
Report To:	Education & Lifelong Learning Committee	Date:	24 January 2012
Report By:	Corporate Director Education & Communities	Report No:	EDUC/03/12/DS
Contact Officer:	Dougie Smith MCMC Development Officer	Contact No:	01475 712820
Subject:	School Leaver Destination Results 2010-11		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information relating to the Annual release of School Leaver Destination Results, which were made available on 07 December 2011.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Skills Development Scotland (SDS) supplies information on the destinations of school leavers (SLDR) to the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division. The return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between 01 August 2010 and 31 July 2011.
- 2.2 The follow up exercise was undertaken in September 2011, and is therefore a snapshot of each individual school leaver's status from that time. Status may change and because of this, a further follow up will be undertaken in March 2012 to determine changes to and / or the sustainability of immediate post-school destinations.
- 2.3 In 2010's SLDR, 89.1% of young people progressed into positive destinations. The figure for 2011 has fallen slightly to 88.2% (a drop of 0.9%). Details of the latest SLDR results for Inverclyde can be found in **Appendix 1** to this report. App 1
- 2.4 Information relating to the **2010** SLDR results has been attached as **Appendix 2** to this report, for the purposes of comparisons. App 2
- 2.5 The actual number of school leavers this year has fallen by 92 from last year (847 this year and 939 in 2009-10). Percentages are also noted in **Appendix 1**, and this provides a better comparison between the two years, in terms of the balance of pupils progressing into the various categories of destinations.
- 2.6 Uptake of training has seen an increase of 1.5%, but there has been a significant drop in Further Education uptake this year – down by 94 from 326 to 232. This indicates that last year's distribution was indeed anomalous (FE and HE were around the same level of uptake) We have, however, reverted to our general pattern where Higher Education numbers exceed those in Further Education.
- 2.7 Employment as a destination has risen for the second year, both in terms of numbers of young people, and also percentage. This is still a very encouraging situation in the current climate, and will be an area of particular focus in the Spring 2012 follow up exercise. It is important that the young people not only move into positive destinations, but also that they sustain the opportunities that they have secured.

- 2.8 It should also be noted that, once again, Inverclyde's SLDR statistics show no "unknown" young people. This means that all school leavers are known to SDS, who will continue to track them to ensure that their destinations have been sustained, and to provide further support if this is not the case. We are the only local authority area in Scotland to have reported no unknowns in 2009-2010 SLDR exercise, the 2011 follow up exercise, and now the 2010-2011 SLDR exercise.
- 2.9 In addition to this, SDS continues to work with and support those young people who, although they are known within the authority, have yet to move into a positive destination.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That committee note the contents of this report, which narrate the statistics presented in the appendices.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director of Education & Communities

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 This is the third publication of SLDR's since the economic downturn of 2008. Nationally, it is logical to assert that the availability of fewer labour market opportunities might be expected to lead to greater demand for places in Higher and Further Education for young people, or indeed to increased numbers of pupils staying on at school, and certainly to lower proportions of young people entering employment.
- 4.2 This has not been the case in Inverclyde, where employment as a destination has gone up in both numbers and percentage for the second year. This is encouraging in the current economic climate, and it will be interesting to note the level of sustainability of employment opportunities that is recorded during the follow up exercise early in 2012.
- 4.3 Uptake of training has also increased but there has been a significant drop in Further Education uptake this year. We have reverted to our general pattern where Higher Education numbers exceed those in Further Education.
- 4.4 The 2010-11 SLDR exercise reports on 7 secondary schools. The merger of Greenock Academy and Gourock High School into Clydeview will be first reported in the 2011-12 SLDR's.
- 4.5 For the first time, all 7 of our Secondary Schools have a minimum of 80% positive destinations. St Stephen's High School previously had 77% level of positive destinations, which has risen to 83.5% this year (an increase of 6.5%). Port Glasgow High School has shown the most significant improvement of 8.9% in 2010-11. The Port Glasgow schools were the only schools to show percentage increases in positive destinations in 2010-11 – they had the lowest percentages in 2009-10.
- 4.6 Percentage decreases in the remaining 5 schools ranged from -0.1% (Inverclyde Academy) to -7.4% (Greenock Academy).
- 4.7 When reporting on the SLDR's for Inverclyde, national comparisons are also provided. Last year, we bettered the national average for the first time since becoming a "NEET Hotspot" in 2003. (Local level of 89.1% compared to national level of 86.8% - a difference of 2.3%) The national percentage of positive destinations for this year is 88.4% - an increase of 1.6%. Inverclyde's 0.9% reduction combined with the national increase places us 0.2% behind the national average.
- 4.8 It is not yet possible to indicate the "ranking" of Inverclyde against all other local authorities for 2010-11.
- 4.9 This year, for the first time, Scottish Government has classified Activity Agreements (AA's) as positive destinations. Key Workers and support workers can refer young people onto AA's when they require some foundational support before they can move onto training, further education or work. This can be very intensive (drug / alcohol counselling etc.) or very soft and non-threatening (initial half hour session per week to encourage young person to understand the importance of keeping an appointment and turning up on time) – the range is vast, and therefore Activity Agreements cannot be classified as a specific provision.
- 4.10 We have indicated to Scottish Government that, by definition, an Activity Agreement is not a positive destination as it is preparing a young person to eventually move onto something else.
- 4.11 As Activity Agreements have not been classified as positive destinations in any previous years, it is not possible to make a direct comparison in the SLDR figures for all authorities (including relative rankings) using this year's methodology. As such, we have discussed this with Scottish Government, who agree with the non-comparability point. A Data Access Request has been submitted by Education Services to obtain the AA figures for each authority, in order to provide accurate rankings for 2010-11.

4.12 Inverclyde's figures are known, and recalculated for cross-year comparison, as are the national, overall figures.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 This report is submitted to committee as an update on Inverclyde's current position in this National Indicator, which not only informs the Employability Agenda locally, but which is also used as an indicator of the success of Curriculum for Excellence in the Senior Phase, and the delivery of 16+ Learning Choices.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Finance

There are no known financial issues.

6.2 Legal

There are no known legal issues

6.3 Human Resources

There are no known HR issues.

6.4 Equalities

There are no known equality issues.

7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 Schools, Skills Development Scotland, and all partners have worked effectively to ensure that all School Leavers are being supported in their transition from educational establishments. The figures presented for SLDR's are very positive in the context of the current economic climate.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

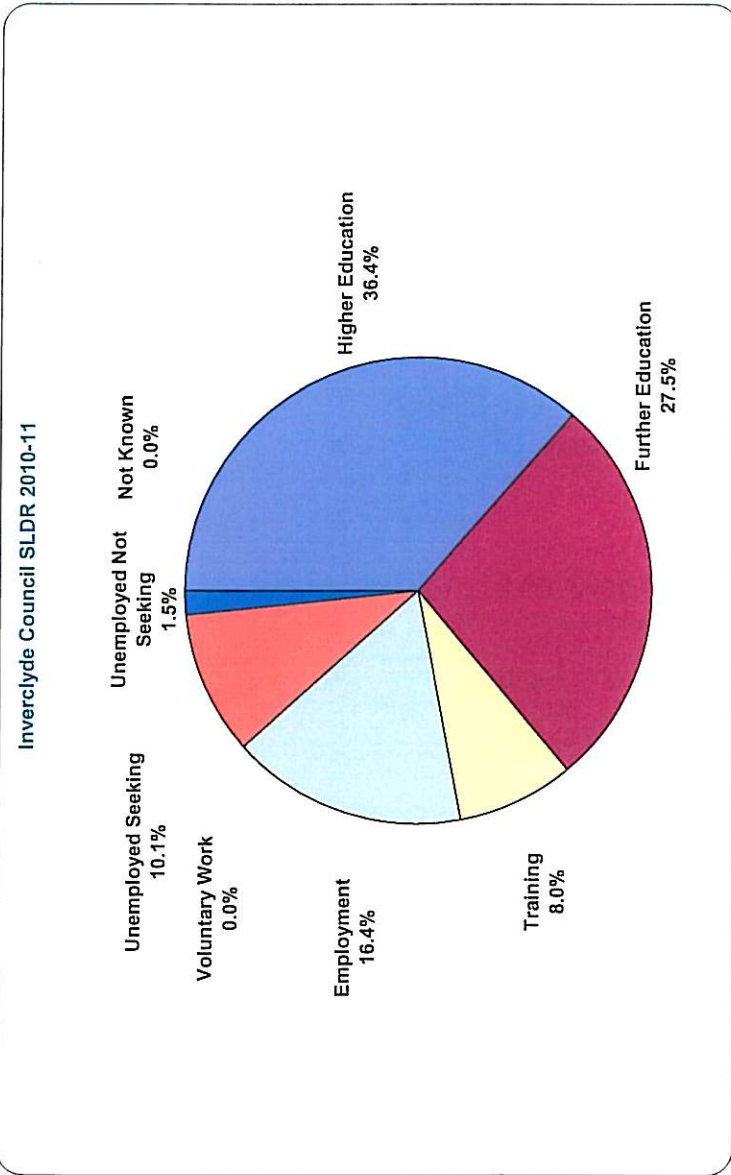
8.1 Appendix 1 – 2011 SLDR summary for Inverclyde
Appendix 2 – 2010 SLDR summary for Inverclyde (for comparison)



Skills Development Scotland (SDS) supplies information on the destinations of school leavers (SLDR), at an individual level, to the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division. This return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between the 1st of August 2010 and the 31st of July 2011. The exercise was carried out during the month of September 2011 and produces a snapshot of destinations as at the 2nd October 2011. The data has undergone a robust matching & validation process. Only leavers from publicly funded secondary schools, who will be included in the Scottish Government's publication: Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools: 2010/11, are included in the analysis below.

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2010-2011											
	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Leavers	Total Other	%
Inverclyde Council	308	232	68	139	0	05	13	0	847	747	88.2%
											11.0%

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2010-2011											
	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Leavers	Total Other	%
Inverclyde Council	38.4%	27.4%	8.0%	16.4%	0.0%	10.0%	1.5%	0.0%	847	847	100%



Appendix 2 2009-10 SLDR Summary for Inverclyde



Skills Development Scotland (SDS) supplies information on the destinations of school leavers (SLDR), at an individual level, to the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division. This return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between the 1st of August 2009 and the 31st of July 2010. The exercise was carried out during the month of September 2010 and produces a snapshot of destinations as at the 2nd October 2010. The data has undergone a robust matching & validation process. Only leavers from publically funded secondary schools, who will be included in the Scottish Government's publication: Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools: 2009/10, are included in the analysis below.

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2009 - 2010											
	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Leavers	Total Other	% Positive
Inverclyde Council	325	326	64	119	3	87	15	0	939	102	89.1%

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2009 - 2010										
	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Leavers	Total Other
Inverclyde Council	34.6%	34.7%	6.8%	12.7%	0.3%	9.3%	1.6%	0.0%	939	

