

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	6 September 2022
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	Education Resource Plan: Quarter 4 Progress Report 2021/2022
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ♦ provide the Education Resource Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2021/22, for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

2. Recommendations

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

- (1) that the Education Resource Plan Quarter 4 Progress Report 2021/22 as summarised in paragraph 5.2. and attached as Appendix 2 of this report, be noted;
- (2) that the key achievements made by the Resource to date, as detailed in paragraph 5.3. of this report, be noted;
- (3) that the areas for improvement and associated management actions as detailed in paragraph 5.4. of this report, be noted; and
- (4) that the additional scrutiny of changes in BRAG status between Quarter 2 and Quarter 4 as summarised at paragraph 5.5 and detailed at Appendix 3 of this report, be noted.

3. Background

3.1. The Education Resource Plan 2021/22 was approved by Executive Committee on 28 April 2021 and sets out the outcomes and actions to be managed and delivered by the Resource for the financial year 2021/22.

3.2. The Resource Plan follows the agreed corporate structure and style. The Plan is a key element of the Council's performance management arrangements and provides details of the context within which the Resource operates and establishes actions and measures for the year ahead based on the Priorities set out in the Council Plan Connect 2017-22.

3.3. Despite the easing of social distancing and other restrictions, the Council continues to face financial and other impacts resulting from Covid. At times during the pandemic a number of services had to be suspended or reduced due to government advice, and the Council was also obliged to redirect resources so that it could deliver vital new services and supports for individuals, communities and businesses. There was an inevitable impact on performance in some areas, with some effects ongoing.

4. Resource Outcomes 2021/22

- 4.1. The Resource has established a number of objectives to support the delivery of the Connect Priorities in 2020/21. These are detailed at Appendix 1.

5. Quarter 4 Progress Report 2021/22

- 5.1. Progress against all Resource Plan measures is contained in the Quarter 4 Progress Report 2020/21, attached as Appendix 2. This report has been produced from the Council's performance management reporting system IMPROVe, and uses a traffic light format with the following definitions to give a status report on each measure:

Status	Definition
Blue	Project complete
Green	The timescale or target has been met as per expectations
Amber	There has been minor slippage against timescale or minor shortfall against target
Red	There has been major slippage against timescale or major shortfall against target
Report later	The information is not yet available to allow us to say whether the target has been reached or not. This will be reported when available
Contextual	Included for 'information only', to set performance information in context

- 5.2. Measures which are classified as 'red' are considered in detail at section 5.4. of this report. To ensure adequate scrutiny of performance across all Resources, the Council's Performance and Review Scrutiny Forum may consider 'red' and/or 'amber' measures at a future meeting.

The overall summary of progress to date is as follows:

Status	Measures	
	Number	%
Blue	5	9%
Green	50	89%
Amber	1	2%
Red	0	0%
Report later/Contextual	0	0%
Totals	56	100%

(Data correct as at 25 May 2022)

5.3. Key achievements for 2021/22, to date, are noted below

5.3.1.

Connect Priority: Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth and tackle disadvantage	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
Support children and young people to develop their skills for learning, life and work	The percentage of pupils entering positive destinations in South Lanarkshire increased from 94.8% the previous year to 96.2% and is above the national level of 95.5%.
	The roll out of the 'care experienced employability pilot' continued to support care experienced young people aged 16-24 to develop their skills and experiences to achieve sustained positive destinations with 5 young people supported to take up Modern Apprenticeship posts with the Council.
	The Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) and GradU8 programmes have continued to be delivered throughout academic year 2021/22. All learning was delivered in person in college or FA hubs. The majority of young people completed as planned despite the additional challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.
	Over 800 learners participated in nationally recognised awards through participation in Youth Family and Community Learning achieving achieved a range of awards including Duke of Edinburgh awards, John Muir awards, Youth Achievement, and PSP Awards.
	MCR Pathways currently supports 346 care-experienced and disadvantaged S1-S6 young people across 6 Secondary schools in South Lanarkshire ensuring learners are supported to make informed decisions regarding future careers and course choices.
	Young people continue to gain a range of nationally recognised awards through Youth Family and Community Learning programmes, including; Discovery, Dynamic Youth, Elementary Food Hygiene, Steps to Excellence, Incredible Years, John Muir, Hi5, National Navigation, Sports Leaders, Young STEM, Wilderness Skills, and Duke of Edinburgh. There was an online awards ceremony held in March that was hosted by the Provost.

Connect Priority: Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth and tackle disadvantage	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
	Work on reducing the 'cost of the school day' continues with financial support for families affected by poverty being provided through Free School Meals (FSM) and the highly successful SLC Winter Clothing Campaign with over 1000 new or nearly new winter jackets donated and distributed.

Connect Priority: Get it right for children and young people	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
Raise standards in literacy, numeracy and close the poverty-related attainment	The percentage of pupils gaining 5 awards at SCQF Level 5 or better in 2021 increased from the previous year (68.8%) above the national average (67.5%).
Raise standards in literacy, numeracy and close the poverty-related attainment	The percentage of young people leaving school with 5 or more Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework awards at level 6 (Higher) or better increased from 40.6% the previous year to 44.0% and is above the national level of 42.1%.
	The implementation of Phase 5 of the rollout of additional hours for Early Learning and Childcare 1140 hours, allocated to eligible children, was completed with over 7800 children and families accessing provision.
	The overall attendance of children and young people at school increased from 92.8% the previous year to 93.4% and was above the national level of 92.1%.
	Nearly 200 young people have now completed either a Duke of Edinburgh Award or John Muir Award.
Improve health and wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish	A refreshed Local Child Poverty Action Report and summary was published to ensure effective delivery of tackling poverty policy and raise awareness of the priorities across all partner organisations.

Connect Priority: Get it right for children and young people	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
Ensure inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do	Schools have been empowered to lead their sustainability plan in a range of ways, including via the Young Person's Sustainability Forum and the Climate Emergency Newsroom. Both mechanisms are led by young people who are then provided with opportunities to take their learning and leadership skills back to their learning communities and lead initiatives in the context of their local area.

Connect Priority: Improve health, care and wellbeing	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
Improve health and wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish	17 Secondary schools, 3 Additional Support Needs schools and 39 Primary Schools across 15 Learning communities are involved in 'Counselling through Schools' programme for children aged 10 and over.
	The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has had an impact on the national positive destination figures including those for care experienced young people. However, the percentage gap in positive destinations between the care experienced group and all leavers has reduced from 9.1% the previous year to 6.2%.
	Guidance has been developed for schools to support implementation of a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing. The new Joint Assessment Team (JAT) guidelines have been launched in all Secondary Schools and training provided for all Headteachers and Pupil Support DHTs. Multi-agency training commenced with input to the GIRFEC Strategy Group and Child Protection Committee.
	A total of 378 participants have been involved in the Pathfinder Programme project over the course of the year providing a caring and secure base and safe haven for young people.
Ensure inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do	Staff in over 100 schools and establishments have now completed training in Attachment at Level 1.
	450 young people took part in the Summer Sessions which ran in 10 locations across South Lanarkshire during the pandemic with their evaluations rating the welcome and activities on offer a success.

Connect Priority: Ensure communities are safe, strong and sustainable	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
Support children and young people to develop their skills for learning, life and work	Children and young people are actively engaged in activities that empower them to influence and shape decisions that affect them and their communities through for example the Youth Council and the Youth Forum which was established by young people for young people following COP26 in Glasgow.
	Young people and staff are actively involved in tackling some of the actions to improve climate change with a Sustainability Working Group established and a Youth Forum up and running.

- 5.3.2. In addition to working towards these Priorities, we recognise that the Council will continually aim to improve and ensure effective and efficient use of resources, and that business will be conducted with integrity and transparency and will operate to the highest standards. In order to monitor and report progress against these values, Resource objectives have also been identified under the heading Delivering the Plan and achieving Best Value.

Connect Theme: Delivering the Plan and achieving Best Value	
Resource Outcome	Achievement
The workforce has the skills, flexibility and capacity to deliver the Council's priorities	Both Larkhall Academy and St Andrew's and St Bride's High School were awarded the highly prestigious 'Excellence in Professional Learning' Award – Quality Mark by the General Teaching Council for Scotland.
Digital and ICT services meet the needs of the Council and its customers	Over 5,700 Chromebook devices were procured and made available to pupils as part of a successful bid for funds from the Scottish Government. 570 mobile wifi (Mifi) devices were also distributed to families who had little, or no, internet access.

- 5.4. Areas for improvement
There were no measures that have been classified as 'red' (major slippage against timescale or shortfall against target).
- 5.5. Scrutiny of change in measure status (Blue, Red, Amber Green (BRAG))
A further analysis introduced to aid scrutiny of performance, is to highlight and explain all measures that have changed BRAG status from Quarter 2 to Quarter 4. On analysis of the measures falling into this category, many of the narrative updates input into the system clearly explained the reason for the change in status which illustrates the improved quality of the comments in the quarterly updates. A summary of the measures falling into this category of further scrutiny is included at Appendix 3.

6. Employee Implications

- 6.1. The objectives noted within the Resource Plan will inform the Service Action Plans, where applicable, and in turn the Performance Appraisal process for individual employees.
- 6.2. Absence statistics are monitored and reported through the Council-wide Workforce monitoring report which is presented to each Resource Committee and the Employees Issues Forum.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. The objectives within the Resource Plan are reflected in the respective annual Resource Revenue and Capital budgets and, longer term, within the framework of the Council's approved Financial Strategy.

8. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no climate change or environmental implications as a result of this report.
- 8.2. The Resource Plan takes into account Resource responsibilities in relation to sustainable development and climate change.

9. Other Implications

- 9.1. The Community Plan 2017-27 was agreed at the Community Planning Partnership Board on 11 October 2017. A significant element of the delivery of the outcomes in the Community Plan will come through the achievement of the actions contained within Connect.
- 9.2. Resource Plan actions are assessed as part of the Resource's risk management arrangements and relevant issues have been added to the Resource Risk Register.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. Many of the actions detailed within the Resource Plan reflect ongoing strategies and policies which will be or have been the subject of consultation and equality impact assessment.

Tony McDaid
Executive Director (Education Resources)

24 August 2022

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ♦ The Resource Plan 2021/22 was structured upon the Vision, Values and Priorities in the Council Plan Connect 2017-22

Previous References

- ♦ Education Resources Quarter 2 Progress Report 2021/22: 8 February 2022

♦ **List of Background Papers**

- ♦ Council Plan Connect 2017/22 –Executive Committee on 8 November 2017 and approved by the full Council on 6 December 2017: mid-term review of Connect endorsed by the Executive Committee 24 June 2020
- ♦ Education Resource Plan 2021/22 –Education Resources Committee 01 June 2021

Contact for Further Information

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

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Appendix 1

Education Resource Objectives 2021/22

Council Priority	Resource Outcome
Ensure communities are safe, strong and sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Improve health and wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish◆ Support children and young people to develop their skills for learning, life and work◆ Ensure inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do
Promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth and tackle disadvantage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Raise standards in literacy, numeracy and close the poverty-related attainment gap◆ Support children and young people to develop their skills for learning, life and work
Get it right for children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Raise standards in literacy, numeracy and close the poverty-related attainment gap◆ Improve health and wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish◆ Ensure inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do
Improve health, care and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Improve health and wellbeing to enable children and families to flourish◆ Ensure inclusion and equality are at the heart of what we do