

**Report To:** Education & Communities  
Committee

**Date:** 22 January 2013

**Report By:** Albert Henderson,  
Corporate Director Education,  
Communities & Organisational  
Development

**Report No:** EDUCOM/16/13/DS

**Contact Officer:** Dougie Smith, MCMC  
Development Officer

**Contact No:** 01475 712820

**Subject:** School Leaver Destination Results 2011-12

### 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 to the authority on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2013.

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2012.

- 2.2 The follow up exercise was undertaken in September 2012, and is therefore a snapshot of each individual school leaver's status from that time. Status may change and because of this, a further annual follow up is undertaken (scheduled for March 2013) to determine changes to and / or the sustainability of immediate post-school destinations.

- 2.3 In 2010-11's SLDR, 88.4% of young people progressed into positive destinations. The figure for 2012 has risen significantly to **94.8% (an increase of 6.4%)**. Details of the latest SLDR results for Inverclyde can be found in **Appendix 1** to this report. This year, the national figure is 89.9%. Inverclyde is therefore almost 5% higher than the Scottish levels for young people moving from our schools into positive destinations. App 1

- 2.4 Information relating to the **2010-11** SLDR results has been attached as **Appendix 2** to this report, for the purposes of comparisons, along with a summary of the variance between the two years. App 2

- 2.5 The actual number of school leavers this year has risen by 14 from last year (861 this year and 847 in 2010-11). As well as numbers, percentages are also noted in **Appendix 1**; providing a better comparison between the two years, in terms of the balance of pupils progressing into the various categories of destinations.

- 2.6 We have seen percentage increases in the uptake of Higher Education and Training amongst this year's school leavers from the previous cohort (+5.8% and +0.8% respectively). Last year we reported a significant drop in Further Education uptake (7.3% reduction). This year we have again seen a reduction, although only of 0.7%. There has also been a slight reduction in the % of school leavers moving into employment (-1%). This is our first % drop in employment as a destination in the past 3 years.

- 2.7 The main changes have been the 5.8% increase in HE and a 5.9% decrease in young people being unemployed and seeking work or an alternative opportunity. As it is important that the young people not only move into positive destinations, but also sustain the

opportunities that they have secured, the HE young people will be a particular focus of the Follow Up exercise, and all partner agencies will target support and services to the 35 young people currently seeking work.

- 2.8 It should also be noted that, for the 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, Inverclyde's SLDR statistics once again show no "unknown" young people. This means that all school leavers are known to SDS, who will continue to track them and provide further support to them. We are the only local authority area in Scotland to have reported no unknowns in 2009-10 SLDR (and follow up), the 2010-11 SLDR exercise (and follow up), and now the 2011-12 SLDR exercise.

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

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

**Albert Henderson**  
**Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development**

## 4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Since the economic downturn of 2008, Inverclyde has reported increases in employment levels for school leavers that have been higher than might be expected. In these results for 2011-12, the % of young people moving into employment has dropped by 1%. We are also 4.4% lower in this category of destination than the national figure. Our HE entrants, however, have increased by almost 6%. Of 861 school leavers in summer 2012, 363 (42.2%) of them have gone on to pursue Higher Education courses. This is in comparison to 37.3% nationally.
- 4.2 The 2010-11 SLDR exercise reports on our 6 secondary schools. This is the first year that Clydeview Academy's destination results have been reported. The school's first cohort of summer leavers was 243 pupils, 235 of which (96.7%) have gone into positive destinations. This compares favourably to the results of the previous 2 years for the individual schools.
- 4.3 Last year, we were able to report that, for the first time, all of our Secondary Schools had a minimum of 80% positive destinations. This year, all but one of our secondary schools have achieved a minimum of 90% positive destinations. Last year, only the Port Glasgow schools saw an overall increase in their positive destination percentages. In contrast, this year, **all Inverclyde schools have seen their positive % rise**. The increases range from +1.7% in St Columba's High School to +11% at St Stephen's High School.
- 4.4 In 2009-10, St Stephen's High School had 77% positive destinations. Over the intervening 2 years, this has risen to 94.5%, an increase of 17.5%. Port Glasgow High School, in 2009-10 had 82.5% positive destinations. Over the 2 years, this has risen to 97.7%, an overall increase of 15.2%, and the highest % of positive destinations of any of our schools this year.
- 4.5 In 2009-10, 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%). Last year we were 0.2% behind the Scottish average. This year, for overall positive destinations, we are 4.9% above the national average (94.8% compared with 89.9%).
- 4.6 It is not yet possible to indicate the "ranking" of Inverclyde against all other local authorities for 2011-12, as this information has not been made available to us from SDS.
- 4.7 As in previous years, our successes and improvements in this measure are rooted firmly in successful partnership working and the establishment, then maintenance of relationships and processes that facilitate effective working between partners in support of young people. This year, for the first time, support has been sought from and provided by the Community Wardens working in the area. They have played a significant part in early identification of young people and of assisting SDS not only to find everyone, but to draw alongside a number of young people who indicated that they were not yet in positive destinations, and provide them with support needed to help them take up opportunities they were previously unaware of.

## 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.

### 6.5 Repopulation

Promotion of successes and achievements such as this can only assist in the communication of the positive message of Inverclyde as an area of educational excellence and opportunity.

## **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, once again, very positive in the context of the current economic climate.

## **8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

8.1 Appendix 1 – 2012 SLDR summary for Inverclyde  
Appendix 2 – 2011 SLDR summary for Inverclyde (for comparison)

**III  
Skills  
Development  
Scotland**

Skills Development Scotland (SDS) supplies information about the destinations of school leavers from publicly funded Secondary Schools and other schools, at an individual level, to the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division. The return is based on a follow up of young people who left school between the 1st August 2011 and the 31st July 2012. The exercise was undertaken during the month of September 2012 and produced a snapshot of destinations as at Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2012.

This data has undergone a matching process between SDS and the Scottish Government to reach agreement about the leavers who are within the scope of the Scottish Government's Initial School Leaver Destination Return. Only leavers from publicly funded mainstream secondary schools are included in the SLDR, therefore, leavers from specialist provision are not within the scope of the tables below.

This year the Scottish Government will not be publishing the results of the initial return until June 2013 therefore SDS agreed to share the results with local authorities prior to this publication.

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2011/12 (Initial Destination Percentages)												
School	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Activity Agreements	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	% Pos	% Other
Inverclyde Council	861	42.2%	26.7%	6.6%	15.4%	0.2%	1.4%	4.1%	1.2%	0.0%	94.8%	5.2%
Scotland	50,892	37.3%	26.6%	4.6%	19.8%	0.4%	0.9%	8.4%	1.3%	0.4%	89.9%	10.1%
Comparison of percentages (LA to		4.8	0.0	4.2	-4.4	-0.2	0.5	-4.3	-0.2	-0.4		4.9

Inverclyde Council SLDR 2011/12 (Initial Destination Figures)												
School	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Activity Agreements	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Positive	Total Other
Inverclyde Council	861	363	230	76	133	2	12	35	10	-	816	45
Scotland	50,892	19,000	13,614	2,356	10,088	227	458	4,260	674	215	45,743	5,149

Inverclyde Council Variance SLDR 2011/12 v SLDR 2010/11 (Percentage Point Variance)

School	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Activity Agreements	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Pos
Inverclyde Council	14	5.8	-0.7	0.8	-1.0	0.2	1.2	-5.9	-0.3	0.0	6.4

**Inverclyde Council SLDR 2010/11 (Initial Destination Percentages)**

School	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Activity Agreements	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	% Pos	% Other
Inverclyde Council	847	36.4%	27.4%	8.0%	16.4%	0.0%	0.2%	10.0%	1.5%	0.0%	88.4%	11.6%

**Inverclyde Council SLDR 2010/11 (Initial Destination Figures)**

School	Total Leavers	Higher Education	Further Education	Training	Employment	Voluntary Work	Activity Agreements	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Not Known	Total Positive	Total Other
Inverclyde Council	847	308	232	68	139	-	2	85	13	-	749	98