult to determine if the referral rate would have decreased with the introduction of Tier 2 services. However, when the data from Inverclyde becomes available the expectation is that it can evidence that there is an increase in the redirection of CAMHS referrals to Tier 2 services and also a reduction in referrals rejected by the local CAMHS.

In Inverclyde the regular multi-disciplinary Emotional Well-being Triage meetings initiated through the Children and Young People Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework are streamlining the redirection of referrals that CAMHS in Inverclyde. Tier 2 services are an integral part of these Triage meetings and are thus in a position to respond effectively and timeously.

3.5 Learning Hours consultation

The Scottish Government published a consultation on proposals to prescribe the minimum annual number of learning hours that local authority and grant aided schools must provide on 21 March 2023. You can view the consultation via the following link [Prescribing the minimum annual number of learning hours: consultation - Scottish Government - Citizen Space](https://www.gov.scot/Information/Scottish-Government/Prescribing-the-minimum-annual-number-of-learning-hours-consultation) .

The Education Service will agree a full response to the consultation with the convener of the Education Committee by the deadline of 13 June 2023.

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.

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 N/A.

6.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 N/A.