

PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

**Lifelong Learning Committee
31 October 2018**

**Scrutiny Committee
28 November 2018**

Raising Attainment Strategy Update 2018

Report by Executive Director (Education and Children's Services) (Report No. 18/352)

PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides a 2018 progress update on the Raising Attainment Strategy 2016-2019. It also presents information on a range of measures designed to both improve performance and monitor progress of improvements. Progress and performance highlights are provided in the Executive Summary.

1. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 1.1. In March 2017, Scottish Government published [statutory guidance](#) detailing new education authority duties. Education authorities are to demonstrate how they have delivered against the strategic priorities of the [National Improvement Framework](#) (NIF) for Scottish Education. Specifically, education authorities are required to publish annual plans and reports setting out the steps they have taken in pursuance of the NIF with particular reference to reducing inequalities of outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socio-economic disadvantage. This report fulfills this obligation to report annually on progress.
- 1.2. In addition, further guidance issued in April 2018 requested that this reporting include information on the use and impact of [Pupil Equity Funding](#) within the education authority, which is allocated directly to schools, and is targeted at closing the poverty-related attainment gap.

2. RAISING ATTAINMENT STRATEGY

- 2.1. The Raising Attainment Strategy was agreed by the Lifelong Learning Committee on 2 November 2016 ([Report No. 16/348 refers](#)). Supporting the [strategy](#) was an implementation plan organised around the four NIF priorities:
 - Improvement in attainment particularly in literacy and numeracy;
 - Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged;
 - Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing; and
 - Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people.

- 2.2 This report provides information on progress towards each of these priorities. The Executive Summary highlights areas of improved and improving performance. It also indicates areas where greater improvement is required.
- 2.3 The Pupil Equity Fund is a national initiative to provide additional funding directly to schools. The aim of this funding is to close the deprivation related attainment gap. From the national fund of £120 million, a total of £1.6 million was allocated to schools in Perth & Kinross.

This report provides information on the use of that funding within schools, and starts to describe the impact it is having on outcomes for children and young people.

3. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. The report outlines the ongoing activity and progress across Education and Children's Services to achieve the priorities of the National Improvement Framework for Education, as well as progress of the Council's Raising Attainment Strategy 2016-2019.
- 3.2. It is recommended that the Lifelong Learning Committee considers the contents of this report.
- 3.3. It is recommended that the Scrutiny Committee scrutinises and comments as appropriate on this report.

Author(s)

Name	Designation	Contact Details
Rodger Hill	Head of Education (Secondary and Inclusion)	ECSCommittee@pkc.gov.uk
Paul Davison	Corporate Research and Information Manager	01738 475000

Approved

Name	Designation	Date
Sheena Devlin	Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)	16 October 2018

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1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

Strategic Implications	Yes / None
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	Yes
Corporate Plan	Yes
Resource Implications	
Financial	None
Workforce	None
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	None
Assessments	
Equality Impact Assessment	None
Strategic Environmental Assessment	None
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	None
Legal and Governance	None
Risk	None
Consultation	
Internal	Yes
External	None
Communication	
Communications Plan	None

1. Strategic Implications

Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 This report relates to objective (ii) of the Perth and Kinross Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement; Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens.

Corporate Plan

- 1.2 This report relates to objective (ii) of the Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan; Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens.
- 1.3 The report also links to the Education & Children's Services Policy Framework in respect of the key policy area: Change and Improvement.

2. Resource Implications

Financial

- 2.1 N/A.

Workforce

2.2 N/A.

Asset Management (land, property, IT)

2.3 N/A.

3. Assessments

Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA) with the following outcome:

- (i) Assessed as **not relevant** for the purposes of EqIA

Strategic Environmental Assessment

3.2 This report has been considered under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. No further action is required as it does not qualify as a PPS as defined by the Act and is therefore exempt.

Sustainability

3.3 Under the provisions of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 the Council has to discharge its duties in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development. In terms of the Climate Change Act, the Council has a general duty to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability and the community, environmental and economic impacts of its actions.

The information contained within this report has been considered under the Act. However, no action is required as the Act does not apply to the matters presented in this report.

Legal and Governance

3.4 N/A.

Risk

3.5 N/A.

4. Consultation

Internal

4.1 The report is developed in collaboration with Heads of Service, Managers and staff across ECS.

External

4.2 N/A.

5. Communication

5.1 N/A.

2. BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

3. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : Education and Children's Services Raising Attainment Strategy
Update 2018