

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	29 March 2011
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Examination Results (post appeal) 2010
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ inform the Education Resources Committee of the 2010 examination results.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the information regarding examination results for 2010 post appeal be noted; and
- (2) that the use made of the examination results data by schools, Head of Education, Head Teachers and Quality Link Officers as part of the Resources overall approach to continuous improvement is noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Scottish Government has released the post-appeals data for the 2010 examination results (Standard Tables and Charts - STACS) in electronic format. The data provided is a comprehensive breakdown of results and serves as a useful tool for Head Teachers to discuss examination results with subject departments. Information is also available at authority level.
- 3.2. Education Resources has produced an analysis of the examination results for the Council as a whole and for each secondary school in South Lanarkshire. The report has been produced by an external consultant who has been heavily involved in the development of STACS.
- 3.3. All secondary school Head Teachers have access to the STACS data (web-based) and also the South Lanarkshire Council analysis.
- 3.4. This report presents a summary of the performance of pupils in South Lanarkshire Council's schools for consideration by the Education Resources Committee (Appendix 1).
- 3.5. The information is presented as a summary of the performance of pupils in SQA examinations on a whole authority basis compared with the same information for schools nationally and for South Lanarkshire Council's Family Benchmarking Group – Tables 1-9.

3.6. The pre-appeal and post-appeal data for 2010 is summarised in the table below.

	By the end of S4						By the end of S5						By the end of S6			
	5+ @ L5		5+ @ L4		5+ @ L3		5+ @ L6		3+ @ L6		1+ @ L6		5+ @ L6		3+ @ L6	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
Comparator Average	32	33	77	78	93	93	9	10	22	22	41	41	19	20	30	30
SLC	35	36	76	77	91	91	11	11	24	24	43	44	22	22	33	34
National	35	36	78	78	92	92	11	11	24	25	43	43	22	22	33	33

4. Performance of girls and boys in examinations

- 4.1. The performance of girls in S4 examinations in South Lanarkshire is better than boys. 42% of girls achieved 5 or more awards at level 5 compared with 30% of boys. There was an increase in the performance of girls in South Lanarkshire in 2010. The performance of boys remains consistent with the previous session. Attainment of both boys and girls remains above that of the average of the comparator authorities.
- 4.2. The performance of girls in S5 examinations is also ahead of boys. 13% of girls achieved 5 or more awards at level 6 compared with 10% of boys. 28% of girls achieved 3 or more awards at level 6 compared with 21% of boys. This statistic is in line with the national position. Attainment for both boys and girls in the measures 1 or more, 3 or more and 5 or more awards at Level 6 is above the comparator average.
- 4.3. The performance of girls in S6 examinations is also ahead of boys. 25% of girls achieved 5 or more awards at level 6 by the end of S6 compared with 20% of boys. Similarly, 37% of girls achieved 3 or more awards at level 6 compared with 30% of boys. This statistic is again similar to the national position. The performance of boys and girls in S6 in South Lanarkshire is above the comparator authority average in the measures 3 or more and 5 or more awards at level 6.

5. Progression into Higher – General Information

- 5.1. A key factor in achieving success at Higher level is providing appropriate advice to pupils based on their attainment level at Standard Grade or Intermediate level 2.
- 5.2. Although there will be subject differences, approximately 91% of those attaining a Standard Grade 1 in S4 and 63% of those attaining Standard Grade 2 in S4 will convert to a Higher pass in S5.
- 5.3. The average success rate for students resitting Higher following an unsuccessful attempt in S5 is 62%.
- 5.4. The average success rate for students resitting Higher to improve the grade is 45%.
- 5.5. The average success rate for students sitting the Higher in S6 but who did not attempt any level of award in the corresponding course in S5 is 72%.
- 5.6. The average success rate of students attempting Higher English after achieving a Standard Grade 3 in S4 is 36%.

5.7. The average success rate of students attempting Higher Mathematics after achieving Standard Grade 3 in S4 is 31%.

6. Employee Implications

6.1. None

7. Financial Implications

7.1. None

8. Other Implications

8.1. Education Resources has strategies in place to mitigate the risks associated with improving exam performance and raising attainment. The Head Teacher, Head of Education and Quality Improvement Service are tasked with reviewing examinations performance as part of the overall approach in Education Resources to raising attainment.

9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

9.1. There is no requirement to carry out an impact assessment in terms of the proposals contained within this report.

9.2. Consultation and on-going challenge and support will continue to take place with Head Teachers and Quality Link Officers.

Larry Forde

Executive Director (Education Resources)

7 March 2011

Link(s) to Council Objectives/Improvement Themes/Values

- Raise Educational Attainment for All

Previous References

None

List of Background Papers

- SQA results

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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Analysis of Results

Table 1: 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better by the end of S4

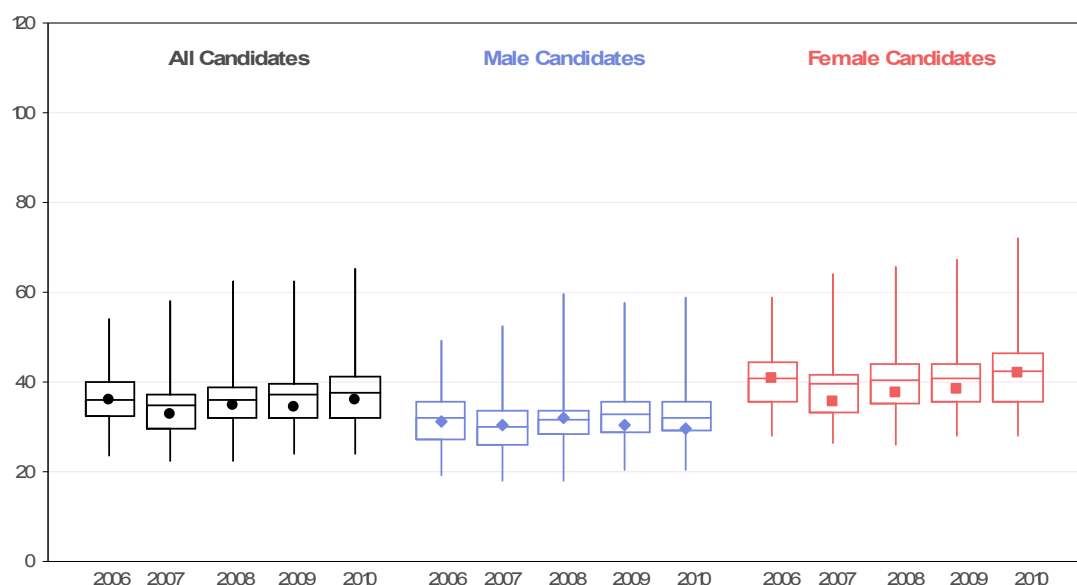
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

- 7: Advanced Higher at A-C
- 6: Higher at A-C
- 5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better by the end of S4

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	26	28	27	27	25	23	25	30	31
Falkirk	32	34	34	28	32	30	37	37	38
Fife	30	31	31	27	28	29	34	35	34
North Lanarkshire	30	32	32	26	27	29	35	36	36
West Lothian	33	37	33	31	33	28	36	41	39
Comparator Average	31	33	33	28	29	29	35	37	36
South Lanarkshire	35	34	36	32	30	30	38	38	42
National	34	35	36	31	31	32	38	40	41

South Lanarkshire 5+ Level 5 by the end of S4



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 36% of the S4 roll gained 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better by the end of S4 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is equal to the national average and above the comparator authorities' average of 33%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than that of all comparator authorities.

Table 2: 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better by the end of S4

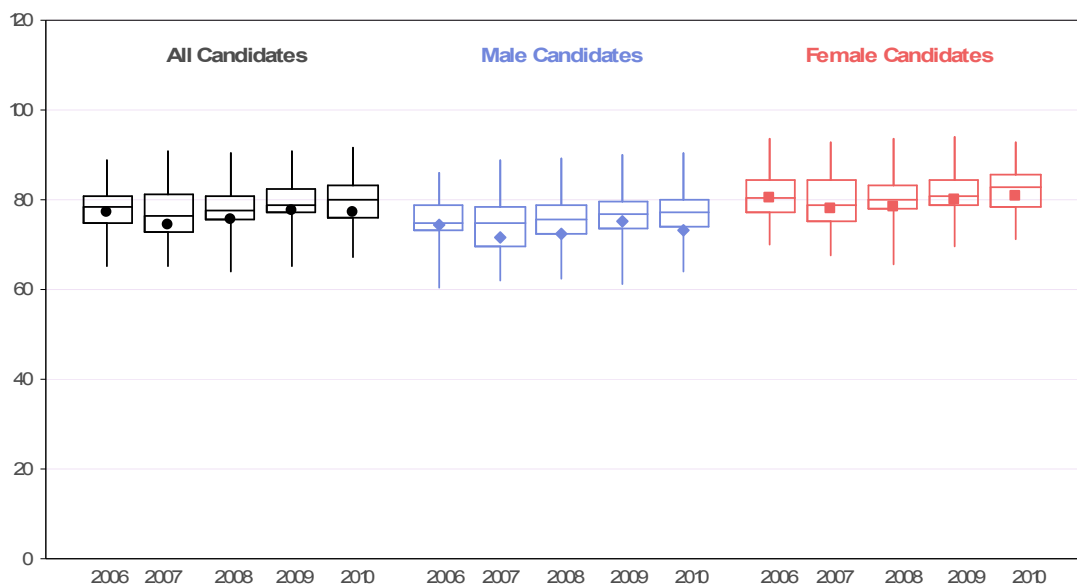
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

- 7: Advanced Higher at A-C
- 6: Higher at A-C
- 5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better by the end of S4

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	75	77	74	72	75	67	77	79	81
Falkirk	71	77	79	68	72	74	75	81	84
Fife	75	74	76	72	71	75	78	78	77
North Lanarkshire	75	77	78	72	74	75	79	80	81
West Lothian	77	79	81	74	76	79	81	81	83
Comparator Average	75	77	78	72	74	76	79	80	81
South Lanarkshire	75	78	77	73	75	73	78	80	81
National	76	78	78	74	75	76	79	80	81

South Lanarkshire 5+ Level 4 by the end of S4



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 77% of the S4 roll gained 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better by the end of S4 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks third.
- Performance in the current year is slightly below the national average and comparator authorities' average of 78%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than 2 out of 5 comparator authorities.

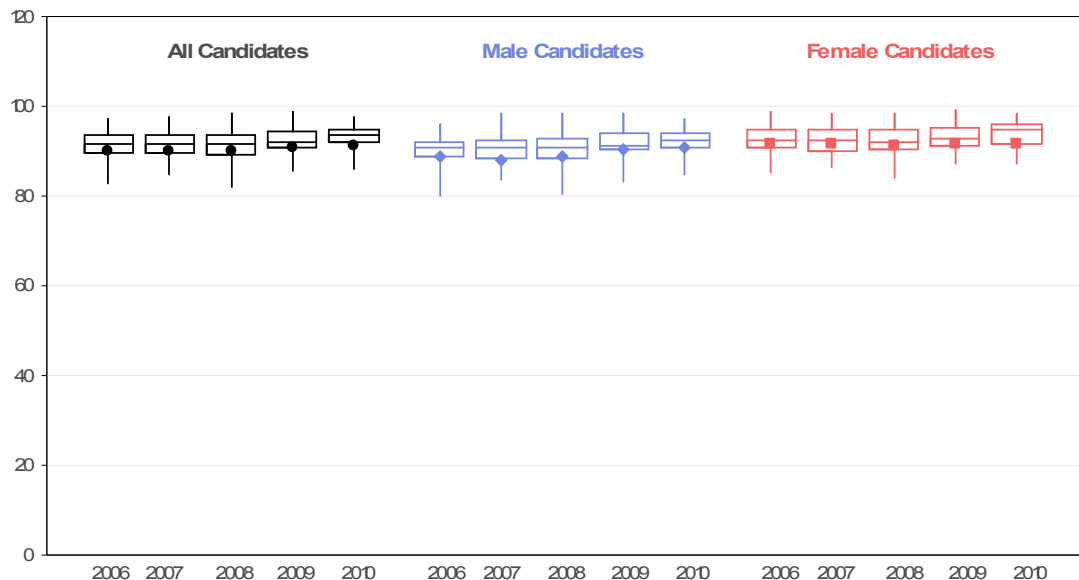
**Table 3: 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better by the end of S4
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:**

7: Advanced Higher at A-C
6: Higher at A-C
5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better by the end of S4

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	91	93	94	91	93	91	91	93	97
Falkirk	88	91	93	88	90	91	89	93	94
Fife	90	89	92	88	88	92	91	91	91
North Lanarkshire	92	91	91	90	91	91	93	92	92
West Lothian	94	95	95	93	94	94	96	95	96
Comparator Average	91	92	93	90	91	92	93	93	93
South Lanarkshire	90	91	91	89	91	91	91	91	92
National	91	92	92	90	91	92	92	92	93

South Lanarkshire 5+ Level 3 by the end of S4



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 91% of the S4 roll gained 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better by the end of S4 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is slightly below the national average of 92% and below the comparator authorities' average of 93%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is equal to 1 out of 5 comparator authorities.

Table 4: 5 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

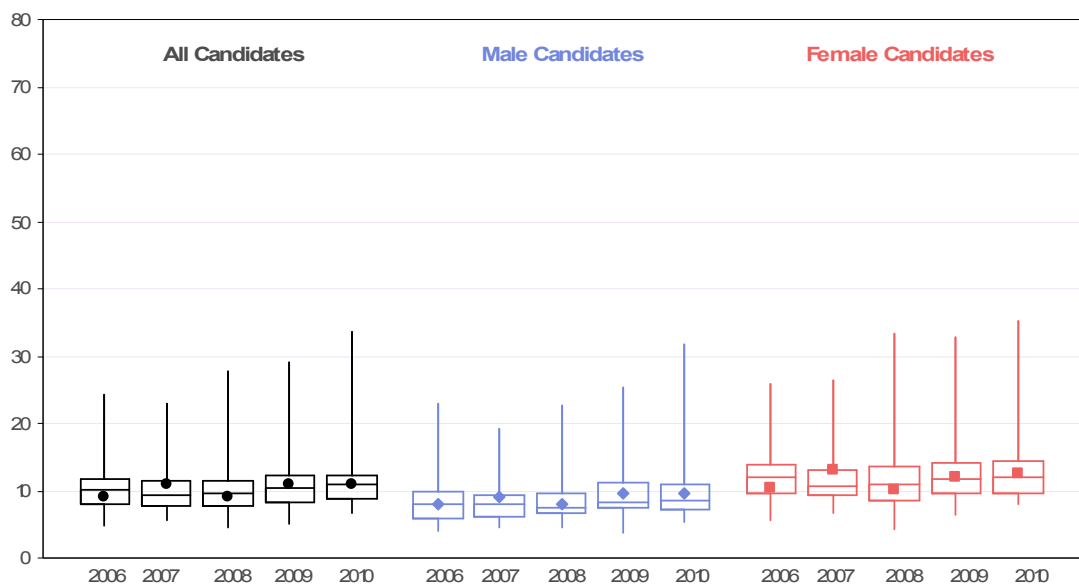
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

- 7: Advanced Higher at A-C
- 6: Higher at A-C
- 5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

5 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	4	7	6	4	7	5	4	6	7
Falkirk	7	8	11	6	7	11	8	9	12
Fife	7	8	9	7	7	8	8	8	11
North Lanarkshire	6	7	8	5	6	7	7	8	9
West Lothian	9	9	9	8	8	7	10	10	11
Comparator Average	8	8	10	7	7	8	8	9	11
South Lanarkshire	9	11	11	8	10	10	10	12	13
National	10	11	11	9	9	10	11	12	13

South Lanarkshire 5+ Level 6 by the end of S5



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 11% of the S4 roll gained 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is equal to the national average and slightly above the comparator authorities' average of 10%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than 4 out of 5 comparator authorities.

Table 5: 3 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

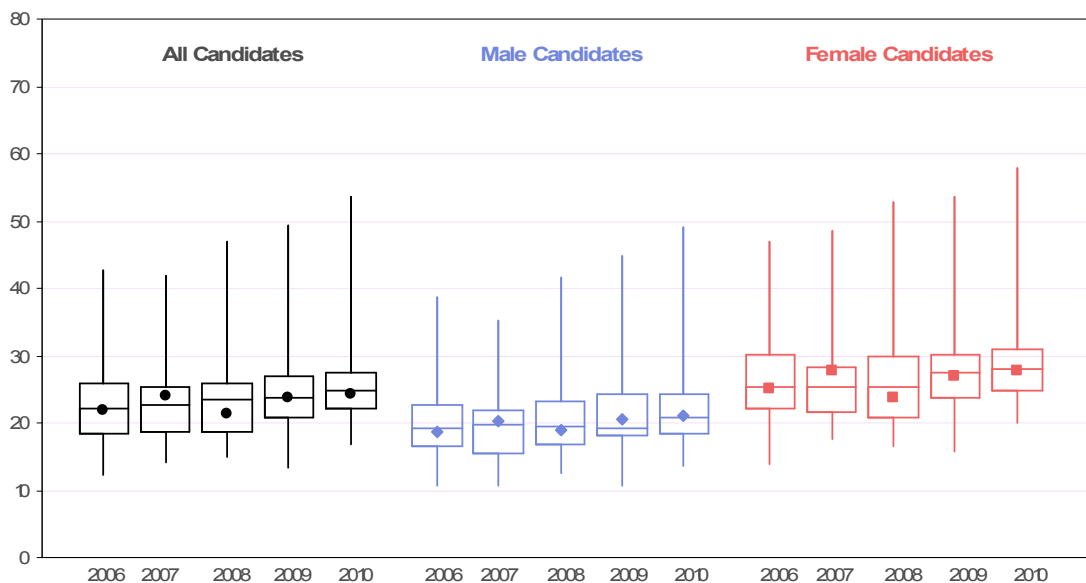
Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

- 7: Advanced Higher at A-C
- 6: Higher at A-C
- 5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

3 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	16	16	19	15	15	18	16	17	20
Falkirk	18	20	25	16	18	23	20	23	27
Fife	19	20	22	17	18	19	21	23	26
North Lanarkshire	17	19	20	15	16	17	18	23	24
West Lothian	21	21	23	19	19	19	23	23	27
Comparator Average	19	20	22	17	18	19	21	23	26
South Lanarkshire	21	24	24	19	21	21	24	27	28
National	22	23	25	20	20	22	25	27	28

South Lanarkshire 3+ Level 6 by the end of S5



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 24% of the S4 roll gained 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years in South Lanarkshire this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is slightly below the national average of 25% and above the comparator authorities' average of 22%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than 4 out of 5 comparator authorities.

Table 6: 1 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

7: Advanced Higher at A-C

6: Higher at A-C

5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2

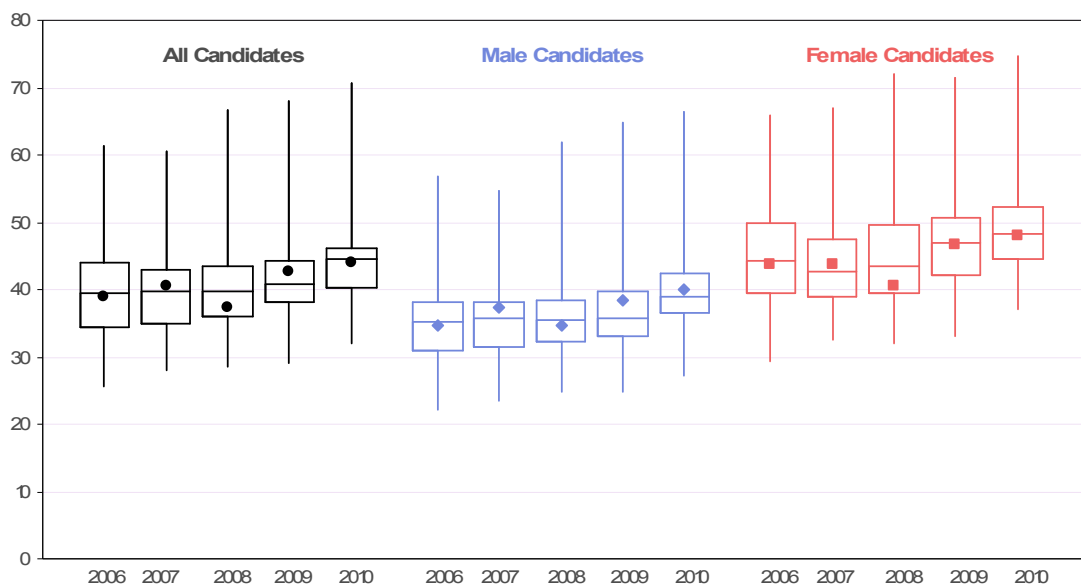
4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4

3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

1 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	33	33	39	32	28	35	34	37	42
Falkirk	36	39	43	34	34	39	39	45	48
Fife	35	36	39	33	32	35	38	41	43
North Lanarkshire	32	38	40	28	33	36	36	43	45
West Lothian	36	40	42	32	37	38	41	43	46
Comparator Average	35	38	41	32	34	37	39	43	45
South Lanarkshire	37	43	44	35	39	40	41	47	48
National	39	41	43	35	36	39	43	45	48

South Lanarkshire 1+ Level 6 by the end of S5



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group), and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 44% of the S4 roll gained 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S5 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years in South Lanarkshire this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is slightly above the national average of 43% and above the comparator authorities' average of 41%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than that of all comparator authorities.

Table 7: 5 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6

Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Levels:

7: Advanced Higher at A-C

6: Higher at A-C

5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2

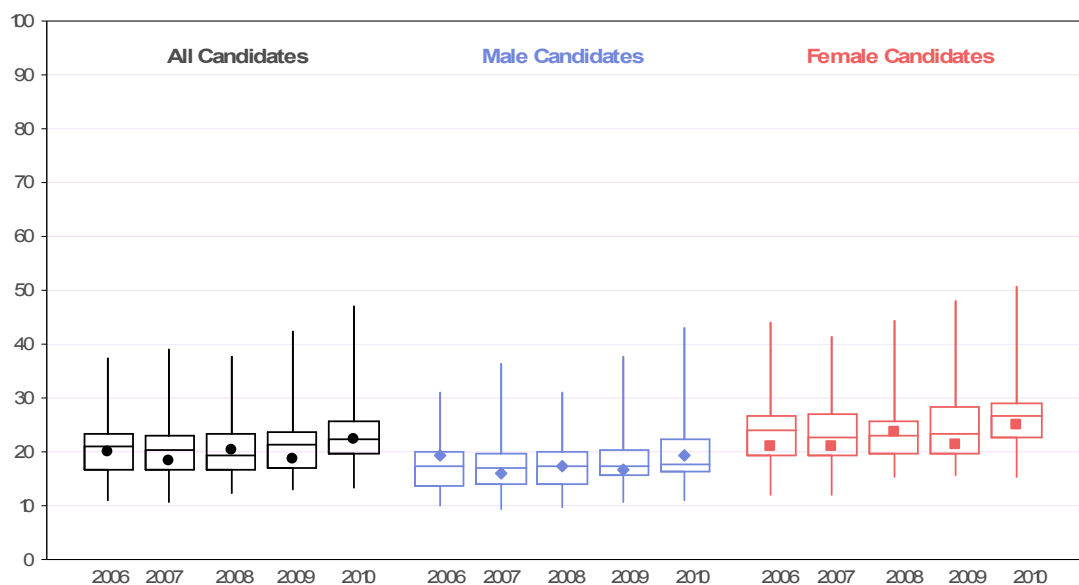
4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4

3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

5 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	14	17	18	13	15	17	15	18	19
Falkirk	15	17	19	12	16	17	18	17	22
Fife	18	18	19	16	16	17	20	20	22
North Lanarkshire	16	15	18	13	13	15	19	17	22
West Lothian	18	19	20	15	16	17	21	21	22
Comparator Average	17	17	20	14	15	17	20	19	22
South Lanarkshire	20	19	22	17	17	20	24	21	25
National	20	21	22	17	18	19	23	23	26

South Lanarkshire 5+ Level 6 by the end of S6



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 22% of the S4 roll gained 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is equal to the national average and above the comparator authorities' average of 20%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than that of all comparator authorities.

Table 8: 3 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6

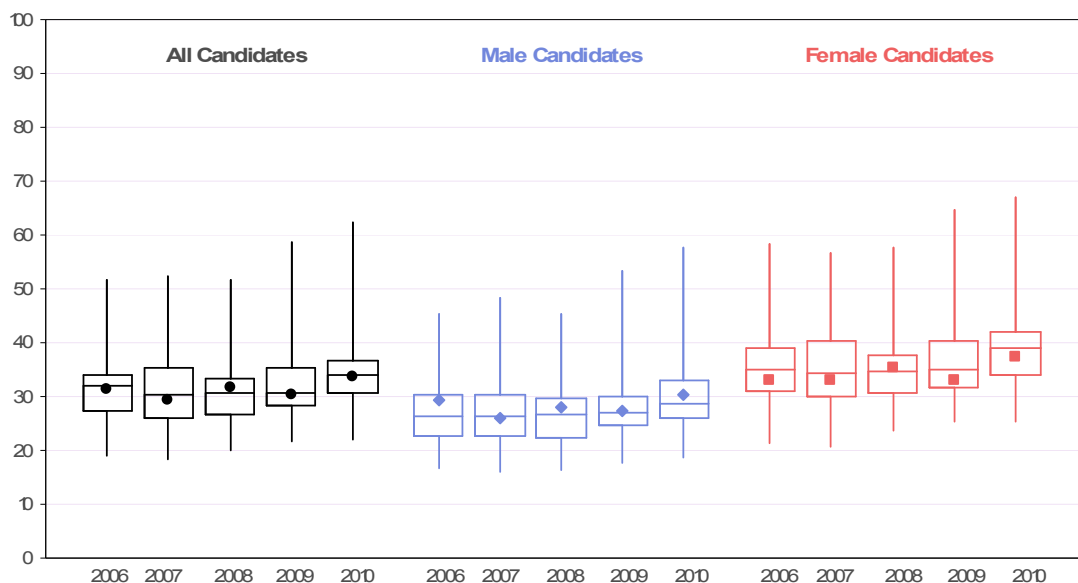
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- 5: Intermediate 2 at A-C; Standard Grade at 1-2
- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

3 or more SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	23	26	27	21	23	24	25	28	30
Falkirk	25	29	30	21	27	24	30	32	37
Fife	27	28	29	24	25	25	30	30	33
North Lanarkshire	25	24	30	21	22	25	29	27	35
West Lothian	30	29	31	26	25	29	34	32	33
Comparator Average	27	27	30	23	25	26	31	30	34
South Lanarkshire	32	30	34	28	27	30	35	33	37
National	30	31	33	26	27	29	34	35	37

South Lanarkshire 3+ Level 6 by the end of S6



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group), and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 34% of the S4 roll gained 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better by the end of S6 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is slightly above the national average of 33% and above the comparator authorities' average of 30%.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than that of all comparator authorities.

Table 9: 1 or more SCQF Level 7 or better by the end of S6

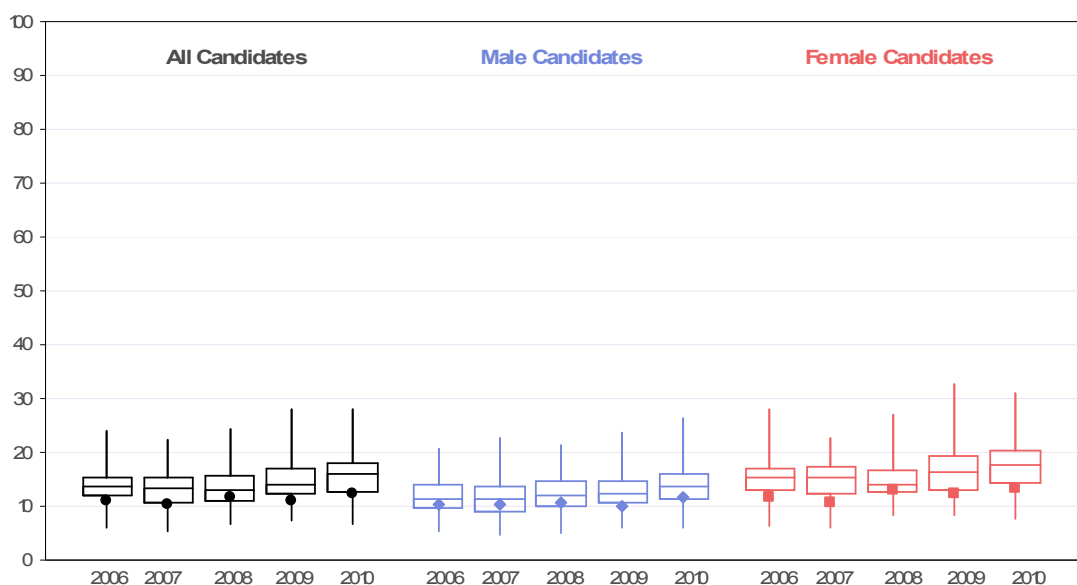
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- 4: Intermediate 1 at A-C; Standard Grade at 3-4
- 3: Access 3 Cluster; Standard Grade at 5-6

1 or more SCQF Level 7 or better by the end of S6

	All Candidates			Boys			Girls		
	08	09	10	08	09	10	08	09	10
Clackmannanshire	10	13	15	10	14	14	10	13	17
Falkirk	11	11	12	8	10	12	13	11	13
Fife	12	13	14	11	12	13	12	14	16
North Lanarkshire	8	7	9	6	7	7	10	8	11
West Lothian	10	12	13	9	11	13	11	12	13
Comparator Average	11	11	13	9	11	11	12	12	14
South Lanarkshire	12	11	13	11	10	12	13	12	13
National	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16

South Lanarkshire 1+ Level 7 by the end of S6



The boxplot above shows the distribution of scores of all other authorities. The line above the box extends up to the highest value achieved in the group and the line below the box extends down to the lowest value achieved. The box represents the scores between the lower and upper quartiles (ie 50% of the group,) and the central line indicates the position of the median score. The marks indicate the value achieved by South Lanarkshire.

- 13% of the S4 roll gained 1 or more awards at SCQF Level 7 or better by the end of S6 in the current year.
- Over the last 5 years this performance ranks highest.
- Performance in the current year is below the national average of 15% and equal to the comparator authorities' average.
- South Lanarkshire's performance in the current year is higher than 2 out of 5 comparator authorities.