

Report

6

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 January 2010
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Resources' Resource Plan 2009/2010 - Quarter 2 Progress Report
----------	---

1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ♦ advise of progress made in taking forward the actions identified in the Resource Plan for 2009/2010 over the first six months of the year (quarter two).

2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that the key achievements made by the Resource during the first six months of 2009/2010 are noted;
- (2) that in line with the Council's performance management arrangements, that the 6 monthly interim progress report on actions identified in the 2009/2010 Resource Plan (appendix) be noted.

3. Background

- 3.1. The Resource Plan sets out high level objectives, actions and measures to be managed and delivered by the Resource for the period 2009/2010. On 7 July 2009 the Education Resources Committee recommended to the Executive Committee that the Resource Plan be approved.
- 3.2. The Resource Plan 2009/2010 now embodies the vision, priorities, objectives and improvement themes of the Council Plan 'Connect', based on the 2009 Mid Term Review. It also reflects the Community Plan objectives.
- 3.3. The Resource Plan links with the priorities set out at a national and local level and provides the context for the development of services in South Lanarkshire.
- 3.4. This report outlines progress made on the Education Resource Plan over the period April 2009 to September 2009.

4. Objectives for Resource for 2009/2010

- 4.1. The Resource objectives for 2009/2010 are listed below, under the relevant objectives and values from the Council Plan:

Council Objective: Raise educational attainment for all

- Progress approaches in respect of the national priorities in education
- To raise standards of educational attainment for all in schools, especially in the core skills of literacy and numeracy
- Take forward the principles, values and purposes of a 'Curriculum for Excellence'
- Implement the secondary schools modernisation programme
- Implement the primary schools modernisation programme
- Establish approaches to address the National Inspection Framework for establishments and services within Education Resources
- Ensure the highest possible quality of educational provision for children, young people, families and communities

Council Objective: Increase involvement in lifelong learning

- Deliver services and programmes through the Community Learning Partnership to further improve literacy and numeracy skills among young people and adults
- Increase levels of achievement through learning for adults
- Increase levels of achievement through community capacity building
- Increase levels of achievement through learning for young people

Council Objective: Improve health and increase physical activity

- Engage all education establishments in the health promoting schools programme

Council Objective: Improve lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults

- Ensure national priorities for vulnerable children and families are addressed

5. Progress on Council and Resource priorities

5.1. Detailed progress against all Resource Plan measures is contained in the appendix which is attached to this report. The appendix has been produced through the Council's new performance management reporting system IMPROVe, and involves a traffic light format using the following definitions to give a status report on each measure:

- Green: achieved, or is on course to achieve with no issues anticipated
- Amber: on course to achieve, however there may be issues with minor slippage anticipated
- Red: not on course to achieve, with major slippage anticipated

6. Progress to date on other areas of work

6.1. Overall, of the 37 actions outlined in the Resource Plan for session 2009/2010, 2 actions relate directly to the Council and Resource priority 'schools modernisation'. Actions are also being undertaken by schools and services to meet the Council's objective in terms of sustainable development. Of the 107 measures contained within the Education Resources Plan, 65 (61%) measures are green, 1 (1%) measure is amber, and 42 (39%) measures to be reported later (quarter four). There are no red measures within this reporting period.

6.2. Achievements to date worth noting include:

- 4 new build secondary schools were occupied in August 2009:
Biggar High School
Trinity High School
Strathaven Academy
Larkhall Academy

The refurbishment of Hamilton Grammar School and Stonelaw High School was also completed.

- Work in relation to Curriculum for Excellence is progressing well. Education Resources published a position paper which was issued to all employees.
- There has been an increase in the overall % of education staff holding or working towards additional qualifications.
- 100% of parents of pre-school children interviewed as part of the HMle or Care Commission inspection process expressed satisfaction with the provision.
- All 3 inspection reports published by HMle (July-September) evaluated the overall effectiveness of establishments as being satisfactory or above as did the inspection of the learning community surrounding Uddingston Grammar School.
- 100% of schools are participating in Health Promoting Programmes with 92% of all establishments having achieved bronze, silver or gold Health Promoting School Awards.
- Absence rates are consistently below council target levels
- Universal Connections has provided an additional 197 places in the first six months of the year to assist in further developing the literacy and numeracy skills of young people in South Lanarkshire.

7. Employee Implications

7.1. None

8. Financial Implications

8.1. The revenue budget position is noted below

Total Budget	Forecast year to date	Actual Year to date	Explanation for any significant variances and how they are being addressed
284.026m	121.535m	122.356m	Period 6 (1 April – 4 Sept)

8.2. The capital budget position is noted below

Total Budget	Forecast year to date	Actual Year to date	Explanation for any significant variances and how they are being addressed
90.659m	22.361m	22.387m	Period 6 (1 April – 4 Sept)

8.3. Resource Plan objectives and more detailed Service Plans inform financial planning within the Resource. Priorities will continue to be delivered from within existing resources.

9. Other Implications

9.1. None

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

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

10.2. Consultation has taken place on the priorities in the Education Resources Plan with a range of stakeholders, including parents and the trade unions. Head teachers/managers contribute to formulation of the quarterly performance report through monitoring returns.

Larry Forde
Executive Director (Education Resources)

17 December 2009

Link(s) to Council Objectives

- ◆ Raise educational attainment for all
- ◆ Improve the quality of the physical environment
- ◆ Increase involvement in lifelong learning
- ◆ Improve health and increase physical activity
- ◆ Improve lives of vulnerable children, young people and adults

Previous References

- ◆ Education Resources Committee - 1 July 2008

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Education Resource Plan 2008 - 2009

Contact for Further Information

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

Jim Gilhooly, Head of Education (Quality and Personnel)

Ext: 4475 (Tel: 01698 454475)

E-mail: jim.gilhooly@southlanarkshire.gov.uk