

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE – 17<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2017**

**ANGUS COUNCIL ANNUAL EDUCATION PLAN**

**REPORT BY PAULINE STEPHEN, CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER**

**ABSTRACT**

The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000 ("the 2000 Act") , as amended places three new requirements on Education Authorities:

- To have due regard to the need to carry out functions relating to school education in a way designed to reduce inequalities of outcome experienced by pupils.
- In discharging their duty under section 3(2) of the 2000 Act (to secure improvement in the quality of school education) to do so with a view to achieving the strategic priorities of the National Improvement Framework.
- The introduction of new annual planning and reporting duties; and annual school improvement planning.

This report seeks approval for the Angus Annual Education Authority Plan in line with legislative requirements. A copy of the Plan if approved will be sent to Scottish Ministers in line with statutory requirements.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 It is recommended that the Children and Learning Committee:

- (i) Approves Angus Council's Annual Education Plan and requests implementation of the plan and priorities (appendix 1).
- (ii) Notes that Angus Council's Annual Education Plan outlines improvement activity for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018.
- (iii) Requests the Chief Education Officer to ensure that an evaluation report on progress with Angus Council's Annual Education Plan, is presented to committee in August 2018.

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

2.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes 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
- Individuals and families are involved in decisions which affect them
- We have improved the health and wellbeing of our people and inequalities are reduced

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 Report 190/17, considered at Children and Learning Committee in June 2016, outlined new requirements for Education Authorities following amendments to the 2000 Act. There are three main new duties:

- Section 3B of the 200 Act imposes duties on education authorities which are designed to promote a reduction in inequalities of educational outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socio-economic disadvantage.

- Section 3D of the 2000 Act imposes a duty on education authorities, in discharging their duty under section 3(2) of the 2000 Act (to secure improvement in the quality of school education) to do so with a view to achieving the strategic priorities of the National Improvement Framework.
- Sections 3F, 3H and 6 of the 2000 Act impose duties on education authorities in relation to annual planning and reporting and annual school improvement planning.

3.2 The Children and Learning Service and Angus Schools are already engaging in improvement activity which is consistent with the strategic priorities outlined in the National Improvement Framework. These four strategic priorities are:

- Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy
- Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children and young people
- Improvement in children and young people's health and wellbeing
- Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people

#### 4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The **Angus Annual Education Plan** must set out for the planning period:

- Steps proposed to reduce inequalities of outcome experienced by pupils as a result of socio-economic disadvantage.
- The ways in which the education authority will seek and have regard to the views of the persons listed below and to provide any advice and support the authority thinks appropriate to those persons in relation to its consideration of decisions of a strategic nature about the carrying out of its school education functions. In terms of the legislation the following persons are specified:
  - (a) Head teachers
  - (b) Pupils
  - (c) Parents
  - (d) Trade unions representing teaching staff
  - (e) Voluntary organisations as the Authority thinks appropriate
  - (f) Any other persons the Authority thinks appropriate.
- Steps to be taken in pursuance of the four priorities contained within the National Improvement Framework.
- Any educational benefits the authority considers will result from taking all of these steps

#### 5. Proposals

The first Angus Annual Education Plan, as required by this legislative amendment, is set out in appendix 1. This Plan summarises proposed educational improvement activity for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. It is proposed that this Plan is considered and approved by Children and Learning Committee and a report on progress with the Plan is brought before Committee in August 2018.

#### 6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

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## Appendix 1: Angus Annual Education Plan

**NOTE:** The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000  
<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/03/4559>