

Report To: Education & Lifelong Communities Committee **Date:** 05 November 2013

Report By: Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development **Report No:** EDUCOM/90/13/AE

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Subject: The Nurturing Collaborative in Early Years - To Get it Right for Every Child

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on the developments in relation to the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) and the Getting it Right For Every Child (GIRFEC).

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 Inverclyde Community Planning Partnership is committed to providing integrated services for families that are child centred and rooted in the principles of GIRFEC and UNCRRC. In parallel, the objective of the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) is to speed up the process by which the principles, set out in GIRFEC and the Early Years Framework (2008) are put into practical action. GIRFEC is the key to the effective achievement of the stretch aims set out in the Early Years Collaborative. We therefore see increasing the synergy of these two fundamental drivers - EYC and GIRFEC - as crucial for maximising impact and improving outcomes, galvanising both drivers for change into the one overarching framework. All local authorities are mandated to take these two areas of work forward. As an authority, Inverclyde is maximising its resources and avoiding duplication by merging these to become our 'Nurturing Collaborative' project.
- 2.2 Across the CHCP and Education Services, the aim is to extend the strong strategic fit across all partners delivering service in the Early Years sector by developing excellent mechanisms for tracking the wellbeing of children in Inverclyde and evaluating interventions using the Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) improvement methodology recommended by EYC. We have been successful in our bid for funding from Scottish Government to support this endeavour.
- 2.3 At the same time the managers across the Council both within the CHCP and Education Services have continued to progress the changes required in preparation for the GIRFEC aspects of the Children and Young People's Bill.
- 2.4 This has involved collaborating extensively with other Local Authorities and with the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board to look at the best ways of aligning GIRFEC developments across boards and local authorities.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 That the Committee note the progress to date.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director
Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Inverclyde CPP is committed to providing integrated services for families that are child centred and rooted in the principles of GIRFEC and UNCRC. In parallel, the objective of the Early Years Collaborative (EYC) is to speed up the process by which the principles, set out in GIRFEC and the Early Years Framework, are put into practical action. EYC work seeks to:
- o deliver tangible improvement in outcomes and reduce inequalities for Scotland's vulnerable children.
 - o put Scotland squarely on course to shifting the balance of public services towards early intervention and prevention by 2016 and sustain this change to 2018 and beyond.
- 4.2 The work expected of the CPPs in relation to both the EYC and implementation of GIRFEC is considerable in terms of expected impact on the fundamental changes in public service delivery. We are seeking to extend the strong strategic fit across all partners delivering service in the Early Years sector by developing excellent mechanisms for tracking the wellbeing of children in Inverclyde and evaluating interventions using the PDSA improvement methodology recommended by EYC. To this end we have applied for and been successful in achieving funding from Scottish Government of £15000 for this financial year which will be used to support the design of the tracking the wellbeing indicators for all 0 - 2 year olds across Inverclyde. This will be the start of a longitudinal study.
- 4.3 As well as this we have continued in our preparation and planning for the enactment of GIRFEC aspects of the Children and Young People's Bill. As part of the process officers from Education Services and CHCP have been linking with officers from Councils served by the Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board to look at the best ways of aligning GIRFEC developments across the health board with developments within individual LAs. A GIRFEC implementation timeline has been devised across the Local Authorities in order to monitor progress.
- 4.4 In May 2013 within Inverclyde the officers from the CHCP and Education have undertaken a benchmarking exercise with managers across the CHCP and Education Services making use of the GIRFEC Maturity Model which is a tool from Scottish Government to be used to support organisations track their progress with implementing the 'Getting it right for every child' (GIRFEC) approach. On the basis of the benchmarking exercise, workstreams were identified and leads and group members across agencies for each work stream were established. The Working Groups will develop the draft guidance in relation to wellbeing and the role of the Named Person, Lead Professional as well as guidance regarding the Child's Plan. An update on progress of these groups is due to take place at the end of October 2013.
- 4.5 Education Services have also continued to develop as a single agency the understanding and skills within our educational establishments – Early Years, Primary and Secondary. A 'GIRFEC Champion' has been identified for every establishment who have participated in 1.5 days development work to ensure that they are clear on the task of promoting GIRFEC within their establishment as well as across the Authority. A page on the Council's website has been set up which provides updates and information regarding GIRFEC <http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/education-and-learning/getting-it-right-for-every-child/champions/>

The GIRFEC Champions are due to meet again in February 2014 to provide feedback on the use of the Scottish Government's Self Evaluation Tool in relation to GIRFEC to which approximately 6 of our educational establishments piloted in advance of its roll out across Scotland.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

The work will continue to progress and further updates will be provided in due course.

- 5.1 Financial Implications - One off Costs
No financial implications

- 5.2 Human Resources:
No implications

- 5.3 Legal:
No implications

- 5.4 Equalities:
No implications

- 5.5 Repopulation:
No implications