Participatory Budgeting – Update for Hamilton Area Committee May 2023			
Service Area	Education	Lead Officer	Laura Mitchell

# Stage 1 : Pre Consultation :

- What are we asking the public for their view on (what service is it / description etc)?
- How much funding are we asking about?
- Who are we asking,
- How are we doing this?
- When are we doing this?
- When will we report back?

# **Progress update since last Area Committee**

## Case Study:

Following the consultation and voting process as reported at the last Area Committee, schools have progressed with their spend, to ensure the minimum 5% is spent in full by the end of March 2023.

We are pleased to share David Livingstone Memorial Primary School's participatory budgeting (PB) work as an example of good practice (Appendix 1) within the Hamilton area. This case study illustrates the school's PB journey this session. David Livingstone Memorial Primary School is a particularly good example, as 91% of pupils voted as part of the process. This demonstrates the value and commitment David Livingstone Memorial Primary School have with regards to PB and pupil voice. The voice from stakeholders was very much about supporting families affected by poverty with issues around the Cost of the School Day. Choices for spend included widening access to extra-curricular experiences, providing homework packs, buying items to support the school's rake and take initiative and widening access to school trips. Widening access to extra-curricular clubs won the vote. It is hoped pupil wellbeing and attendance and engagement of pupils affected by poverty at after-school clubs will improve. A further impact section will be added to this case study at the end of the academic year to show the benefit this activity has had for our most vulnerable learners.

#### **Next Steps:**

PB is now fully embedded in South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) schools through the Pupil Equity Funding (PEF). Schools continue to allocate a minimum of 5% of their Pupil Equity Funding to be subject to PB year on year. Schools will receive updated guidance on this at the next PEF Head Teacher and Equity Lead Information Session on 19 May 2023. Optional PB training is planned for August for schools who have new PB Leads or need a refresh.

### **Celebrating Success:**

SLC schools' PB work continues to be recognised nationally, as an example of good practice. Several local authorities have approached us for guidance and support in this area, as SLC are the only Local Authority in Scotland who have dedicated as much as 5% of PEF from all schools. It has been agreed by the Chief Executive that a CoSLA award application be submitted at the end of May to showcase the work of our schools in this area.

# **Stage 2 : Post Consultation**

- The outcome of the PB activity
- What happens next?
- Further reporting requirements (eg required Committee approval)

Following the voting, Education Resources will provide Area Committees with the following:-

- Summary Report of each school's PB outcome (available late October/early November) and Local Authority and Area analysis report of this.
- Case studies of school activity, which has had particular impact/success (ongoing throughout the year).

 Detailed Local Authority Financial Report of how PEF money allocated for PB has been spent (May/June 2023).

Education Resources will support schools with implementation of this and monitor and track the impact of this activity. Findings will inform any future PB activity within Education Resources.

Regular PB Updates and the highlighting of good practice will be communicated to schools via the Equity Hub and through our @SLCEquity Twitter handle.