

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE - 17 AUGUST 2017**

**ANNUAL EVALUATION REPORT 2016/17**

**REPORT BY MARK ARMSTRONG, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR PEOPLE**

**ABSTRACT**

This report presents the annual evaluation report for Children and Learning Services.

**1. RECOMMENDATION**

- (i) It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee endorse the contents of the annual evaluation report for 2016/17 (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 services' arrangements for quality assurance, an annual evaluation report is prepared for submission to the Children and Learning Committee. The report is a reflection upon the quality and impact of the work of these services.

3.2 In writing the report we have reviewed progress with key actions and performance indicators in our 2016-2019 Children and Learning Directorate Improvement Plan.

3.3 The report has also been informed by the outcomes from a series of collaborative self-evaluation workshops where a wide range of evidence in relation to our service provision was reviewed.

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:

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

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
- We are supporting our schools leavers well towards achieving an initial positive destination
- Through effective approaches to prevention and early intervention we have achieved a reduction in the number of looked after and accommodated children in Angus over the last three years
- We have a very good track record of supporting those children who need to be looked after and accommodated to be in family based placements
- Parents have an increased choice of the type of early learning and childcare provision from a range of playgroup, private nursery and council provision in all localities
- Active engagement with children, young people and families informs service developments
- Children and Learning delivers statutory services well
- There is effective support for professional learning through wide ranging collaboration and networking

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

- Further develop our approaches to prevention and early intervention to ensure every child has the same opportunity to succeed
- Undertake further targeted interventions to raise attainment
- Build on our pilot work with regard to the development of family learning
- Support schools to enhance Senior Phase pathways
- Progress development of information management systems to support service delivery
- Further develop priority areas for collaboration of service provision Pan-Tayside

## 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 Services Annual Evaluation Report 2016/17