

Motion - Special meeting of Community Services Committee, 6 April 2017

Agenda Item 3 - Strategic Inspection of the Education Functions of the Council

The Community Services Committee;

- a) Notes the terms of the Education Scotland inspection report and the reports from the Acting Executive Director of Community Services;
- b) Notes the recommendations contained within the Education Scotland published report and further notes the progress made by the council's Education Service to respond to the inspection report findings at this stage (see agenda report 3(d), Appendix 1, INEA Action Plan);
- c) Notes the positive aspects of education provision in Argyll and Bute identified within the Education Scotland report, including:
 - the attendance rates across primary, special and secondary schools are above the national averages;
 - the achievement of children and young people across Argyll and Bute Council reflects a broad range of national and award bearing wider achievement qualifications;
 - that over 2000 young people enhanced their achievement portfolio last session and this has contributed well to securing positive, sustained destinations for young people when they leave school;
 - that a large number of Skills for Work qualifications are available across the authority in key skills which have the potential to grow the local economy and enhance services, for example in early education and childcare, hospitality, engineering and rural skills;
 - the 2014/2015 council Standards and Quality report documents clearly the range of wider achievement courses and awards gained by young people;
 - that over 1500 young people last session achieved across a broad range of awards including the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, John Muir, Saltire Awards and Youth Achievement Awards;
 - that in almost all early learning and childcare (ELC) settings, most children achieve their expected developmental milestones;
 - that at the secondary stages, young people's attainment in National Qualifications has recently improved in a few key measures;
 - the number of young people securing a positive destination on leaving school has increased over the period 2011-2016, and overall the proportion of young people moving on to a positive destination has been above comparable and national averages;
 - the proportion of young people moving into employment on leaving school is well above comparable and national averages and has been consistently so for the last five years;
 - that a significant amount of work has been carried out to support Looked After Children;
 - that Argyll and Bute Council has the fifth highest rate for young people aged 16-24 to achieve a positive destination (employment; training; higher and further education) according to the Scottish Government's Participation Measure which relates to outcomes for learners, and
- d) Refers the matter for consideration at the Special Meeting of Argyll and Bute Council on 7th April 2017

Proposer: Councillor Rory Colville

Secunder: Councillor Robin Currie