

# Report

Report to:	<b>Education Resources Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>14 November 2017</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Education Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Leadership Development - Professional Learning Trios</b>
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## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ advise members of the progress of the Council's Professional Learning Trios

## 2. Recommendation(s)

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

- (1) that an integral part of Education Resources' leadership programme, which provides heads and strategic leaders with valuable opportunities to share, reflect, support and learn from each other through Professional Learning Trios, is noted.

## 3. Background

3.1. The rationale for Professional Learning Trios is clearly set out in South Lanarkshire Council's 'Leadership Framework: Aspiring Heads and Heads of Establishment'

*"Education Resources recognises that collaborative working between establishments provides valuable opportunities for heads to share, reflect, support and learn from each other. **Professional learning trios** are establishment improvement partnerships which will provide professional learning opportunities and extend management competencies and leadership skills. The partnerships will utilise the skills of Heads and strategic leaders to support transformational change."*

- 3.2. At an information session in June 2016, over forty establishments signed up to be involved in the first cohort of Professional Learning Trios during session 2016/2017. This has increased for 2017/2018 as highlighted in paragraph 3.5.
- 3.3. Following consultation, it was agreed that each Trio would comprise of Head Teachers within the same area but, where possible, from different Learning Communities. It was also agreed that Trios would meet six times throughout the session, three of the meetings would be central meetings held at Council Headquarters and the remaining three would be dedicated Trio meetings.
- 3.4. In an effort to reflect the national agenda, Professional Learning Trios focused on one key driver from the National Improvement Framework during 2016/2017. School Improvement was the driver selected. Using the 'How good is our school 4?' framework it was agreed that Quality Indicator 2.3 'Learning, Teaching and Assessment' and its associated themes would be the focus of Year 1.

- 3.5. The feedback received from cohort 1 was very positive. As a result of the programme's success it was agreed to expand the programme, offering the opportunity to schools to opt in for session 2017/2018. In addition to the schools already involved, more have joined the programme resulting in 101 schools now participating.

#### **4. Professional Learning Trios – 2017/2018**

- 4.1 This session the professional Learning Trios will use two quality indicators from the 'How good is our school 4?' framework:-
- ◆ Quality Indicator 1.3 Leadership of Change
  - ◆ Quality Indicator 3.2 Raising Attainment and Achievement.

The focus will be on how strategic planning for change and implementing improvement and change can lead to increased attainment and achievement

- 4.2 The programme includes a range of different schools from across all four geographical areas of South Lanarkshire. It includes small schools and larger schools and representation from ASN, primary and secondary establishments.
- 4.3 The programme continues to provide an opportunity for schools to work with other similar schools from outwith their Learning Community but, where possible, within their own geographical area.

#### **5. Next Steps**

- 5.1. This year's programme will be fully evaluated and the feedback gathered will be considered and used to inform planning for next year's programme.
- 5.2. It is the intention to continue Professional Learning Trios next session as an integral part of Education Resources' leadership programme which provides heads and strategic leaders with valuable opportunities to share, reflect, support and learn from each other. The aspiration is that all schools will be involved in Professional Learning Trios by session 2018/2019.

#### **6. Employee Implications**

- 6.1. None

#### **7. Financial Implications**

- 7.1. Financial implications are within existing budgetary resources.

#### **8. Other Implications**

- 8.1. There are no implications for sustainability or risk in terms of the information contained in this report.

#### **9. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 9.1. This report does not present a new strategy, policy or plan and is therefore not subject to equality impact assessment.
- 9.2. There was no requirement to undertake any consultation in terms of the information contained within this report.

**Tony McDaid**  
**Executive Director (Education Resources)**

19 October 2017

**Link(s) to Council Objectives/Values**

- ◆ Ensure schools and other places of learning are inspirational
- ◆ Raise educational achievement and attainment

**Previous References**

None

**List of Background Papers**

None

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:- Carole McKenzie, Head of Education

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