

ANGUS COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE 9 AUGUST 2016

ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT 2015/16

REPORT BY MARGO WILLIAMSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR CHILDREN AND LEARNING

ABSTRACT

This report presents the annual evaluation report for 2015/16 for the Children and Learning Directorate

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee endorse the contents of the annual evaluation report for 2015/16 (appended to this report).

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/COPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcome(s) contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Our children and young people are confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 As an integral part of Children and Learning Directorate's arrangements for quality assurance, an annual evaluation report is prepared for submission to the Children and Learning Committee. The report is a reflection on the quality and impact of the work of the Directorate.

3.2 In previous years both an annual performance report and an annual evaluation report were written for the Directorate and reported to committee. This year we have decided to combine these reports.

3.3 In writing the report we have drawn upon the action and performance indicator updates for our 2015/16 Directorate Improvement Plan.

3.4 The report uses the quality assurance framework, How Good is our Council? We have assigned an evaluation level for each of the high level questions in the framework namely:

High Level Question	Current Level
What key outcomes have we achieved?	Good
How well do we meet the needs of stakeholders?	Good
How good is our delivery of key processes?	Adequate
How good is our management?	Adequate
How good is our leadership?	Adequate

3.5 The report meets the reporting requirements required by the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc 2000 Act.

4. HIGHLIGHTS AND AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

4.1 Significant strengths and developments identified within the report include:

- Angus school leavers' achievements in literacy and numeracy are higher than national and virtual comparator
- Angus school leavers from the most disadvantaged backgrounds achieve better than the national and virtual comparator
- Improvements in monitoring and tracking of pupils' progress in secondary schools is supporting a range of interventions to improve attainment
- Early learning and child care provision for vulnerable two year old children is available in all localities
- We have further increased the percentage of our Looked After and Accommodated Children in family based placements. We are ranked first for this measure within the Local Government Benchmarking Framework
- Consultations with children and young people and families have directly influenced service developments
- We have improved outcomes for children with additional support needs as a consequence of changes in practice and targeted interventions
- We have established an Angus Educational Leadership Framework modelled on national best practice
- Investment in new community campuses and residential and housing support facilities has significantly improved learning environments and support for transitions for our children and young people

4.2 The report also recognises that there are areas where improvements are required:

- We shall build on recent progress to further improve levels of attainment in the broad general education and senior phase
- We shall extend the use of the improvement methodology developed by staff involved in the Early Years Collaborative and Raising Attainment for All programmes in support of improved attainment
- We will review our approach to supporting children looked after at home to improve their outcomes, particularly their educational outcomes
- We will further explore opportunities for strengthening communication with staff teams and providing feedback to them about how the outcomes of consultation have been used to shape policy decisions
- We will improve practice in maintaining chronologies to support analysis of risk and need when assessing the needs of vulnerable and at risk children and young people
- We shall improve the quality of children's plans to ensure their needs are being met

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly as a result of the recommendations contained in this report.

NOTE: No background papers, as detailed by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to a material extent in preparing the above report.

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List of Appendices: Children and Learning Directorate Annual Evaluation and Standards & Quality Report 2015/16