
Report To: Education & Communities Committee **Date:** 12 June 2012

Report By: Corporate Director Education,
Communities & Organisational
Development **Report No:**
EDUCOM/05/12/GB

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Subject: Physical Education Update

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To update the Committee on Inverclyde's position in relation to the Scottish Government's target of a minimum of two hours / two periods of quality Physical Education for each child every week.
- 1.2 To update the Committee on Inverclyde's position in relation to the Scottish Government's new Physical Education Support Fund.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Scottish Government and COSLA announced in March 2012 a commitment to the existing target of delivering at least two hours per week of Physical Education in primary school and two periods in S1 to S4 by 2014 for all pupils in Scotland.
- 2.2 It is expected that each local authority will develop a plan to achieve this target by 2014.
- 2.3 The Scottish Government have announced the Physical Education Support Fund to assist with achieving the target. Education Scotland and **sportscotland** will work with local authorities to support the delivery of this target locally.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee note the information contained in this report.
- 3.2 That the Inverclyde Physical Education Implementation Plan is completed in consultation with the national and local Physical Education networks, schools, **sportscotland**, Education Scotland, Active Schools / Sports Development Team and submitted to the first Committee of the next cycle for approval.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Physical Education target was first recommended by the Physical Activity Task Force and published in the Scottish Government's Physical Activity Strategy, Let's Make Scotland More Active in February 2003.
- 4.2 In March 2012, the Scottish Government and COSLA announced a commitment to deliver at least two hours per week of Physical Education in primary school and two periods in S1 to S4 by 2014 for all pupils in Scotland. This is part of the Games Legacy for Scotland which was launched in 2009, to provide a legacy strategy for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2012/03/2HOURSPE29032012>
- 4.3 This year the Scottish Government measured the Physical Education target for every local authority through the Scottish Healthy Living Survey, which occurred on 27th February – 2nd March 2012. Inverclyde Council completed the measurement based on primary and secondary Physical Education timetables. It is important to emphasise that the target relates to structured physical education, as opposed to simply increasing physical activity in pupils.
- 4.4 Initial reports suggest that 100% of our secondaries meet the 2 periods of Physical Education for S1-4 on a weekly basis. 67% of our primaries meet the target of 2 hours of Physical Education on a weekly basis. The national data will be published in June 2012.
- 4.5 Both **sportscotland** and Education Scotland recognise that there will be instances where the physical constraints of some primary schools in particular (e.g. with multipurpose halls) will make it difficult to meet the 2 hour criteria. Another potential limiting factor could be the number of PE qualified teachers available in primary schools who can provide structured lessons. The Active Schools and Sports Development team will work with all schools, **sportscotland** and Education Scotland in developing a implementation plan to meet the target by 2014.
- 4.6 The Scottish Government has announced a Physical Education Support Fund to assist with achieving the target by 2014. The investment will be made nationally of up to £5.8 million in total, over two financial years. £3.4 million from **sportscotland** will be allocated across all local authorities using the current **sportscotland** investment process through Active Schools. Each local authority will determine, in discussion with the partners, how this additional funding will be used. The use of the resource will be dependant on local priorities and need. **sportscotland** and Education Scotland will discuss options with local authority partners and agree how they can progress towards, and achieve the Physical Education target by 2014. This process will become part of **sportscotland**'s existing partnership agreement with each local authority. Education Scotland has, in addition, £2.4 million to support a national programme of support.
- 4.7 At a very positive meeting with **sportscotland**, Education Scotland and the Corporate Director of Education and Communities held on 22nd May, 2012, Inverclyde's funding was confirmed as £72,500 over 2 years, £36,250 in October each. Funding can be carried forward until June 2014 and can be used for staffing and improvement of facilities. A follow up meeting is to be scheduled to consult with the local PE network in June 2012.

5.0 PROPOSALS

- 5.1 An Inverclyde Physical Education Implementation Plan will be devised in partnership with national and local Physical Education networks, **sportscotland**, Education Scotland, Active Schools / Sports Development Team. It will be completed for implementation in August 2012.
- 5.2 The plan will be submitted to Committee at the first meeting of the next cycle for

approval.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

The monies, £72,500 over two years, will be available over the next two financial years and will be paid through the existing **sportscotland** partnership agreement process.

6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6.3 Human Resources

There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

6.4 Equalities

There are no equalities arising from this report.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 Scottish Government Physical Education Letter April 2012

7.2 Education Scotland and **sportscotland** Physical Education Letter May 2012