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ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION



Community Planning Aberdeen Board

The undernoted item is circulated in connection with the meeting of the **COMMUNITY PLANNING ABERDEEN BOARD** to be held here in the Town House on **MONDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2017 at 1.00 pm.**

****Committee Room 2 - Town House, Aberdeen****

B U S I N E S S

MINUTES AND FORWARD BUSINESS PLANNER

3.4 National Update, Scottish Government (Pages 3 - 8)

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Allison Swanson, tel. 01224 522822 or email aswanson@aberdeencity.gov.uk

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Community Planning Aberdeen – Board Meeting 11 September 2017

Scottish Government Update

Planning Bill

The Scottish Government provided an update on the on-going planning review by publishing a Position Statement on 29 June 2017. This set out our current position on the 20 proposals put forward in Places, People and Planning, published in January 2017. This closed on 11 August and the responses are now being analysed and this analysis will be published in due course. As we work towards a Planning Bill, the proposals continue to emphasise the importance of strengthening a plan-led approach to development, housing and infrastructure delivery and community empowerment in the planning of our future places.

All of the relevant documents can be found at: <https://beta.gov.scot/policies/planning-architecture/reforming-planning-system/>

Contact: Fiona Simpson, Assistant Chief Planner (0131 244 7547)

Quality Assurance of LOIPs and Locality Plans

Local partners in the CPP are accountable for the content, ambition and delivery of their Local Outcome Improvement Plan and locality plans, in accordance with statutory guidance (paras 136-138; 160-162 refer). The Scottish Government has no plans separately to quality assure CPPs' LOIPs and locality plans. These are plans which express local priorities, there is no role for SG to analyse or assess the documents.

CPPs are not expected to submit their completed plans to SG. However, CPPs must publish their agreed plans (sections 6(1) and 10(1) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 refer), as CPA has done with its agreed LOIP

Contact: David Milne, David.Milne2@gov.scot , SG Public Bodies and Public Service Reform

Educational Attainment in Aberdeen City Council

Summary - August 2017

Aberdeen City has four primary schools identified through the attainment challenge - Manor Park, Bramble Brae, Riverbank and Tullos. In 2016 Northfield, Torry and St Machar academies received funding as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge.

In 2017/18 Aberdeen City Council have been allocated through the Attainment Scotland Fund £597,938 for the Schools Programme and £2,745,600 Pupil Equity Funding.

SIMD profile

- 48.1% of pupils on the education authority roll live within SIMD deciles 8, 9 and 10.
- 16.9% of pupils live within deciles 1 and 2. There is a much higher concentration of pupils in deciles 1 and 2 within the Torry (70.4%), St Machar (45.7%) and Northfield (41.1%) school zones than in other parts of the city. In the Cults Academy and Oldmachar school zones 64% of pupils live within decile 1.

Attainment

Summary Table of 2017 Local and National Data – All Stages

	Aberdeen 2017 (%)	National Results 2017 (%)
SCQF LEVEL 2 - Pass Rate*		
National 2	81.0+	81.6
SCQF LEVEL 3 - Pass Rate*		
National 3	93.1+	90.8
SCQF Level 4 - Pass Rate		
National 4	94.3+	92.8
SCQF Level 5 - Pass Rate		
National 5	78.9	79.5
SCQF Level 6 - Pass Rate (%)		
Higher	79.0	77.0
SCQF Level 7 - Pass Rate		
Advanced Higher	81.2	80.0
Scottish Baccalaureate	100.0	85.7
SCQF Level 5 – Skills For Work Pass Rate		
Skills for Work (National 5 All Stages)	93.8+	86.7
SCQF Level 5 – English and Maths Pass Rate		

English Pass Rate (A-C)	88.8	87.2
Maths Pass Rate (A-C)	63.3	63.8
SCQF Level 6 – English and Maths Pass Rate		
English Pass Rate (A-C)	79.8	77.3
Maths Pass Rate (A-C)	75.4	74.0

National 5, S4

The proportion of S4 pupil candidates attaining the nationally benchmarked outcome of 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5, Grade A-C, improved by 1.1% to 37.6% in 2017 with 82.6% of S4 candidates achieving Grade A-C across all SCQF Level 5 examinations and 88.9% attaining an Award (Grade A-D) at this level.

In the context of the benchmark measure, the comparable outcome for 2015 was 34%, providing for a significant upwards movement in this measure over the three year period.

SCQF Level 6 - Higher Grade

79% of pupil candidates attained Grade A-C, a 1% increase in outcome against 2016 which maintains the City's performance above the national figure for the second successive year.

There has also been an overall improvement of 2.7% in the proportion of pupils attaining the 'benchmark' five or more awards at SCQF Level 6 at the end of S5 with 16.7% compared with 13.8% in 2016.

SCQF Level 7** – Advanced Higher and Scottish Baccalaureate

The Grade A-C pass rate for Advanced Higher entries fell slightly from 82.9% to 81.2% in 2017. This precisely mirrored the national change and maintained the City's positive standing in relation to the national figure.

However, attainment in Aberdeen City Council schools is below that of the virtual comparator in many measures in the senior phase, and so further improvement is focussed on accelerated progress.

In Aberdeen City the gap in attainment between the most and least deprived areas is greater than the national average. Rates of exclusion in schools serving areas of relative social and economic disadvantage are much higher than the average for the city.

The council is gathering and moderating data on children and young people's progress across the Broad General Education (BGE).

Teachers in Aberdeen City

Teacher recruitment in Aberdeen City remains a big challenge with many vacancies still unfilled although the current situation is improved on previous years.

Head teacher recruitment is also becoming an increasing challenge – as of July 2017 there were 14 primary head teacher vacancies and 3 Secondary. Council officials are concerned that this may have an impact on school improvement.

Aberdeen City is on the 3rd cohort of distance learning for teacher education and has included recruitment in Ireland, Canada and NE England again this year.

Discussions are on-going re running another cohort next year of oil and gas workers wishing to retrain. Current programme started with 19 and only has 6 remaining to progress into their probation year from August 2017 – 4 Aberdeenshire and 2 Aberdeen City, however, the quality of the current remaining cohort is high.

- The Scottish Government recognises that some councils, including Aberdeen City, have faced challenges in relation to teacher recruitment, as have universities recruiting teaching students and we are focussed on addressing the barriers to recruitment and retention.
- We have increased student teacher intake targets for the sixth year in a row and are setting targets to train teachers in the subjects where they are needed most including the North East.
- The Scottish Government has fully supported the development of Aberdeen University's Distance Learning programme and has fully funded delivery of the places requested by the university over a number of years. As part of our £1 million investment from the Scottish Attainment Fund to develop new routes into the profession, Aberdeen University will receive an additional £245,000 in 2017-18 to expand and develop the programme for teachers in priority subjects.
- Funding from the Transition Training Fund (£400,000) has also supported teacher training places for individuals from the oil and gas industry who wish to retrain as teachers and this new approach forms part of a wider set of new routes into teaching that are currently in development or being rolled out. These will help address teacher shortages, particularly in key subjects.
- We are of course open to further suggestions as to how the Scottish Government can help tackle teacher shortages in the Aberdeen area and Education officials will shortly meet the Northern Alliance authorities (includes Aberdeen City) to discuss the development of further pathways to teaching to address local recruitment issues.

Contact: Scott Brand, Scott.Brand@gov.scot , SG Learning Directorate

New route to teaching

There has been considerable media coverage in recent weeks on TeachFirst (a UK based teacher education programme not currently active in Scotland) and SG plans to tender for the development of a new route to teaching focusing on attracting high-quality graduates into the profession.

- SG are currently finalising the tender specification for this new route into teaching, and will shortly begin accepting bids for the contract. We anticipate a number of parties will be interested in bringing forward proposals.
- It is essential that all teacher education programmes are of the highest quality. We are clear that this new route into teaching will require both the involvement of a university to maintain academic rigour and GTCS accreditation.
- The primary aim of this programme is to broaden the range of people entering the teaching profession while giving them the skills and knowledge they need to excel at teaching. This is not about fast-tracking the qualification of new teachers.

Contact: David Roy, David.roy@gov.scot, People and Leadership Unit,

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