## **Public Document Pack**



<u>To</u>: Councillor McCaig, <u>Convener</u>; Councillor Greig, <u>Vice-Convener</u>; and Councillors Allan, Boulton, Collie, Cooney, Corall, Cormack, Farquharson, Laing, Leslie, May, Reynolds, Jennifer Stewart, John West, Kirsty West, Wisely, Yuill; and Mumtaz Abdullah, Alistair Aitken, Grant Bruce, Peter Campbell and Stewart Duncan.

Town House, ABERDEEN, 25 May 2011

## **EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE**

The Members of the **EDUCATION**, **CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in Committee Room 2 - Town House on **THURSDAY**, **2 JUNE 2011 at 2.00 pm**.

JANE G. MACEACHRAN HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

## <u>BUSINESS</u>

## **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

1.1 Determination of Exempt Business

Members are requested to resolve that the business listed under item 11.1 of this agenda be considered with the press and public excluded.

## **REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION**

2.1 No requests received at this stage

## MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 <u>Minute of Previous Meeting of 24 March 2011</u> (Pages 1 - 34)

## **MOTIONS**

- 4.1 <u>Motion by Councillor Boulton, referred from Council meeting of 23 February 2011 (Background Report)</u> (Pages 35 42)
  - "That Aberdeen City Council writes to Mike Russell, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, asking for a review of 'The Parent's Charter'."
- 4.2 <u>Motion by Councillor Cormack Parental Involvement in Education</u> (Pages 43 46)

## REFERRALS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

5.1 <u>School Catering Services - Meal Price Increase - Referral from Enterprise,</u>
Planning and Infrastructure Committee of 24 May 2011 (Pages 47 - 50)

## **SERVICE WIDE REPORTS**

6.1 <u>Update on Progress with Implementation of Priority Based Budgeting</u> Transformation Options (Pages 51 - 56)

## **CULTURE**

7.1 <u>Deferred Cultural Grants 2011/12</u> (Pages 57 - 62)

## **SPORT**

- 8.1 Bookings and Lettings Review Oral Update
- 8.2 Sports Grants (Pages 63 70)
- 8.3 <u>Update on Implementation of Budget Decision Reduce Communities</u> <u>Team (Pages 71 - 88)</u>
- 8.4 <u>Lease Agreements for Voluntary Organisations Occupying Woodside</u> <u>Fountain Centre (Pages 89 - 96)</u>

## **EDUCATION**

9.1 "Big Noise": Sistema Scotland in Stirling (Pages 97 - 104)

- 9.2 <u>Closing the Gap</u> (Pages 105 108)
- 9.3 <u>Celebrating St Andrew's Day 2011 in Schools</u> (Pages 109 112)
- 9.4 <u>Provision for Children With Additional Support Needs Arising From Complex Factors Progress Report (Pages 113 118)</u>

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS, MOTIONS AND PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 10.1 <u>Committee Business Statement</u> (Pages 119 132)
- 10.2 <u>Motions List</u> (Pages 133 136)
- 10.3 <u>Education, Culture and Sport Performance Report</u> (Pages 137 302)

## ITEMS WHICH THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IN PRIVATE

## **SPORT**

11.1 <u>50 Metre Pool - Progress Report</u> (Pages 303 - 316)

Website Address: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Vikki Cuthbert, tel. (52)2520 or e-mail vcuthbert@aberdeencity.gov.uk



## **EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE**

ABERDEEN, 24 March 2011. — Minute of Meeting of the EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE. <u>Present</u>:- Councillor McCaig, <u>Convener</u>; Councillor Greig, <u>Vice-Convener</u>; and Councillors Boulton, Collie, Cooney, Corall, Cormie (substituting for Councillor Kirsty West), Crockett (substituting for Councillor Allan), Farquharson, Laing, Leslie, May, Jennifer Stewart, Kevin Stewart, Wisely and Yuill (substituting for Councillor Cormack). <u>External Members</u>:- Mr. A. Aitken, Mr. G. Bruce, Mr. P. Campbell and Mr. S. Duncan.

## **DETERMINATION OF EXEMPT BUSINESS**

1. Prior to considering the matters before the Committee, the Convener proposed that, in terms of Section 50A(4) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, the item identified as article 23 of this minute be considered with the press and public excluded so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in paragraph 6 of Schedule 7(A) of the Act.

## The Committee resolved:-

to consider the aforementioned item with the press and public excluded.

### REQUESTS FOR DEPUTATION

2. The Committee was advised that, in accordance with Standing Order 10, deputation requests had been received from UNISON and Community Centre Management Committee volunteers in relation to item 5.6 on the agenda (Implementation of Budget Decision – Reduced Communities Team).

## The Committee resolved:-

to hear the deputations prior to the consideration of item 5.6.

## MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

**3.** The Committee had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 20 January 2011.

## The Committee resolved:-

- (i) in relation to article 8 (Operation of the Community Learning Hub at Kaimhill Primary School), to note that the detail of the legal advice given at Committee had not yet been provided to members, and to request that the Director of Education, Culture and Sport contact the Head of Legal and Democratic Services to ascertain when the advice would be provided; and
- (ii) to approve the minute as a correct record.

### MOTION BY COUNCILLOR BOULTON

**4.** The Committee had before it, by way of referral from the Council meeting of 23 February 2011, a motion by Councillor Boulton in the following terms:-

"That Aberdeen City Council writes to Mike Russell, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, asking for a review of The Parent's Charter."

## The Committee resolved:-

to request a background report on Councillor Boulton's motion to the next meeting of the Committee, to include references to school transport costs.

### 2010/2011 BUDGET MONITORING - ECS/11/022

5. The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport and the Head of Finance which detailed the performance to date in relation to the Education, Culture and Sport capital and revenue budgets and advised on any areas of risk which could require management action.

The report advised that there were 37 approved savings for 2010/11, totalling £8,500,000 and that the Service was on target to achieve most of these savings. In relation to the saving of £810,000 against Directorate and Operation Support Costs, the report noted that the Service was confident of achieving the savings from other budgets elsewhere in the Service.

It was noted that the current forecast showed an overspend of £1,700,000; an increase from the previous forecast of £500,000, which was mainly due to the

increase in property rates charges. The Committee heard that the general uplift in annual rates costs and the full year effect of rates increases in respect of 3Rs properties had led to an annual cost to the Service of approximately £1,400,000. The report advised that the rates cost pressure was to be managed corporately for 2010/11 and noted the high number of appeals currently being lodged across the Council in respect of the increases. The Committee then heard that the usual practice was for the Scottish Government to increase the rates with tapering relief; however this had not been the case in this financial year.

In relation to out of authority placements, the report advised that based on current figures, there was likely to be an overspend of £870,000 and that the Education, Culture and Sport element of this combined budget with Social Care and Wellbeing was anticipated to be over-committed by £260,000, a reduction of £120,000 since the last figures were reported to Committee. It was noted that management action was being taken to identify alternative savings to mitigate the overspend.

The report also highlighted the delay in transferring facilities to Sport Aberdeen and the resulting impact on the budget. Full year savings in relation to property rates and annual contributions to Sport Aberdeen were projected to be £280,000 less than budgeted as a result of the delay.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

- (a) note the report and the information on management action and risk that was contained therein;
- (b) instruct that officers continue to review budget performance and report on service strategies.

## **The Committee resolved:-**

- (i) in relation to the issue of property rates, (a) to request that a letter be sent to the Scottish Government highlighting the anomaly in the public sector taxing another part of the public sector; calling for a review of the situation; and asking for a continuation of the tapering relief; and (b) to request that a report be submitted to a future meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on the matter; and
- (ii) to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

#### KAIMHILL TO BRAESIDE DECANT – ORAL UPDATE

**6.** With reference to article 12 of the minute of its previous meeting, the Committee heard from David Leng, Head of Schools and Educational Establishments, who advised that this would be the last update provided to Committee on the issue as the new Kaimhill School was due to open on 20 April 2011. Mr Leng advised that the buses provided were still well used, with 4 buses used at the start of the day and 3 at the end. He noted that the problems raised at the last Committee in relation to the supply of transport had now been resolved through the Contract Monitoring Officer, and performance related deductions had been made. Mr Leng reported that the total cost for the transport was £245,000; £79,500 in 2009/10 and £143,600 in 2010/11.

The Committee heard that the new Kaimhill School was handed over on 7 March 2011 and that IT and snagging works were currently being completed. Mr Leng advised that there would be additional closure days on 1, 18 and 19 April to assist with the move. Mr Leng noted that there would be an opportunity for the Press to visit the new school and advised that invitations had been sent out.

With reference to article 16 of the minute of its meeting of 18 November 2010, and the instruction that the Monitoring Officer fully investigate the circumstances which had led to the decision to provide the transport, the Committee heard that a report on the matter would go before the Audit and Risk Committee on 29 March 2011 for consideration.

## **The Committee resolved:-**

to note the update.

## OPPORTUNITY TO REDEFINE CATCHMENT AREAS – ABERDEEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND HARLAW ACADEMY – ECS/11/018

**7.** With reference to article 5 of the minute of the Special Education, Culture and Sport Committee of 28 October 2010, and the instruction to officers to fully develop proposals to redefine the catchment areas for the above schools to maximise in-zone attendance, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which provided further information on the work undertaken by officers in relation to the proposals.

The report noted that any change to a secondary school zone also affected the associated primaries and could then have a knock-on effect across the city. It was therefore felt to be more efficient to undertake a comprehensive review of the entire primary school estate and re-zone schools where necessary, resulting in a more

sustainable school estate. The report advised that the redefinition of the Aberdeen Grammar School and Harlaw Academy zones would therefore be included in this review, as it would involve looking at the zoning arrangements for all secondary schools associated with the primaries under review. It was anticipated that the review would be completed by December 2011, with a report back to Committee in early 2012.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee approve the next phase of the review of school provision by instructing officers to include the potential re-zoning of these 2 secondary schools in a comprehensive review of the primary school estate.

## The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to request that in future, officers avoid undertaking consultation over the school holiday period; and
- (ii) to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## SINGLE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE FOR KINCORTH AND TORRY ACADEMIES – ECS/11/019

**8.** With reference to article 5 of the minute of the Special Education, Culture and Sport Committee of 28 October 2010, and the instruction to officers to bring a further report to enable discussion of a single management structure at Kincorth and Torry Academies, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which set out the implications of this proposal.

The report advised that the Committee had previously agreed to the replacement of Torry and Kincorth Academies with one larger school. In preparation for this, the two secondary schools were currently working together to provide an enhanced range of subject choices for pupils. It was proposed that this work would be enhanced by policy and procedure development, consideration of joint appointments across schools and in-service days which involved staff from both academies.

The report also outlined the financial implications of operating with a single management structure, noting that the potential saving could be in the region of £43,524. However, it was likely that operating over two sites would mean additional responsibilities payments for staff as well as additional staffing for main grade teachers due to the travelling time or addition to core staffing required. This would mean any potential saving would likely be cancelled out, particularly as a

result of the conservation of salaries for promoted staff who were not appointed to posts under a revised structure. Therefore, due to the complexity of operating two schools on two sites and for the reasons outlined in the report, it was proposed that the management structures remained independent at this stage.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee instruct officers to continue to encourage joint working practices between Kincorth and Torry Academies in preparation for a unified school and, in the interim, retain existing independent management structures at the two schools.

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the recommendation contained in the report.

### **ROLL CAPPING IN ABERDEEN CITY SCHOOLS 2011/12 – ECS/11/020**

**9.** The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport seeking approval to place a cap where necessary on particular primary schools to ensure they could accommodate the lower class size regulations, as well as approval to limit S1 pupil intakes to certain secondary schools. The report advised that the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 gave local authorities power to reserve places in certain secondary and primary schools for children likely to move into the zones of those schools during the school year. Therefore, the proposed number of reserved spaces for 2011/12 took account of the number of in-zone pupils due in session 2011/12, the anticipated number of families moving into the zone during the school year; the number of out of zone placing requests already received; and the roll cap proposed for the secondary schools. The report sought approval to limit the S1 intake in session 2011/12 for Aberdeen Grammar School, Cults Academy, Harlaw Academy and Oldmachar Academy.

It was noted that previously only a small number of primary schools had required to be roll capped, however due to the increasing demand for places in certain schools, the Council's decision to reduce class sizes to a maximum of 18 pupils in all primary 1 classes in schools within areas of deprivation would be determined by the ability of each school to accommodate the increase in classes. It was proposed to retain a maximum of 25 pupils for all other primary 1 classes. The report advised that this could mean that some schools would have to reserve places for pupils who might move in-zone during the school year. The report then listed the 10 primary schools which could potentially be affected in this manner:-

Manor Park School Bramble Brae School

Riverbank School
Tullos School
Kittybrewster School
Seaton School
Walker Road School
Woodside School
Heathryburn School and
St Peter's RC School.

The decision to cap a primary school would be based on the number of primary classes a school could accommodate, rather than the number of pupils, and would be related to the optimum class configuration which had to be adopted by schools.

The report advised that it could be necessary to employ staff on a fixed term basis until pupil figures were confirmed at the start of the new school session. This would ensure that the numbers of excess staff could be kept to a minimum.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

a) agree the following limits upon the S1 intakes of the following secondary schools:

Aberdeen Grammar School - 210 Cults Academy – 210 Harlaw Academy – 180 Oldmachar Academy – 180;

- (b) agree that it may be necessary to cap a number of primary schools to accommodate any class size reductions in primary 1 − 3 to confirm to class size regulations and local policy noting that the schools in question can only be identified once class configurations have been established;
- (c) agree the reservation of spaces in the above-named secondary schools and identified primary schools as appropriate, for children likely to become resident in the zone of those schools during the school year; and
- (d) require the school service managers to closely monitor the number of pupils transferring to identified capped schools in August 2011, relative to the roll limits being recommended.

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## PROVISION FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS ARISING FROM COMPLEX FACTORS – ECS/11/023

**10.** With reference to article 20 of the minute of the meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee of 16 September 2010, the Committee had before it a report which detailed the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposals for children with additional support needs arising from complex factors.

The report advised that the Committee had approved the development of a new school on the Raeden site which would offer nursery, primary and secondary education as well as related health provision for up to 120 children and young people. The new school would also provide 16 part time pre-school nursery places and wrap-around family support and out of school care services.

It was noted that the statutory consultation on the closure of Raeden School had been undertaken between 6 December 2010 and 31 January 2011, had included 4 public meetings, and members of the public had been given the chance to comment on the proposals and submit feedback. The consultation report, incorporating this feedback, was appended to the report.

The Council Budget meeting on 10 February 2011 had instructed officers to find an alternative funding model for the project, and the report outlined the positive discussions which had been held with Hub Co. North, a joint venture company which had indicated that it would be keen to work with the Council to deliver the project. It was noted that the project would be reviewed to enable detailed costings to be reported to the Finance and Resources Committee on 21 April 2011.

The report noted that there was a need to close the Raeden Nursery School by the end of July 2011, and therefore Committee approval was sought in principle to close Raeden; to allocate children to 3 developmental nurseries; and to temporarily decant pupils to the former Braeside School to enable the construction of the new school, subject to the approval of the funding arrangements by the Finance and Resources Committee.

### The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

- a) note the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposals for children with additional support needs arising from complex factors;
- b) instruct officers to complete a full business case for the development of the new school and campus on the site of the existing Raeden Centre;

- c) refers the business case to Finance and Resources Committee for a decision on the proposed funding methodology; and
- d) agrees in principle to the closure of Raeden Nursery; the allocation of children to the 3 proposed developmental nurseries; the temporary decant of children to the former Braeside School, to enable the construction of the new school and campus on the site of the Raeden Centre, subject to the approval of the business case by the Finance and Resources Committee.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice-Convener, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

Councillor Laing, seconded by Councillor Collie, moved as an amendment:that Committee:-

- (a) note the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposals for children with additional support needs arising from complex needs;
- (b) instructs officers to complete a full business case for the development of the new school and campus on the site of the existing Raeden Centre; and
- (c) refers the business case to the Finance and Resources Committee for a decision on the proposed funding methodology, and thereafter, refers the business case back to Education, Culture and Sport Committee for a final decision.

On a division, there voted:- <u>for the motion</u> (18) – the Convener; the Vice Convener; and Councillors Boulton, Corall, Cormie, Farquharson, Leslie, May, Reynolds, Robertson, Jennifer Stewart, Kevin Stewart, Wisely and Yuill; and Mr A. Aitken, Mr G Bruce, Mr P Campbell and Mr S Duncan; <u>for the amendment</u> (4) - Councillors Collie, Cooney, Crockett and Laing.

## The Committee resolved:-

to adopt the motion.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF BUDGET DECISION – REDUCED COMMUNITIES TEAM – ECS/11/024

## (A) DEPUTATIONS

11. As agreed at the start of the meeting (article 2 refers), the Committee heard from Ms Deirdre MacDonald on behalf of UNISON. Ms MacDonald referred to the briefing paper circulated by UNISON prior to the meeting, and noted that UNISON

promoted and supported workers and lifelong learning. She spoke of the activities which went on in the wards of elected members and stated that these ran as a result of the work of the Communities Team. She highlighted examples of community learning users, such as a group of young mothers who wanted to improve the health and wellbeing of their families; someone struggling to read medicine labels; a person who wanted to work towards getting a job to improve their situation; or people who wished to learn how to use IT. Ms MacDonald mentioned the Big Plus adverts which promoted the improvement of literacy and numeracy and noted her concern that any decision taken to reduce the Communities Team could mean that there was no-one to answer the calls from those who had seen the advertisements. She highlighted the impact she felt there would be on specialist placements where people had particular learning difficulties. She felt that the proposals before Committee meant that none of the activities mentioned would be possible in future, and warned the Committee of what she felt were the dangers of making a hasty decision on the future of the team.

Members then asked several questions of Ms MacDonald.

At this juncture, the Convener advised that members had exceeded the allotted 10 minutes allowed for questions to deputations, and the Committee agreed to suspend Standing Order 10 (7) to enable further questions to be asked of Ms MacDonald.

The Committee then heard from Mr. Phil D'Arcy, Ms Lynn Duncan and Ms Ann-Marie Walls on behalf of community centre management committee volunteers in the city. Mr D'Arcy stressed how much they depended on the support of community learning workers. He advised that the centre where he volunteered was linked to Dyce Primary School and was not purpose-built like some of the leased centres. He acknowledged that the management committee at Dyce were responsible for the purchase and replacement of equipment, but stated that the Council was now asking for them to take responsibility for the building. He said he was unclear what technical advice would be provided, what the financial involvement of the Council would be and who would pay for works needed. He stated that contracts of employment, pensions, training and other employment matters were all very complex and that if the proposals were agreed, management committee volunteers would be expected to take on this work with no expertise in the area. He noted that the Council had the benefit of a specialist HR department to assist with these matters, and highlighted that the volunteers did not have this

kind of support. Mr D'Arcy also mentioned that the individual members of management committees would be personally liable if the proposals were approved. He noted that management committees would have additional financial responsibilities, and that if they were to pursue charitable status, this would mean they would be required to produce annual accounts. He said that although it could be argued that leased centres currently undertook all the additional duties, they were mainly small, purpose-built centres which enjoyed Council technical services and insurance provision, neither of which were included in the new agreement before Committee for approval. He stated that he had spoken to Inchgarth Community Centre and had been advised that the volunteers there put over 90 hours a week into the centre. Mr D'Arcy asked how many hours would therefore be required at the other centres. He asked that the Committee recognise what he felt were significant differences between the current leased centres and the other centres, and that enough staff be retained to make the centres sustainable. He said that if the Community Learning staff were to be removed, it was likely that the centres would close. He felt if Community Learning staff were allocated to centres and if that centre was then given targets to meet, this would mean the 27 community centres would not be required to turn into small businesses. Mr D'Arcy said he would be willing to work with officers on this, if Committee felt it was a Members than asked several questions of the deputation. Convener thanked both deputations for their contributions.

Prior to consideration of the report, the Clerk to the Committee advised that in terms of Standing Order 25 (1), any officer in attendance who had a pecuniary interest in the matter before Committee for discussion would have to withdraw from the meeting.

## (B) REPORT

With reference to article 2 of the Council Budget meeting of 10 February 2011, the Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which set out the implications of the Budget decision to reduce the costs of the communities team by £1.4million into 2011/12 and provisionally a further £1million in 2012/13. The report also provided information on the Council request that officers investigate the implications of moving all centres to leased centre status.

The report set out the costs to the Education, Culture and Sport Service of each Council community learning centre moving to leased centre status, and advised of

the potential loss of income currently generated by existing management centre committees. The report also noted the potential VS/ER and building costs as well as the amount required if support was continued to externally delivered projects.

The report advised that the budget decision would require a reduction in the staffing resource of approximately 67%, with the budget available to deliver front-line adult learning and youth development activities reduced by around 83%.

It was further noted that there were 51 community centre facilities in Aberdeen which cost in the region of £1.87million to service each year. The report advised that many of the buildings would require significant maintenance in future and therefore it was recommended that all community centre type properties be subject to a review under the wider Educational Asset Review.

There were 27 centres owned by the Council which were currently managed by community learning and development, and the report recommended that these would now be managed through either a lease or management agreement model. It was proposed that any agreement would include a requirement for centres to participate in the HMIe inspection process. Of the 27 centres, the report advised that 9 were stand alone and could potentially become leased facilities. Fifteen of the centres were part of other facilities such as sports centres, schools and 3R schools and it was recommended that these facilities could be managed by community organisations or existing leased centres via a management agreement. The report advised that the remaining 3 facilities were community flats and that these would not be suitable for either a lease or management agreement. Officers were currently considering the resource available for these facilities and it was intended to report back to the next Committee on the matter.

It was noted that due to the scale of work required to progress the proposals, and the reduced workforce, it might be necessary to put transitional arrangements in place at some centres and officers would negotiate this with management committees if required. Officers would report back to Committee on the transfer arrangements and on proposals for a model lease and constitution.

The report then outlined the impact of the proposals on community learning hubs, noting that there would be insufficient resource available to progress hubs in the short term. Learning partnerships would continue to be facilitated. There would also be an impact on the More Choices, More Chances and Curriculum for Excellence Work and a follow up report on this would be provided to a future meeting of the Committee. The report advised that there might not be the resource available to deliver a city wide youth development and adult learning service, but

that officers would report back to the next meeting of the Committee on any changes to programmes.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

- (a) agree that all community centres move to a lease type model managed by community organisations as appropriate to the facility:
  - the 9 stand alone community facilities, as listed in section 5.2.2 would be suitable for transfer to a leased centre arrangement
  - the 15 community facilities, as listed in section 5.2.3 would be suitable for a management agreement governance arrangement;
- (b) instruct officers to negotiate an arrangement with management committees of the above centres which will ensure a sustainable, ongoing delivery of adult learning, youth development, and capacity building activities which fit into a local and city-wide pathway framework;
- (c) agree that if required, transitional arrangements can be negotiated with transferring centres to ensure that they remain operational during the period of change;
- (d) agree that any model constitution that is agreed by future Committees is compatible with the requirements of OSCR, thereby allowing community organisations to seek to achieve charitable status if they wish;
- (e) note that a future report will be brought to Committee on the future of Torry Learning House, Tilly Flat and Cummings Park Flat;
- (f) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to carry out a detailed analysis of all funded activity (both externally and internally delivered), taking into consideration a social and economic impact analysis of each activity, reporting back to an appropriate Committee.
- (g) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report back to a future Committee on future priority areas of service delivery, based on feedback from members of this Committee;
- (h) note the service delivery implications of the reduced budget, and seek more information on service implications in future reports;
- (i) note that the Service will continued to be inspected by HMIe;
- (j) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to review the number of community facilities within Aberdeen City, as part of the wider service asset management plan for Education, Culture and Sport.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice-Convener, moved:-

- (a) agree that all community centres move to a lease type model by 31 March 2012, managed by community organisations as appropriate to the facility:
  - the 9 stand alone community facilities, as listed in section 5.2.2 would be suitable for transfer to a leased centre arrangement

- the 15 community facilities, as listed in section 5.2.3 would be suitable for a management agreement governance arrangement;
- (b) instruct officers to negotiate an arrangement with management committees of the above centres which will ensure a sustainable, ongoing delivery of adult learning, youth development, and capacity building activities which fit into a local and city-wide pathway framework;
- (c) agree that if required, transitional arrangements can be negotiated with transferring centres to ensure that they remain operational during the period of change;
- (d) agree that any model constitution that is agreed by future Committees is compatible with the requirements of OSCR, thereby allowing community organisations to seek to achieve charitable status if they wish;
- (e) note that a future report will be brought to Committee on the future of Torry Learning House, Tilly Flat and Cummings Park Flat;
- (f) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to carry out a detailed analysis of all funded activity (both externally and internally delivered), taking into consideration a social and economic impact analysis of each activity, reporting back to an appropriate Committee.
- (g) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report back to a future Committee on future priority areas of service delivery, based on feedback from members of this Committee;
- (h) note the service delivery implications of the reduced budget, and seek more information on service implications in future reports;
- (i) note that the Service will continued to be inspected by HMIe;
- (j) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to review the number of community facilities within Aberdeen City, as part of the wider service asset management plan for Education, Culture and Sport.

Councillor Laing, seconded by Councillor Boulton, moved as an amendment:-

"that this Committee notes the feedback received from various consultees and seeks a further detailed report to Council on 27 April 2011, addressing the issues raised and providing full details of the educational and financial implications of these proposals, and instructs that an emergency meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee be called prior 1 April 2011 to agree that the budget shortfall from not implementing the recommendations in the report be taken from reserves."

On a division, there voted:- <u>for the motion</u> (14) – the Convener; the Vice-Convener; and Councillors Corall, Cormie, Leslie, May, Reynolds, Robertson, Jennifer

Stewart, Kevin Stewart, Wisely and Yuill; and Mr. A. Aitken and Mr. P. Campbell; for the amendment (8) - Councillors Boulton, Collie, Cooney, Crockett, Farquharson and Laing; and Mr. G. Bruce and Mr. S. Duncan.

## The Committee resolved:-

to adopt the motion.

### **CULTURAL GRANTS 2011/12 – ECS/11/009**

**12.** The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which detailed the recommendations for the Cultural Grants process for 2011/12. The report advised that 80 applications had been received, requesting funds of £755,354.24 in total, however the report recommended awarding funding of £225,287.26 leaving £160,255.74 for the remainder of the financial year.

The report highlighted where applications had been unsuccessful and noted that each ineligible applicant would be supported by officers to re-submit their application if a second application process was available. In certain cases, the applications were recommended on a provisional basis, and were dependent on organisations providing evidence of matched funding and on the impact and sustainability of the projects. The report noted that there were a number of applications for the category C grant (over £10,000) which had been deferred to enable officers to speak to each organisation in detail prior to making a recommendation to the Committee to approve funding.

The report advised that internal applications for funding were now considered at a later date than external applications, to enable officers to have additional time to both support external applicants and to review and assess incoming applications. This also meant that officers could decide where internal applications could potentially support or work with partnership with external applicants.

Finally, the report outlined the proposed allocation of funds towards the establishment of a public art fund which would allow residents, communities, artists and cultural organisations to use public art as a key driver in developing the City. Further funds could also be allocated to supporting increased access to cultural support and training to assist organisations in applying for grants.

The report recommended that funding be awarded as follows:-

## **Appendix 1 - Cultural Grant Recommendations 2011/12**

## Category A – Under £1000

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Abardaan Chambar Music Club	Concert Series		C200
Aberdeen Chamber Music Club	Concert Series	£600.00	£300
Aberdeen Chamber Orchestra	Rehearsal & Concert Programme	£500.00	£375
Aberdeen Potters	School Garden Project with Dyce Primary	£990.00	£990
Aberdeen Writers Circle	Anthology of AWC writing, workshops and poetry competition	£950.00	£0
Dyce Gardening Club	Erection of Heritage Interpretation Boards	£961.00	£0
Fersands & Fountain Community Project	Woodside Writers Group	£1,000.00	£500
Fleeman Productions	Performance of new Doric musical & plays & development of underused venue	£1,000.00	£750
Gordon Highlanders Museum	Signatures of Remembrance	£910.00	£910
Grampian Festivals	Annual Highland Dancing Championships	£500.00	£0
Growing Rosemount	Three 'Celebrate Rosemount' Seasonal Events	£1,000.00	£0

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Learig Orchestra	Learig Orchestra	£600.00	£0
Ruthrieston Community Group	Art & Dance Summer Programme	£931.00	£931
Scottish Country Dance Festivals	Dance Festival 2012	£999.00	£0
Spring Tides Poetry Group	Poetry Group	£1,000.00	INELIGIBLE
The state of the s	Ongoing series of live music events &		
Vocoustics Promotions	performances	£1,000.00	INELIGIBLE

## Category B - £1,000 - £10,000

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Aberdeen & North East Scotland  Music Festival	Annual Music Festival	£2,500.00	£2,500
Aberdeen Centre for Environmental Sustainability, University of Aberdeen	Arts input for ACES International Conference, Aug 2011	£8,050.00	£0
Aberdeen Choral Society	General Running / 2 Concerts	£2,000.00	£0
Aberdeen Opera Company	Phantom	£10,000.00	£0

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Aberdeen Sinfonietta	Music Hall Concert Series	£6,000.00	£3,000 PROVISIONAL
Aberdeen Youth Choir	Aberdeen Youth Choir	£7,000.00	£1,500 PROVISIONAL
ACC - Bridge of Don Community Partnership	Scottish Samurai Parade	£10,000.00	£2,000 PROVISIONAL
Act 2 Youth Group	Summer Drama Project	£4,350.00	DEFERRED
AIYF	AIYF 2011 Communities Tour	£2,578.26	£2,578.26 PROVISIONAL
Aberdeen Performing Arts (APA)	New Writing Programme	£7,000.00	£0
APA/Aberdeen Arts Centre	Aberdeen City & Shire Youth Drama Festival	£6,000.00	£0
Bucksburn & District Pipe Band	2012 Concert & Workshop	£5,000.00	£0
Create Aberdeen	A Chance to Dance	£2,968.00	£2,968 PROVISIONAL
Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen	Connecting Polish people in the City with Songs & Ballads	£2,000.00	£0
Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen	Button Boxes & Moothies	£2,000.00	£0
Friends of Sunnybank Park	Park Life	£8,500.00	£0

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Growing Audiences North East (GANE)	Audience Development Service	£10,000.00	£10,000
Grampian Youth Orchestra	Spring Concert Weekend	£2,000.00	£0
Granite City Highland Dancing	GCHD Festival	£1,400.00	£1,400
Harlaw Academy/The Belmont	Light Moves	£3,705.88	£0
Huntly Art Reader	One Plus One	£2,000.00	£0
Ithcee Wasp/Banff Castle	Coast Festival	£8,859.00	£0
Jamie R Donald/SMART	100 Days of Celebrity	£2,000.00	£0
Multi Ethnic Aberdeen Limited	Cultural Xtra	£9,725.00	£0
National Trust For Scotland, Haddo House & Garden	Crime Writing Weekend	£5,000.00	£0
NEAT	Continue development of a promoters network & develop a film screening network	£7,000.00	£3,500 PROVISIONAL
North East of Scotland Music School	Development grant	£7,500.00	£3,750 PROVISIONAL
Northfield Community Band	Annual running of NCB	£4,400.00	£0

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Project Slogan	Development of programme of events &		
	education at the Gallery	£6,500.00	£0
			£1,500
Pushing Out the Boat	Issue No.11	£1,500.00	PROVISIONAL
Roaring Fire Film Production Ltd	A Thunder-Being Nation	£4,000.00	£0
Sajidah Poole	Youth Stitch In Time	£6,850.00	INELIGIBLE
	Two programmes of ballet and associated		£5,000
Scottish Ballet	educational activities	£5,000.00	PROVISIONAL
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	Series of Concerts	£2,000.00	£2,000
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	Scrapers & Tooters	£1,420.00	£1,420 PROVISIONAL
Scottish Community Drama Asso.	Annual Programme	£3,000.00	£2,500
Scottish Ensemble	Aberdeen Concert Series Year 4	£10,000.00	£6,500 PROVISIONAL
Scottish Opera	Performance & Educational Activity	£8,000.00	£4,000
Smart Consultants	Tea Cosy, Art, Craft & Design Fair	£8,350.00	£0
Smart Consultants & University of Aberdeen	Fabric of the Land 2011	£10,000.00	£0

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Tenants First Housing Co-Operative	Residency at Donside Urban Village	£10,000.00	£0
The Forecourt Art Group	50th Anniversary Exhibition Event	£1,900.00	£750 PROVISIONAL
Torry Arts Forum	Torry Art' Tuesdays	£4,300.00	£3,460
United Front	Change by Lyrics	£2,000.00	£0
WACTheatre	WAC Wednesday Development Programme	£3,450.00	£0
WEA Reach Out	Environmental Art	£10,000.00	£0
Wordfringe	New Words Festival & Development	£10,000.00	£0

## Category C - Over £10,000

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Aberdeen Arts Centre	Programme of Participatory Arts	£114,500.00	DEFERRED
APA	Youth & Community Programme	£28,000.00	DEFERRED
Creative Cultures Scotland	Programme	£20,000.00	DEFERRED

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Cultural Enterprise Office	Delivery of services	£16,000.00	DEFERRED
Jay Koh	Intercultural Café	£20,000.00	£0
Jazz Scotland	Year round jazz concerts, Aberdeen Jazz Festival	£20,000.00	DEFERRED
Limousine Bull Artists' Collective	Promote Contemporary Art in Aberdeen	£14,205.00	£14,205
Lions Club of Aberdeen	Aberdeen International Fun Day & Mela	£11,753.10	£0
Peacock Visual Arts	Artistic Programme	£15,000.00	INELIGIBLE
Royal Scottish National Orchestra	Integrated programme of music hall concerts & community outreach & educational services	£20,000.00	DEFERRED
SCAT	Core Activities	£40,000.00	DEFERRED
Scottish Ballet*	Dancing Parallel	£32,647.00	DEFERRED
Sense Scotland	Connect	£18,696.00	INELIGIBLE
Sound	Sound Festival	£16,000.00	£16,000 PROVISIONAL
Station House Media Unit	shmuSOUND	£22,370.00	DEFERRED

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Stray Dog Art	2011/12 Programme	£30,436.00	£0
University of Aberdeen	Flagship Cultural Programme	£25,000.00	DEFERRED
Wizard Festival Ltd	Wizard Festival	£20,000.00	£0

## **Other Recommendations**

Cultural Support and Training	£20,000
Internal Projects	£60,000
Public Art Fund	£50,000

## <u>Totals</u>

Total Grants Requested	£755,354.24
Total Grant Recommendation	£225,287.26
Remaining Budget	£160,255.74

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the funding as detailed in the report.

### **CULTURAL PRIORITIES 2011-15 – ECS/11/010**

13. The Committee had before it a report which outlined the portfolio of projects that were proposed to be prioritised within the Education, Culture and Sport Service for the period 2011-15. As part of this, the report highlighted those projects which required more significant investment with a more limited return, and therefore were not recommended to be prioritised within the existing capital and resource budgetary constraints. The review of projects had been undertaken with consideration of the proposed budget savings and the reduction in staff capacity to support major initiatives.

The report listed the priority projects as follows:-

- Hosting the Arts and Business awards 2011 at the Music Hall and planning the 1<sup>st</sup> Aberdeen Arts Achievement award
- The relocation of staff, museum artefacts and objects from the existing Frederick Street site, including the arts development service and staff
- Under Priority Based Budgeting, explore and recommend options towards the arms length delivery of current cultural services, in particular Museums and Galleries, and consideration of options to share or commission with neighbouring authorities
- Under Priority Based Budgeting, carry out a root and branch review of commissioned arts and sports services
- Redevelopment of Aberdeen Art Gallery
- Community Collections centre, to hold and make accessible the museums collections currently held in Frederick Street, Kittybrewster and the Art Gallery
   this could also include wider cultural collections, such as Archives and Libraries
- An appraisal of the investment required for the Beach Ballroom
- Work with Creative Scotland to consider opportunities for future investment in the City, through increasing the number of foundation funded organisations, and other initiatives such as UK City of Culture
- Deliver and plan international initiatives such as the "Lively Cities" EU funded project
- Development of a heritage policy for the City
- The development of policies to support reading and literature in the City
- A policy to support the commissioning and funding of public art
- Consideration of the options for a Heritage Centre for the City through a phased refurbishment of the Central Library
- Work with colleagues in Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure to progress the opportunities for TIF (Tax Incremental Funding) for the City Centre and on further EU funded cultural projects

Secondary projects were as follows:-

- Support for the redevelopment of the Tivoli Theatre, Torry Battery and Aberdeen Arts centre
- Support for the redevelopment of the Music Hall (subject to the full scope of the project)
- Support to Peacock Visual Arts for any proposed capital project or any other future re-homing requirements

## The report recommended:-

that elected members note and agree the contents of the report and the proposed portfolio of projects to be undertaken.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice-Convener, moved the recommendation contained in the report.

Councillor Laing, seconded by Councillor Cooney moved as an amendment:"that this Committee notes the contents of this report and the proposed portfolio of projects to be undertaken."

On a division, there voted:- <u>for the motion</u> (10) – the Convener; the Vice-Convener; and Councillors Corall, Cormie, Leslie, May, Robertson, Jennifer Stewart, Kevin Stewart and Yuill; <u>for the amendment</u> (5) - Councillors Collie, Cooney, Crockett, Farquharson and Laing; <u>declined to vote</u> (1) – Mr. G. Bruce; and <u>absent from the division</u> (6) – Councillors Boulton, Reynolds and Wisely; and Mr. A. Aitken, Mr. P. Campbell and Mr. S. Duncan.

## The Committee resolved:-

to adopt the motion.

## **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillors Cooney and Corall declared an interest in the following article by way of their position as Council representatives on Aberdeen International Youth Festival but did not consider it necessary to withdraw from the meeting.

### MARY GARDEN OPERA FUND - ECS/11/008

**14.** The Committee had before it a report which set out a proposal from the Aberdeen International Youth Festival in relation to the Mary Garden Fund to fully fund up to 5 placements for young local singers, subject to application and audition.

The report advised that £1,500 had been allocated from the Common Good Fund towards the Mary Garden Fund and the proposal was that the money be used to fund up to 5 placements which would enable young people from the City to participate in a residency with access to expert tuition and opportunities to perform during the Aberdeen International Youth Festival (AIYF). The tuition would be provided by senior Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama musicians and directors and Lisa Milne, and would allow the young people to be part of Youth Festival productions.

## The report recommended:-

that the Committee agree to endorse the AIYF proposal to use the Mary Garden Fund to support up to 5 young promising singers from Aberdeen to attend an opera residency.

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the recommendation contained in the report.

## **MOVE TO A CULTURAL TRUST – ECS/11/021**

**15.** With reference to article 2 of the Council Budget meeting of 10 February 2011, the Committee had before it a report which set out the process for implementing the decision to create a cultural trust.

It was proposed that the creation of a cultural trust would see the services and venues currently operated by Museums and Galleries and other cultural, library and community services, transferred to an arms length body. The report advised that an independent options appraisal would be required to determine the most efficient means of moving to Trust status. Part of this work would be to investigate any other viable proposals, and the appraisal would include options for future governance arrangements, including the possibility of community ownership. The report noted that there were various models for trusts which would be evaluated. The report outlined the initial cost to the Council, and noted that the sum of £250,000 had been budgeted in 2011/12 to cover the cost of externalisation, including the options appraisal and any other legal and financial work required by the Council.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

(a) instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to progress, by way of an officer working group, an options appraisal on the transfer of services to a cultural trust, and that the options appraisal (1) include consideration of which services could transfer to such a trust including the Beach Ballroom

- and (2) examine a preferred governance model, including the option of community ownership of assets;
- (b) instruct officers to report the findings of the options appraisal back to the Committee by 24 November 2011 at the latest;
- (c) instruct officers to identify the scope of the services which an independent external advisor could provide to support the options appraisal, and thereafter appoint an appropriate external adviser, subject to obtaining any relevant Committee approvals if necessary; and
- (d) instruct officers to work to achieve the hand over of the delivery of the Museums and Galleries and other services included at an agreed date prior to 31 March 2013, subject to the outcome of the options appraisal and subsequent Committee approval.

## The Committee resolved:-

- to request that the options appraisal include SWOT analysis and options for governance arrangements; and
- (ii) to approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## ROOT AND BRANCH REVIEW OF COMMISSIONED ARTS AND SPORTS SERVICES - ECS/11/011

**16.** The Committee had before it a report which detailed the proposal to review the arts and sports services currently commissioned by the Council, as part of the Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) process. Appended to the report was the business case setting out the various options submitted as part of the PBB process.

The report advised that as part of the five year business plan, there was a requirement to reduce the level of funding provided to commissioned culture and sport services. The report noted that the monitoring and reporting of commissioned services was also inconsistent at present, and there was no real measure of the impact of the Council's investment against its priorities. The review sought to support the development of consistent and relevant funding and monitoring agreements between the Council and commissioned services.

It was proposed to undertake a strategic review of each commissioned arts and sports organisation against the Council's stated priorities, led by a dedicated commissioning officer. The review would then be reported to Committee with a series of budget and development recommendations, to be considered alongside any move to a cultural trust. It was noted that as there were upwards of 40 separate bodies to be reviewed, the process could take up to two years, and therefore it was proposed meantime to have a fixed percentage reduction across all commissioned arts and sports services to meet the required savings.

The report advised that there were two alternative options which the Committee could adopt, namely, to apply a fixed percentage budget reduction with no review,

and to target specific organisations for budget reductions. Neither of these options was felt to be viable.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee agree Option 3, on page 18 of the business case, namely a full strategic review of each commissioned arts and sports service, as the preferred approach, with a five percent cut to all organisations in the first two years in order for the review to be carried out rigorously and according to Best Value requirements. The full Business Case has previously been approved at Council.

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the recommendation contained in the report.

### SPORTS GRANTS - ECS/11/012

**17.** The Committee had before it a report which detailed various applications for financial assistance from sports organisations. The report advised that the Sports Grants budget for the year 2010/11 was £69,000, and if the applications before Committee were approved there would be £310.90 remaining in the budget.

Hazlehead Gold Club (Ladies Section) had submitted an application for funding of £500 in relation to the Annual County Open Meeting which brought together members from clubs in Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. The application for funding covered the discount of green fees to £10 per player, covering entries for 55 players. It was noted that since the application, officers had been advised by the Club that the actual required amount was £420 and this was the level of funding recommended in the report.

Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association had submitted an application for £10,000 to extend and improve the ongoing indoor and outdoor programmes run by the Association. This would allow the programmes to be introduced into the majority of the city's secondary schools, and would also provide over 100 pupils with the opportunity to take part in an outdoor programme of a 10 week training block on the River Dee.

Active Schools – Aberdeen City had applied for funding of £1,000 to provide branded clothing to S4 to S6 pupils currently volunteering with the Active Schools initiative. It was hoped that this would provide a reward to committed volunteers and promote the profile of Active Schools to increase the awareness of volunteering throughout each school.

Scottish Ballet had applied for £32,647 to support a cultural Olympiad project aimed at combining cultural and sporting disciplines. The project aimed to take 50 young people from regeneration areas in the city and bring them together with an English based group, selected by English National Ballet, to provide 2 weeks of training in

both Parkour and dance in Aberdeen and London. The collaboration would also lead to the creation of a film to be shown at various ballet performances throughout the country.

Aberdeen Physically Disabled Swimming had applied for £1,000 to support the delivery of their programme which gave physically disabled people access to swimming in a safe and secure environment. The application for funding was in relation to increased pool hire costs following the closure of the Linksfield swimming pool.

Aberdeen Grammar School Former Pupil Netball had applied for £500 towards the ongoing costs of the team, including equipment and facility hire.

Camanachd Association had applied for £2,000. The report advised that this year marked the 150th anniversary of the Aberdeen University Shinty Club, and to mark the occasion, the Camanachd Association was to bring the Sutherland Cup Final to the city. The funding was to run a series of youth coaching sessions which would culminate in a local shinty festival on the day of the Cup Final.

Netball Scotland had submitted an application for £3,170 to support the hosting of an international test match series in Aberdeen.

## The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to award funding of £420 to Hazlehead Golf Club Ladies Section;
- (ii) to award funding of £10,000 to Aberdeen Schools Rowing Association;
- (iii) to award funding of £1,000 to Active Schools Aberdeen City;
- (iv) to award funding of £7,870 to Scottish Ballet;
- (v) to award funding of £1,000 to Aberdeen Physically Disabled Swimming Club;
- (vi) to award funding of £500 to Aberdeen Grammar School Former Pupil Netball:
- (vii) to award funding of £2,000 to Camanachd Association; and
- (viii) to award funding of £3,170 to Netball Scotland.

### **BOOKINGS AND LETTINGS REVIEW – PROGRESS REPORT – ECS/11/017**

**18.** With reference to article 11 of the minute of its meeting of 20 January 2011, the Committee had before it a report which provided an update on the progress of the implementation of the bookings and lettings review; presented proposals to revise staffing arrangements for evening and weekend lets; and set out proposals to revise letting charges from August 2011.

The report advised that following the difficulties experienced in the previous year with applications for lets, earlier application deadlines had been set to ensure that all lets were processed in time for the new lettings period commencing in August 2011.

Following consideration of various options, it was proposed that staffing arrangements for evening and weekend lets utilise the newly created posts of Facility Support Assistants. The report advised that staff and trade unions had not been supportive of the new proposals and that further meetings would be held by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure officers in April and May with the hope of progressing the matter.

The report also noted that it was considered good practice to increase charges by a small amount each year, rather than to have larger increases on a less frequent basis, and therefore the report recommended an increase of 4% in lettings charges. The proposed revised core lettings charges for 2011/12 were appended to the report.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

- (a) note the progress being made in implementing the bookings and lettings review;
- (b) approve the principle of implementing new staffing arrangements for evenings and weekends lets, subject to the outcome of detailed engagement with staff and trade unions by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure; and
- (c) approve increases in charges for lets for educational establishments of an average of 4%.

The Convener, seconded by the Vice-Convener, moved the recommendations contained in the report.

Councillor Laing, seconded by Councillor Cooney, moved as an amendment, that the Committee:-

- (a) note the progress being made in implementing the bookings and lettings review; and
- (b) defer the principle of implementing new staffing arrangements for evenings and weekend lets, subject to the outcome of detailed engagement of staff and trade unions by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure.

On a division, there voted:- <u>for the motion</u> (10) – the Convener; the Vice Convener; and Councillors Corall, Cormie, Leslie, May, Robertson, Jennifer Stewart, Kevin Stewart and Yuill; <u>for the amendment</u> (5) - Councillors Collie, Cooney, Crockett and Laing; and Mr. G. Bruce; <u>absent from the division</u> (7) – Councillors Boulton, Farquharson, Reynolds and Wisely; and Mr A. Aitken, Mr P Campbell and Mr S Duncan.

### The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to adopt the motion; and
- (ii) to refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee, in order for the income generation aspect of the proposals to be approved.

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL AND SPORTSCOTLAND - ECS/11/013

**19.** The Committee had before it a report which detailed the proposed initiatives to be funded by **sport**scotland through a four year partnership agreement with the Council.

The report advised that **sport**scotland had made £53,643 of funding available each year until 2015 to support the development of community sports hubs in Aberdeen. The hubs would be based out of a specific location, providing a home for local clubs and sports organisations as well as support and advice on a wide range of sport and physical activities. The partnership agreement also set out the national objective for the Active Schools network for 2011-15 and noted how this would be achieved by Aberdeen City Council, Sport Aberdeen and other key partners.

Funding for the Active Schools programme and staff was provided jointly by **sport**scotland and the Council. The Council would contribute £681,401.23 over the period of the agreement.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee approves the 2011-15 year partnership and investment agreement with **sport**scotland, with the investment of £1,611,372 over five years.

## The Committee resolved:-

to approve the recommendation contained in the report.

## **EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT PERFORMANCE REPORT – ECS/11/016**

**20.** The Committee had before it a report by the Director of Education, Culture and Sport which provided a summary of performance data to January 2011 for the Directorate. This was set against the key priorities in the Education, Culture and Sport interim service plan 2010-13.

Appended to the report were the service plan and balanced scorecard showing performance against key indicators in the quadrants of management of resources, impact, business processes and organisational learning and development; a document detailing Beach Ballroom satisfaction ratings from the 2010 Christmas period; a document on adult learning provision through Aberdeen City Council Community Learning and Development for the period September to December 2010; a report on the central street work youth project; and the 2009-10 Aberdeen City Council School Leaver Destination report from Skills Development Scotland.

## The report recommended:-

that Committee:-

- (a) approve the service performance report for January 2011; and
- (b) approve the progress against actions as set out in the Education, Culture and Sport service plan.

## The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to note the proposal to hold a members' seminar on the virtual campus and to request that a report also be presented on this issue to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee of 2 June 2011;
- (ii) to request that officers provide members with the detail of the take-up numbers for the virtual campus once the figures were available; and
- (iii) to otherwise approve the recommendations contained in the report.

## **COMMITTEE BUSINESS STATEMENT**

**21.** The Committee had before it a statement of Committee business prepared by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

## The Committee resolved:-

- to remove item 2, part (ii) (Single Management Structure at Torry and Kincorth Academies) as a report on this matter had been considered earlier on the agenda;
- (ii) to remove item 7 (Kaimhill to Braeside Decant) as the new school was due to open on 20 April 2011; and
- (iii) to note the other updates as provided on the business statement.

### **MOTIONS LIST**

**22.** The Committee had before it a motions list prepared by the Head of Legal and Democratic Services.

## The Committee resolved:-

to remove Councillor Graham's motion in relation to floodlighting at Manor Walk pitch from the motions list as the motion had now been discharged.

#### **EXEMPT INFORMATION**

In terms of article 1, the following item of business was considered with the Press and public excluded.

# EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE 24 March, 2011

# BELMONT MEDIA CENTRE - EXTENDED PROCUREMENT PROCESS - ECS/11/025

23. The Committee had before it a report which provided information in respect of a further required contract extension in relation to the Belmont Media Centre, as set out in Standing Order 10 of the procurement standing orders.

#### The report recommended:-

that the Committee sanction the further extension to the Council's current contract extension for the operation of the Belmont Media Centre until Thursday 26 May 2011.

#### The Committee resolved:-

- (i) to request that officers email all Committee members prior to the next meeting to provide an update on progress; and
- (ii) to approve the recommendation contained in the report.
- CALLUM MCCAIG, Convener.

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# Agenda Item 4.1

### Motion by Councillor Boulton

"That Aberdeen City Council writes to Mike Russell, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, asking for a review of 'The Parent's Charter'." 23/02/11. At its meeting of 24 March 2011, the Committee requested a background report to include references to school transport costs. Head of Schools and Educational Establishments 2/6/11

Education, Culture and Sport has undertaken to answer the following in respect of the above motion.

- 1) A Summary of the current policy, to include reference to the relevant legislation
- 2) A Summary of the current position in school session 2010-11, to include the number of requests received, number accommodated, number refused, number of appeals (successful and unsuccessful) and an indication of the general trends.
- 3) Transport Costs statement of position regarding costs of providing transport as a result of placing requests.

#### School Placements - Current Term 2010-2011

### 1) A Summary of the current policy, to include reference to the relevant legislation

#### Placing Requests/Out of Zone Admissions

Placing requests may only be made for children who are of school age or eligible to attend school because they will be five by the February cut-off date.

Parents have a right (with no obligation to give reasons, although these allow the request to be prioritised) to make a request to the Education Service to have his/her child enrolled in the school of his/her choice. A young person (ie someone over school age but less than eighteen years of age) has the same rights relating to Placing Requests in place of his/her parents. This right can be exercised at any time and not just at the time of admission to school or transfer from one school to another.

Except for the transition between primary and secondary school when transfer schedules apply, parents should make a placing request if their child is in attendance at a school outwith the zone in which they live and they wish the child to attend the zoned school. There is no guarantee that siblings of children attending a primary school for which they are not zoned will be granted a place at that school (see criteria 2).

Placing request forms can be found on the Council's website <a href="www.aberdeencity.gov.uk">www.aberdeencity.gov.uk</a>. Completed forms can be returned by email to: <a href="schoolplacings@aberdeencity.gov.uk">school Placing Request (SPR)</a> Forms can also be obtained from any school, or contact 01224 522753 or 01224 522609.

Guidelines for Placing Requests for children and young people with additional support needs can be found in the ASL Implementation Guide. Copies of this Guide are available in all schools. Placing request forms should be submitted to the Head of Schools and Educational Establishments. (see contacts page 44).

Information provided in all written placing requests will be thoroughly checked for accuracy including validating the parental address.

Where a school's capacity is likely to be exceeded, the following list of priorities will be applied in granting places.

#### 1 Residence within Zone

This applies to children who:

- (a) move into a zone after 15 March in a given year; and
- (b) are already in the zone but not attending their zoned school.

#### 2 Family

Where either an older brother or a sister is already in attendance at the specified school, and will be in continuing education at the school at the time of admission.

#### 3 Childcare

Where parent(s) are working and have to transport the child outwith the school zone in which they are resident in order that the child can be cared for by a responsible adult other than their parents outwith normal school hours (that is, at the beginning and end of the school day). This must be on the basis that there is existing, ongoing childcare in the zone relating to the school applied for at the time of application and the name and address of the carer can be verified as a bona fide carer or childminder.

#### 4 Others

Where none of the above applies e.g friendship groups, transport arrangements, and family employment circumstances, precedence is given to pupils within each priority who are ordinarily resident within the zone

of a school that lies within the boundaries of the city. Ranking within a priority grouping will be on the basis of direct distance between home (ordinary place of residence) and school, except where the parents of a child living within zone have to apply for a place in the school as they fall into the categories indicated in 1 (a) or 1 (b) above. Here, precedence will be determined by the date of taking up ordinary residence in the zone.

The above guidelines will normally apply. However, placing requests may be granted where exceptional circumstances exist.

### Placing request decisions

The Authority is bound by legislation to inform a parent in writing of its decision on the placing request within statutory timescales. This is currently 2 months from the date that the request is received. Where the Authority decides to refuse the request, it must give written reasons for its decision and inform the parent of his/her right to refer the matter to an appeals committee.

If the decision is not made within the statutory timescales it is deemed to have been refused and the parent has the right to refer the deemed refusal to an appeals committee.

Where a place is granted parents will receive a letter directly from the school and should reply accepting or declining the place within fourteen days. When no reply is received within fourteen days a further letter will be issued with a final seven days to reply, after which the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

When accepting a place, parents should immediately notify their zoned school in writing to inform them that they will not be taking up their place in August of that year.

#### Placing request timescales

Where the application is for entry in August the Authority is required to give an answer to the placing requests received by the 15 March by the 30<sup>th</sup> April. In cases where the time of entry requested is other than August, the Authority has two months to give a decision from the date of the request. In each case, if the parent has not received a decision within the timescale above the placing request is deemed to have been refused.

All placing requests made on or after 16 March, for admission in August of that year will be considered and decided after the requests made before 15 March have been decided and notified.

#### Reasons for placing request refusals

The legislation states that the Authority can refuse a placing request in terms of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 as amended, if placing the child in a requested school would:

- make it necessary for the Authority to take an additional teacher into employment;
- give rise to significant expenditure on extending, or otherwise altering, the accommodation at, or facilities provided in connection with, the school;
- be seriously detrimental to the continuity of the child's education;
- be likely to be seriously detrimental to order and discipline in the school;
- be likely to be seriously detrimental to the educational well-being of the pupils attending the school;
- assuming that pupil numbers remain constant, make it necessary at the commencement of a future stage of the child's primary education, for the Authority to elect either to create an additional class (or an additional composite class) in the specified school or to take an additional teacher into employment at that school; and
- even if neither of the tests set out in sub-paragraphs 1 and 2 above is satisfied, have the consequence that the capacity of the school would be exceeded in terms of pupil numbers.

#### Reasons for placing request refusals cont.d/..

The Authority may also refuse a placing request if:

- the education normally provided at the specified school is not suited to the age, ability or aptitude of the child;
- the Authority has already required the child to discontinue his/her attendance at the specified school;
- the specified school is a special school, the child does not have additional support needs requiring the special educational facilities normally provided at the school.

The Education (Scotland) Act 1980 as amended allows Authorities to reserve places in certain schools if it anticipates those places will be required for families moving into an area. At the time of publication this applies only to specified secondary and primary schools.

#### Appealing against a decision

Parents have the right to appeal against refusals and deemed refusals of placing requests. Appeals should be lodged within 28 days of receipt of the letter of refusal or the timescale for making a decision has expired. Parents should bear in mind the following:

- they cannot appeal against the refusal of a place in a nursery class;
- they can only appeal once a year for each of your children;
- they should lodge the appeal no later than 28 days after you receive the Authority's letter of refusal or the timescale for making a decision has expired; and
- they can only appeal against refusal or deemed refusal of a place in your first choice school, if you have submitted a Placing Request in relation to more than one school.

### Lodging an appeal

Appeals can be made by sending a letter of appeal to the Director of Corporate Governance (Placing Request Appeal) Town House, Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10 1AQ giving the child's full name, the school you wish him/her to attend and your reasons for appealing against the decision.

#### **Consideration of Appeals**

Appeals against placing refusals are heard by an Appeals Committee, which comprises members of the Council and external members with experience of education in the city.

Further details on appeals can be obtained from calling (01224) 522753 and requesting a Choosing A School booklet produced by The Scottish Government this document is also available on the Scottish Government website: www.scotland.gov.uk

2) A Summary of the current position in school session 2010-11, to include the number of requests received, number accommodated, number refused, number of appeals (successful and unsuccessful) and an indication of the general trends.

As of 7 May 2011, the current term 2010-2011, there has been 2052 Placing Requests Received. Number of Parents who appealed was 46.

### Placing Requests Received for Current Term 2010-2011

Status of Applications	No.'s of Applications
Accepted	1436
Offered but declined	169
Refused	273
Withdrawn	74
Late Applications – still pending	100 (of these 58 are in zone awaiting a place, 30 applications for Primary and 28 Applications for Secondary. )
TOTAL	2052

### **Appeals Received for Current Term 2010-2011**

Status of Appeal	Nos. of Appeals
Appeals Refused	13
Appeals Upheld	2
Appeals – Offered before Appeal	29
Appeals – Withdrawn	2
Total	46

## Breakdown of Placing Requests Received for Current Term 2010-2011

Breakdown of Placing Requests – Term 2010-2011	
Priority 1 – Families moved in zone	436
Priority 2 – Older Sibling already attending school applied for	277
Priority 3 – Childcare – Where parents are working and have to transport the child	107
ouwith the school zone in which they are resident. Childcare current and ongoing.	
Priority 4 – Other reasons (see separate list)	1231
Total	2052

#### Breakdown of Placing Requests Received for Current Term 2010-2011

#### **Trends found in Priority 4 - Others**

1.	Friendship
2.	Preferred school
3.	Transport
4.	Near parents work
5.	Family looking to move to area
6.	Child unhappy at current school/ claims of child being bullied
7.	Expect better education
8.	Subject choices (Senior Students)
9.	Where parents have claimed childcare, however childcare found to be
	not current or non existing.

# 3) Transport Costs - statement of position regarding costs of providing transport as a result of placing requests.

Secondary School – Only children who applied for Cults Academy were given transport help, as the local authority were unable to place them at zoned school.

#### **Transport**

The Authority provides free school transport in the following situations:

- where a child is enrolled in his/her zoned primary school, and lives two miles or more from that school.
- where a child is enrolled at his/her zoned secondary school, and lives three or more miles from that school.

The only exceptions to this policy are:

- where a child lives less than the prescribed distance from his/her zoned school (that is, less than the
  two or three miles indicated above) but cannot reach that school either by an available transport
  service or by an available safe walking route accompanied if necessary by an adult.
- where a child lives less than the prescribed distance from his/her zoned primary or secondary school (that is, less than the two or three miles indicated above), does not have access to a transport service, and is unable to walk the prescribed safe route due to his/her own medical condition or to the medical condition of the adult who would normally accompany him/her on the walking route to school.

The Authority will take expert advice from qualified road safety practitioners and Family General Practitioner or School Medical staff, as appropriate before any final decision to support a request is made.

 where a child lives less than the prescribed (two or three miles) from his/her zoned school on the Contract (ie School) Bus route to that school, and there exist(s) space(s) on the existing Contract (ie School) Bus Service. In such cases, a child may be granted free transport on a privilege basis, only for as long as there is a space and it is not required by an entitled child.

It is at the discretion of the Authority whether or not to grant free transport for children who are accepted for an out of zone school. Only in exceptional circumstances (such as medical reasons) will the Authority exercise this discretion. Where the Local Authority has placed a child in a school which is not his/her zoned school, transport will be provided to the school if it is more than two miles from the address at which the child is ordinarily resident (primary) or more than three miles (secondary).

Free transport may be provided in various ways, either by the provision of season tickets on buses or trains or by direct provision of contract transport from the permanent home address to the school. The Authority does not guarantee to provide door to door transport.

Requests for transport where children have medical problems or where problems of safety arise, an approach by the parent to the Head of Service, If free transport is approved, a copy of the Transport Handbook for Parents, Guardians & Children will be sent to the address stated on the transport application.

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# Agenda Item 4.2

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Education, Culture and Sport

DATE: **2**<sup>nd</sup> **June 2011** 

DIRECTOR: Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT: Parent Involvement in Education – Inclusion of a

parent representative on the committee responsible for education services.

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/036

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update members of the committee about the progress made following Councillor Cormack's original motion made to the Policy and Strategy (Education) Committee on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009 and a number of subsequent reports which outlined activities to support and involve parents in their children's education; the development of the parental involvement strategy; the establishment of parent council's in each school and the Aberdeen City Parent Forum.

The Aberdeen City Parent Forum is now well established. It consists of twenty-four representatives, two drawn from each associated schools group (ASG). The forum has established its terms of reference, office bearers and has been fulfilling its representative role.

The committee (Nov 2009) instructed officers to bring back a report on the issues and changes necessary to allow parent representation on the Education, Culture and Sports Committee. At that time the newly established forum was of the view that it needed to establish itself more fully before taking on additional roles. Officers were asked to continue to liaise with the forum over this specific matter and report back to the committee at an appropriate time in the future.

The members of the forum are now of the view that they have the structures and support in place to enable them to appropriately represent the views of parents in the city and are requesting that Committee reconsider Councillor Cormack's notice of motion 'to promote further and continue to develop parental, guardian and carers involvement in the Council's decision making process and that a report is therefore produced with recommendations for including parents in the work of the main council committee with education responsibilities, relevant subcommittees and consultation processes.'

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the committee

- (i) acknowledge the progress made by the Aberdeen Parent Council Forum to establish its terms of reference and to effectively represent the views of the parent councils in local authority schools in the city; and
- (ii) request that officers prepare a report for the next cycle to enable the council to consider the most appropriate ways to including parents in the work of the main council committee with education responsibilities, relevant subcommittees and consultation processes. The report should include the following:
  - arrangements in other Scottish local authorities;
  - the implications of a voting/non-voting options for members taking account of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 Act;
  - outline the mechanism that the forum propose to take to appoint the parent representative,
  - detail any changes that may be needed to the committee composition should committee agree to a parent representative; and
  - provide advice on the formal processes required to secure a change in committee representation.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

#### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There may be implications for legal and democratic services as a result of this report. The council is currently required to have the 3 church representatives on the committee by virtue of the legislation, and the two teacher reps by virtue of the standing orders (this being at the discretion of each local authority). A decision to appoint a parent representative may require a change to standing orders.

#### 5. BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 requires Scottish Ministers and education authorities to promote the involvement of parents in children's education at publicly funded schools. The purpose of the act is to help all parents to be:
  - involved with their child's education and learning;
  - welcomed as active participants in the life of the school;
  - work in partnership with the school; and

- encourage them to express their views on school education more generally.
- 5.2 Committee approved the parent involvement strategy and action plan on the 2nd September 2009 and supported the development of parent forum and parent council in all local schools.
- 5.3 All parents are automatically members of the parent forum at their child's school. As a member of the parent forum they are encouraged to support events and activities at the school and to get involved in their child's learning. Each forum is encouraged to set up a parent council. They are expected to work in partnership with pupils, the head teacher and the local authority in the interests of their school.

The role of a parent council is to:

- support the school in its work with pupils;
- represent the views of all parents;
- encourage links between the school, parents, pupils, pre-school groups and the wider community; and
- report back to all the parents in the school (Parent Forum).
- 5.4 The authority also arranges meetings once a term with the parent council of all mainstream and special schools in the city. These meetings provide an opportunity for the authority to communicate effectively with all parent councils; allow us to identify parent council support and training needs; and enable us to engage in discussions with parents on city wide strategic issues. Parent councils have a small operating budget, have been given city council group wise email access to improve communication systems and are offered regular support and training.
- 5.5 Councillor Cormack submitted a motion to Policy and Strategy (Education)
  Committee 28 April 2009 asking the committee to consider the involvement
  of a parent representative on the committee with education responsibility.
  The agreed motion was as follows:
  - 'That this council agrees to promote further and continue to develop parental, guardian and carers involvement in the Council decision making process and that a report is therefore produced with recommendations for including parents in the work of the main council committee with education responsibilities, relevant subcommittees and consultation processes.'
- 5.6 As parents are customers of the education services in the city the committee were minded to consider the motion. As a result of our involvement in the Scottish Parent Involvement Officer Network meeting we are aware that other local authorities are exploring ways to involve parents in decisions about education services however at that point there were limited examples that representative arrangements had been established. They requested that officers continue to support the involvement of a city wide representative group which could eventually have effective systems in

- place to represent the wide views of all parents. They requested that officers bring back reports on a regular basis to advise the committee of progress.
- 5.7 The Aberdeen City Parent Forum was established with two representatives from each associated schools group (ASG). The forum has been meeting regularly. It has established its terms of reference, office bearers and has been fulfilling its representative and communication role effectively with all parent councils.

#### 6. IMPACT

- 6.1 Corporate Developing and implementing ways of further enhancing parent involvement helps to support community engagement with local communities and to develop a strong partnership with parents. The new forum is a substantial development for enhancing "voice" of a key stakeholder group within Aberdeen.
- 6.2 Public This report will be of interest to the general public but particularly parents, guardians and carers who have children of school age.

#### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (i) Policy & Strategy (Education) Committee Report September 2008 (The Parental Involvement Strategy)
- (ii) Education, Culture & Sport Committee Report May, 2009
- (iii) Policy & Strategy (Education) Committee Report June 2009 (The Background Report)
- (iv) Education, Culture & Sport Committee Report November, 2009
- (v) Education Culture and Sport Committee November 2010.
- (vi) The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006
- (vii) The Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973

#### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Sheila Sansbury Service Manager (Families and Vulnerable Learners) ssansbury@aberdeencity.gov.uk 01224 523882

# Agenda Item 5.1

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure

DATE: 24<sup>th</sup> May 2011

DIRECTOR: Gordon McIntosh

TITLE OF REPORT: School Catering Services – Meal Price Increase

REPORT NUMBER: EPI/11/165

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for officers within Facilities Management Services to apply an annual increase to the price of both Primary and Secondary School meals, as necessary.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee

- a) approve an increase in the price of a School meal by 10 pence per meal from August 2011.
- b) delegate power to the Head of Asset Management and Operations to determine and apply increases in future years meal prices as necessary, to reflect budget decisions, increased costs etc. subject to the charges being benchmarked with other comparable authorities.
- c) refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee of 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011 for final approval to apply any increases and to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 2 June, 2011, for information.
- d) that the final decision of the Finance and Resources Committee be communicated to parents through each school.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The School Catering Services budget was removed from a trading account last year and the budget now sits within Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure. As with all budgets it is important that expenditure costs and income are balanced to remove potential subsidies for the provision of the service. By allowing annual review of the service provision taking into account inflation, costs of supplies, services and staffing costs will ensure that a balanced budget is maintained.

It should be recognised that the provision of a free school meal to pupils whose parents meet the eligibility criteria, is something that we have to provide under Scottish Government statute. The cost to the Council for this provision in financial year 2010/2011 was £692,219, this cost being recouped by Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure from Education, Culture & Sport. With the 10 pence increase applied, at the current level of free school meal uptake, this will have an approximate impact of a further £35,000 per annum on Education, Culture & Sport's budget.

#### 4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

It is recognised that the impact of these increases will be an additional burden to the parents of pupils, but by keeping the proposed level of increase in a daily meal ticket to ten pence per day, or fifty pence per week, the increase is kept in line with other authorities across the country. Implementation will be from the start of the new school term in August.

Headteachers and Facilities Management staff, through ongoing contact with parents, will ensure that any child eligible to be in receipt of free school meals will continue to do so.

#### OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

#### REPORT

#### 6.1 Background

- 6.1.1 At the Full Council meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008, approval was given for an increase of fifteen pence to be applied to the cost of a School meal, with this being applied from the beginning of financial year 2008/2009. The increase was set at fifteen pence per meal; this increase was to cover the increased cost in the supply of meals, with the increase in income being estimated to be in the region of £150,000 per annum. However this increase was only applied in August 2010, at the beginning of the present School Academic year.
- 6.1.2 The price of a School meal has risen relatively slowly over the course of the last five years as indicated in the table below:

	School Meal Price				
	2006 2007 2008 2009 2010				2010
Primary	£1.60	£1.70	£1.70	£1.70	£1.85
Secondary	£1.85	£1.95	£1.95	£1.95	£2.10

- 6.1.3 School Catering Services budget for financial year 2010/2011 was overspent to the tune of £428,000. This overspend can be attributed to a number of factors:
  - Post EP&M staffing cost increases
  - Increased food supply costs
  - Increased food delivery costs
  - Free School meal provision
- 6.1.4 The School Catering Budget is broken down into three elements:
  - Staffing Costs (66% of total expenditure)
  - Supplies and Services (34% of total expenditure)
  - Income

While it is envisaged that staffing costs will remain fairly static, other than allowing for incremental progression, supplies and services costs are increasing at a rate of approximately 2% at present with forecasts from Scotland Excel of a possible 7% increase by this summer, the proposed increase of 10 pence per meal is to cover the expected increased costs in production.

### 6.2 Applying Increases

- 6.2.1 Increases would be applied at the commencement of a School Academic year, typically in mid August. This would mean that the impact of an increase would not be felt for the whole financial year. It would, however, seem a sensible time to apply increases and would allow for production and distribution of new meal tickets to be undertaken during the summer holiday period.
- 6.2.2 A review of the ongoing service delivery would be carried out on an annual basis prior to any decision being taken; an increase in the price of a school meal would only be applied if further increases in expenditure stopped the delivery of a balanced budget. A thorough review of alternatives to increasing costs will be undertaken at this time to identify ways of reducing meal production costs and developing other income streams.
- 6.2.3 Any future increases which are applied under delegated powers will be communicated to Committee via the information bulletin.
- 7 REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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#### 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

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# Agenda Item 6.1

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Education, Culture and Sport

DATE: **2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011** 

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Update on Progress with Implementation of

**Priority Based Budgeting Transformation Options** 

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/031

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report updates members of the Committee on implementation of the service transformation options and service options relating to potential external delivery, outlining the work in progress to deliver the required savings as remitted at the Council Budget Meeting of 10 February 2011.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that members of the Committee:

- 2.1 Note the progress to date on implementing the service transformation options and service options relating to potential external delivery required to deliver the identified savings and:
- 2.2 Request an update on continued progress to the Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The successful implementation of the transformation changes outlined in this report contributes to the delivery of a balanced 2011/12 budget and the remainder of the Five Year Business Plan period to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.
- 3.2 The transformation project savings profile for Priority Based budget options deliverable under the Five Year Business Plan for the Directorate are detailed in the table over:

Education, Culture and Sport Transformation Options Savings in £000, Figures in brackets () indicate a saving, figures without brackets indicate a cost						
J	Year 1 (2011/12)	Year 2 (2012/13)	Year 3 (2013/14)	Year 4 (2014/1 5)	Year 5 (2015/16)	5 year total
Gross saving	(2,174)	(3,988)	(4,884)	(5,589)	(7,724)	(24,359)
Implementation costs	590	1,060	70	80	1,406	3,006
Centralisation of redundancy costs	(200)					
Net Annual Saving	(1,784)	(2,928)	(4,814)	(5,509)	(6,318)	(21,353)

#### 4. BACKGROUND / MAIN ISSUES

- 4.1 The Council meetings of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010 and 10<sup>th</sup> February 2011, approved a package of service options from the Education, Culture and Sport budget of £50.3M by the end of March 2016. The transformation element of these service options totals £21.3M deliverable over the five year period of the current Business Plan from 2011 2016. A saving of £1.8M for transformation projects is deliverable in Year 1, 2011 -12.
- 4.2 The Education, Culture and Sport transformation projects are:
  - ECS\_C1 Integrated Communities Team Service, Revised Option
     ECS\_C26 Reduce the number of Out of Authority Placements by
    - redesign and small addition to existing local services. The delivery of this project is shared with Social Care and Wellbeing.
  - ECS C3 Move to a Cultural Trust
  - ECS\_E11 Redesign of senior secondary school towards a Virtual City Campus
  - ECS\_C17 To develop a joint Educational Psychology Service with neighbouring authorities.
  - ECS C25 Potential shared services with other local authorities

Two projects that appear as Efficiency Savings are also included in this report as they have the potential to relate to external delivery models subject to the outcome of an options appraisal process approved at the March 2011 meeting of this committee. These are:

- ECS\_C22 Contract Out Non-Staff and Non-School Catering at Beach Ballroom and Art Gallery
- ECS\_C10 Root and Branch Review of Commissioned Arts and Sports Services
- 4.3 It should be noted that there are potential synergies across the projects and officers are working to make the necessary connections, optimise the potential for savings and minimise risks.

- 4.4 Of the 8 transformation projects which are the subject of this report, 3 are required to deliver savings in Year 1. These are:
  - The Integrated Communities Team Service, Revised Option delivering £1.6M net savings;
  - Reduce the number of Out of Authority Placements by redesign and small addition to existing local services delivering net savings of £470K; and,
  - Root and Branch Review of Commissioned Arts and Sports Services, delivering £64K net savings.
- 4.5 The update on delivery of savings for each transformation option is detailed below.

# 4.5.1 Integrated Communities Team Service, Revised Option

2 key strands of work are well underway. These are:

- (i) Move of all citywide community centres to leased centre status. Consultation is ongoing with Community Learning and Development Centre Management Committees and a city-wide consortium of centres has been established. Advanced work on legal documentation is also progressing.
- (ii) Revised structure for Integrated Communities Team. A number of staff are leaving the organisation and working their notice period and work is underway on appointments under the approved structure.

Full savings of £2.4M per annum are required to be delivered from Year 2 onwards.

# 4.5.2 Reduce the number of Out of Authority Placements by redesign and small addition to existing local services.

A joint Education, Culture and Sport and Social Care and Wellbeing group has agreed revised criteria for out of authority placements and is conducting rigorous case reviews to make decisions on children and young people who are currently in provision out of the City. Linkages to shared service provision are under consideration. Delivery of £470K savings is required in Year 1 from the Education, Culture and Sport budget with additional savings from Social Care and Wellbeing.

# 4.5.3 Move to a Cultural Trust / Contract Out Non-Staff and Non-School Catering at Beach Ballroom and Art Gallery

Following approval to progress to an initial options appraisal made at March 2011 Education, Culture and Sport Committee, initial investigations are underway on how best to procure individual expert advice on services to be included in the scope of the options appraisal. Implementation costs of £250K are to be incurred in Year 1 and savings of £144K are required to be delivered in Year 3.

The move to a Cultural Trust also incorporates the project to Contract Out Non-Staff and Non-School Catering at Beach Ballroom and Art Gallery

(C22) on the basis that the options appraisal process for the Cultural Trust will also need to address the possible inclusion of the non-staff and non-school catering service. The delivery of savings for C22 is required from Year 2 onwards.

4.5.4 Redesign of senior secondary school towards a Virtual City Campus In school session 2011-12, approximately 15 additional Advanced Higher courses will be delivered in 2 city-centre secondary schools to which students from across the City can gain access. This is in addition to the existing provision in secondary schools. The courses will cover a wide range of curricular areas and will significantly increase student choice. This development should reduce staffing requirements and provide economies of scale by increasing student numbers in each class. This is a trial year which will inform future developments in subsequent years. Work is also ongoing with Shetland Islands Council to achieve shared course development.

In the longer term, developments include further expanding student curricular choice, broadening the type of learning opportunities to include Highers and vocational qualifications, links with other Local Authorities and use of Information and Communication Technology to enhance learning and potentially reduce staffing costs. Delivery is required by Year 3.

# 4.5.5 To develop a joint Educational Psychology Service with neighbouring authorities

Building upon existing working relationships and initiating potential new partnerships, officers are progressing discussions and exploring the potential for inclusion as part of the project for potential shared services with other local authorities, (C25). Delivery is required by Year 3.

#### 4.5.6 Potential shared services with other local authorities

Research is being undertaken including case studies of shared services elsewhere in the UK. Initial scoping has been undertaken and further developmental discussions are required with a range of potential partners examining the range of services and service delivery models that could potentially drive out savings of £450K for delivery by Year 2.

At the March 2010 meeting of this Committee, officers were instructed to progress the above review. This will take place over the next two financial years, from April 2011 to March 2013. The appointment of a fixed term post of Commissioning Officer was also approved and having been scoped and evaluated, is currently being advertised internally as a secondment. The review process will commence in detail following the appointment, and in line with the delivery plan, recommendations will be brought before the appropriate committee to action prior to the 2013/14 financial year. Required budget savings for this period will be met by applying a fixed percentage reduction to each commissioned service. Delivery of £64,000 net savings are required in Year 1 from the Root and Branch Review and partners have been advised of the decrease in

funding allocations agreed by Committee. This project links with the project on the options appraisal for the Cultural Trust/Outsourcing non staff and school catering (C3 and C22).

### 5. IMPACT

- 5.1 The Education, Culture and Sport Directorate delivers a wide range of services so that people can take part in learning, sport and cultural activities including early years services, schools, libraries, museums, community and leisure centres. A sound education opens doors, not just to positive employment opportunities, but also to the enjoyment of art and culture and the stretching of imaginations and horizons. It provides information to enable children, young people and adults to make informed lifestyle choices about, for example, their health and about their journey through life and work.
- 5.2 The Directorate has developed ten strategic priorities that encompass the service's activities and initiatives. These achieve the Council's key strategic objectives and are reflective of the national priorities set by the Scottish Government. Underpinning all of these priority themes are the objectives to improve attainment and achievement for all our learners and to close the gaps in learning, participation and employment outcomes that exist within the City. The strategic objectives link to the transformation options as detailed in the following table.

Directorate Strategic Objective	Transformation Option
1. Curriculum for Excellence	C1, C26, E11,C25, C17
Fit for Purpose Schools/Learning     Centres	C1, C3, E11,C25
3. Learning in the wider community	C1, C3, C25, C10
4. Technology	E11, C10, C25
5. Health and wellbeing	C1, C10, C26, C17, C22
6. Engagement in arts, culture and heritage	C1, C3, C10
7. Helping those with different needs	C1, C26, C3, E11, E17, C25, C10
8. Better Performing/Value for Money	C1, C26, C3, C10, E11, C17, C22, C25
9. Skilled and Trained Staff	C1, C3, E11, C17
10. Working together	C1, C10, C22, C26, C3, E11, C17, C25

5.3 The implications and risks of each of the transformation savings options have already been identified in the development of the respective business cases and are being addressed as part of the delivery of the saving. All priority based budgeting savings are included in the Service Business Plan and savings reports will be generated through Covalent and monitored by the Directorate Senior Management Team. Equality impacts have already been completed as part of the budget setting process.

#### 6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Business cases for the transformation options which are the subject of this report.

#### 7 REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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# Agenda Item 7.1

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Education, Culture and Sport

DATE: **2**<sup>nd</sup> **June 2011** 

DIRECTOR: Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT: Deferred Cultural Grants - 2011/12

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/030

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present to Elected Members recommendations for Cultural Grants for the financial year 2011/12. These recommendations relate to applications which were previously deferred or deemed ineligible.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the Committee approves:

I. The allocation of cultural grants to the total value of £160,171 as presented in Appendix 1.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A total of £385,543 is available within the 2011/12 budget to support the Cultural Grants programme. Applicants were invited to be considered for grants of up to 50% of the costs of their projects, showing either match funding or an in kind contribution.

Eighty external applications have been received, requesting funds of £755,354.24. Following approval of recommendations at the March 24<sup>th</sup> 2011 Education Culture and Sport committee, grants to the value of £225,287.26 were confirmed. This leaves a total of £160,255.74 remaining for this financial year.

Applications were considered in the context of cultural provision across Aberdeen and, where possible, against cross-cutting support streams provided by Aberdeen City Council, in order to avoid potential duplication of funding.

By providing up to a maximum of 50% of the project funding, the Council's proportionate level of exposure is reduced and is designed to encourage partners to carefully examine the opportunities for a range of alternative funding streams, consider the further development of self sustainability within their projects and look to facilitate partnership working in the delivery of cultural opportunities for the community.

#### 4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

There is a requirement for all successful applicants to illustrate how their projects connect to one or more of the local outcomes in the Single Outcome Agreement. The Cultural and Active Aberdeen Forums for Aberdeen City lead on the three Local Outcomes lying under National Outcome 13 'We take pride in a strong and inclusive national identity' with local outcome

The projects proposed also directly relate to strands of the following Local Outcomes:

Outcome 2, 'Aberdeen will have high quality employment opportunities for its citizens'.

Outcome 3, 'People of all ages take an active part in their own learning to achieve their full potential' and 'Learning and training is appropriate and accessible to learner's needs.

Both local outcomes for National Outcome 4, 'Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens'.

Outcome 7. 'Improve the quality of life in our most deprived areas.'

Outcome 12, 'Aberdeen is widely recognised as a City with high quality natural assets, biodiversity, architecture and heritage which instill civic pride in its citizens.'

Outcome 15, 'Our public services are consistently high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.'

Guidance for Community Planning partnerships, from the Scottish Government entitled 'Culture Delivers' states: 'Cultural provision and infrastructure is part of the drive for best value. High quality should be promoted, continually seeking to improve its impact on communities and taking account of local aspirations and needs. Cultural activity can also help other sectors and services deliver in ways more closely matched to peoples wishes, and can assist in engaging citizens with civic life'.

#### 5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Other key issues relate to:

- Cultural organisations in the City not being able to continue to operate should Council funding not be granted.
- On occasion external funds will not be brought to the City if matching funds are not made available by the City Council.
- Funds not being used by organisations for the purposes for which they were granted.

These risks have and will be continue to be managed through a robust assessment of each application and through systems to monitor and review funded activities throughout the year.

There are no additional Legal, Resource, Personnel, Property, Equipment, Environmental or health and safety implications arising from this report at this time.

#### 6. REPORT

#### 6.1 Grants to Cultural Organisations

A table is attached as Appendix 1 which presents all the applications and the recommendations of the Cultural Grants Selection Panel for funding. The criteria for which the selection panel made the attached recommendations for the dispersal of funds included:

- Links to the Single Outcome Agreement
- Links to 'Vibrant Aberdeen' The Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen
- 50% match funding (in kind or financial contribution)
- Evidence of beneficial partnership working
- Where relevant, a report back on the use of last years funding.

#### 6.2 Ineligible Applications

Several of the applications received in February 2011 did not meet the stated terms and conditions and were deemed ineligible. This included applications from previous grant recipients who failed to report back on the use of previous grants and applications which had no match funding pending or secured. Furthermore, applications were received for a Category C (Over £10,000) grant without the required meeting between the applicant and officers being arranged.

Following the March 24<sup>th</sup> committee, where appropriate, ineligible applicants were provided with the opportunity to revise their application and resubmit.

#### 6.3 Deferred Applications

For the majority of the Category C (Over £10,000) applications received, recommendations were not brought forward to the 24<sup>th</sup> of March 2011 committee for consideration. The information included within these particular applications was insufficient and there was a requirement to speak in detail with each organisation prior to bringing a recommendation forward to the Committee.

Given the increasingly complex issues around funding for cultural organisations, officers felt that, in order to bring before the Committee recommendations which ensure best value, these further discussions were required. Officers have subsequently worked with applicants to gain the necessary additional information and clarity required to put forward the recommendations contained as Appendix 1 of this report.

While no application has received a full recommendation, the partial recommendations cover specific aspects and are of a similar level to previous

funding awards. Some applicants may also have the opportunity to apply for specific training or projects through both the Cultural Training Programme and the Public Art Fund.

#### 7. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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#### 8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

'Cultural Grants' - Education, Culture & Sport Committee, 24th March 2011

## <u>Appendix 1 – Deferred Cultural Grant Recommendations 2011/12</u>

Applicant	Project	Grant Requested	Recommendation
Aberdeen Arts Centre	Programme of Participatory Arts	£114,500	£39,000
Act 2 Youth Group	Summer Drama Project	£4,350	£2300
APA	Youth & Community Programme	£28,000	£15,900
Creative Cultures Scotland	Programme	£20,000	£15,000
Cultural Enterprise Office	Delivery of services	£16,000	£4,721
Jazz Scotland	Year round jazz concerts, Aberdeen Jazz Festival	£20,000	£11,250
Peacock Visual Arts	Artistic Programme	£15,000	£10,000
Royal Scottish National Orchestra	Integrated programme of music hall concerts & community outreach & educational services	£20,000	£10,000
Scottish Culture & Traditions	Core Activities	£40,000	£20,000
Scottish Ballet	Dancing Parallel	£32,647.	£0 (Referred to Sports grants)

Sense Scotland	Connect	£18,696	£0
Station House Media Unit	shmuSOUND	£22,370	£10,000
University of Aberdeen	Flagship Cultural Programme	£25,000	£22,000
Vocoustics Promotions	On-going series of live music events & performances	£1,000	£0

## <u>Totals</u>

Total Grants Requested	£377,563
Total Grant Recommendation	£160,171
Remaining Budget	£84

#### **ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL**

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

DATE 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Sports Grants

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/032

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report brings before the Committee applications for financial assistance from sports organisations and makes a recommendation for each application. Eight funding applications have been received.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

(i) That the Committee considers the applications and approves the following recommendations:

Aberdeen Disability Sport	£600
City of Aberdeen Gymnastics	£2570
North East of Scotland Lawn Tennis Association	£2000
Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association	£13,000
Scottish Schools Competition (Gymnastics)	£1250
Aberdeen Sports Council	£7000
The Royal Caledonian Curling Club	£5250
Scottish Ballet	£8453

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The sports grants budget for the year 2011/12 is £103,448. Assuming that the recommendations are approved there will be £63,325 remaining in this budget.

#### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Local sports groups and organisations adopt a variety of methods to attract funding, however some groups would be unable to host an event or develop further without the financial assistance available from the City Council. Groups who do not meet the criteria will be assisted by officers to source alternative solutions.

#### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

The Financial Assistance budget for 2011/12 has been set by the Council at £103,448. A copy of the guideline notes for sports organisations is included in the City Council Funding Pack sent to potential applicants. In addition, a copy of the revised sports grants criteria approved at the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2009 is provided, outlining the assessment process.

The grant criteria is directly linked to the five key objectives of "Fit for the Future" the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Aberdeen (2009-2015). Applications are assessed against the criteria and recommendations made for Committee approval.

#### 5.1 Aberdeen Disability Sport

This grant would allow Aberdeen Disability Sport to offer bowling sessions throughout the season for bowlers in Aberdeen with disabilities. Beyond general participation it will also allow bowlers from the city to participate in the Scottish Disability Sport National Lawn Bowl Championships which, like last year, is to take place at Westburn Outdoor Centre.

Aberdeen Disability Sport is the local voluntary branch of Scottish Disability Sport. The organisation provides opportunities for people to progress in their chosen sport and access quality training and competition. They also work with local sports clubs to promote sport and leisure activities and improve access for those with disabilities.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£600	£600

#### 5.2 City of Aberdeen Gymnastics

This application seeks support in meeting the costs of the 2011 City of Aberdeen Gymnastics (COAG) competition. The competition will cover five disciplines of Gymnastics and is open to participants of all abilities ranging from beginner through to elite level. Over four hundred participants aged eight and upwards are expected, with the event clearly established as a key date in the city's gymnastics calendar.

Taking place over two days in June at the Beach Leisure Centre, this event will primarily benefit gymnasts from Aberdeen however it does attract participation from other British clubs.

The overall cost of the event which includes all equipment, venue hire and administration costs is £7140. This application seeks support for half of this figure with funds used to part cover specific aspects including hire of the venue and specialised equipment. The remaining costs are covered by the Club through various means including charging an entry fee to both competitors and spectators as well receiving in-kind contributions. The level of funding recommended is based on providing support for half of the relevant costs included in the application.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£3570	£2570

#### 5.3 North East of Scotland Lawn Tennis Association

The North East Tennis Tournament Group (NESLTA) has submitted an application seeking support for both the City of Aberdeen North East Tennis Championships and the North East Indoor Tennis Championships. Both events are held at the Westburn Tennis Centre in July and December respectively.

Each year these competitions attract over three hundred participants ranging from the age of eight through to seventy. As part of a national pathway for competitions in Britain, these competitions play a crucial role in raising the profile of the sport in the city. The tournaments not only attract national participation but also present opportunities for local participants to compete within Aberdeen.

NESLTA has a specific tournament group, all members of whom are volunteers, to organise competitions in the city. The funding requested from Aberdeen City Council within this application is for several costs including equipment, venue hire and referee fees. The overall cost for the tournaments is £7510 with NESLTA gaining income from entry fees while also pursuing funding from external sources

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£2000	£2000

### 5.4 Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association

Aberdeen Youth Rugby Association (AYRA) have submitted an application seeking support to continue its youth development programme in the city. This programme, which includes the management of a Youth Rugby Development Officer, forms part of an agreement with the Scottish Rugby Union. Following the success of lasts year international match held in Aberdeen, a partnership between SRU and Aberdeen City Council to support AYRA's youth development programme provides the required legacy.

The main aim of AYRA is to provide physical activity opportunities and promote and develop rugby as a readily accessible and fully inclusive sport to boys, girls, men and women within Aberdeen City. This will be achieved through the employment of a dedicated full time rugby development officer. The players introduced to the sport will have pathways to continue their rugby development through the local city rugby clubs.

#### The benefits of this include:

- Increased opportunities for participation at grass roots level and development of player pathway. Increase in curricular rugby and development of school club links.
- Higher standards of coaching and playing delivered through player development sessions and coach education courses.
- It is expected to reach up to 1000 primary aged children in schools and 500 secondary aged children through curriculum and extra curricular sessions.

The Development Officer will work closely with the city's Active Schools team and secondary PE departments to support an enhanced programme of school based "taster" curricular and extra curricular activities including the promotion of after school rugby clubs and the development of school teams and competitions. Pupils will have the opportunity to experience rugby with school friends at an assessable environment. These clubs also give the pupils the opportunity to develop skills and experience which will allow them to join an established junior club within the city without feeling intimidated by their lack of knowledge.

Outside school there will be development of participation and involvement through the local clubs by encouraging and supporting young people to become active members of the club youth and adult sections as players, coaches, referees or volunteers.

The Development Officer will be link with the junior clubs in the city and will act as the "known" face at the club to assist the transition from school to club involvement on club evening and weekend sessions. Player development programmes will be planned and implemented through the clubs to increase player enjoyment, improve playing standards and promote lifelong involvement in the sport.

The sport will be played in safe, fun, community based environments at local rugby clubs and community venues closely linked to local schools, colleges and the wider community. There will be a particular drive to make the game accessible through identifying appropriate locations for activities and to promote activity among underrepresented groups such as teenage girls and women, economically disadvantaged and marginalised people and ethnic minority groups.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£13,000	£13,000

#### 5. 5 Scottish Schools Competition (Gymnastics)

This application is seeking support towards the Scottish Schools Gymnastics Regional Heats. The event, taking place at Aberdeen Sports Village, is aimed at both primary and secondary schools based in Aberdeen. Last year, over three hundred children from twenty three different city schools participated. This event is a Scottish Gymnastics competition and not only increases wider participation in Gymnastics but increases the profile of the sport in the City.

The overall cost of the event is £2500 which includes venue hire, equipment and judges fees. The terms and conditions of the sports grants mean that any grant can only cover fifty percent of the overall cost of an event. As such, this recommendation represents half the overall cost.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£2500	£1250

#### 5.6 Aberdeen Sports Council

This request is for an annual programme grant to support the work of the Aberdeen Sports Council. The Aberdeen Sports Council provides essential advisory and financial support to the member sports clubs in the city. They also provide grant funding to both individual athletes and coaches within a variety of sports.

The Sports Councils main objectives include:

- To promote interest and participation in Sport and Recreation among sportsmen, women and children within the City of Aberdeen.
- To assist in co-coordinating the activities of the various Sports and Recreational Organisations within the City of Aberdeen.
- To assist with the formation of Sports Clubs and Recreational Organisations where none exist, or where existing clubs need help.
- To award grants to sportsmen, women and children within Aberdeen and help them in their pursuit of excellence.

This funding would be used to support the administration of the Sports Council, the scholarship programme for local volunteers, the grant scheme for local sports men and women and other costs including insuring fund raising events. Historically, a Sports Grant from Aberdeen City Council has been the principle funding received by the Sports Council however they consistently fundraise and also charge an affiliation fee to member clubs and organisations.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£7000	£7000

### 5.7 Royal Caledonian Curling Club

This is a request for continued partnership funding in support of the position of a Curling Development Officer, based at Curl Aberdeen. A Curling Development Officer has been in post since 2002, initially on a part time basis and since 2007 on a full time basis. This request would allow the partnership with the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, Curl Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Council to continue and build on the development of curling in Aberdeen City.

The Curling development Officer has works with the Active Schools team to introduce primary and secondary schools in the city to Curling. This includes inschool 'dry sessions' and volunteer workshops as well as a wide range of extracurricular and club activity based at Curl Aberdeen. This activity and the role of the officer are continually monitored through regular performance reports and a partnership steering group.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£5250	£5250

#### 5.8 Scottish Ballet

This application relates to a Cultural Olympiad project aimed at combining 'cultural' and 'sporting' disciplines. The 'Dancing Parallel' project will be run as a partnership between Scottish Ballet, English National Ballet, Big Dance, Aberdeen International Youth Festival (AIYF) and services from within Aberdeen City Council. The project would, on a Scottish level, be exclusive to Aberdeen and would represent a flagship Olympic themed event for the city.

The overall cost of the project across two years is £78,000 with £46,000 secured from alternative sources. The remaining costs are currently being pursued with Aberdeen City Council confirming part funding of £7870 from the Sports Grants budget in the 2010/11 financial year. The remaining funds required to complete the first year of the project were originally sought by Scottish Ballet from the 2011/12 Cultural Grants programme however in light of the increased competition for these grants, the application was referred to the Sports Grants programme.

This recommendation would allow for the first year of the project to be completed leaving approximately £16,000 remaining to be found in order to carry the project into a second year. Should this recommendation be approved, Scottish Ballet will be encouraged to apply solely to the Cultural Grants programme for the 2012/13 financial year. This would ensure that any potential investment in the project from Aberdeen City Council could be split evenly between the Sport and Cultural grants.

The project aims to involve fifty young people from identified regeneration areas in the city and bring them together to with an English based group selected by English National Ballet. Overall, this joint group will receive two weeks training in both Parkour and Dance in both Aberdeen and London. Parkour is a sport which can be described as 'running through urban areas while performing various

complex gymnastics manoeuvres over or on man-made obstacles such as walls and buildings'. The sport in rapidly increasing in popularity and a Parkour network has recently been established in Aberdeen.

The principle output of the collaboration will be the creation of a film that is of high artistic merit and will be screened before each professional performance of Scottish Ballet, English National Ballet and National Dance Company Wales collaborative programme (working title Great British Ballet), created for the Olympics in 2012. Dates for the professional performances are Tuesday the 19th of June to Saturday the 23rd in Glasgow, Tuesday the 26th of June to Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> in Cardiff and Wednesday the 4th July to Sunday the 8th in London. There is also the potential for the film to be screened across the United Kingdom on the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games Live Sites as part of Big Dance 2012, the Cultural Olympiad's dance strand. Furthermore, the film could be used within Aberdeen as required.

A film maker will be commissioned to create the film and will carryout an initial consultation process where the young people will be invited to contribute their ideas of what the final film should look like in relation to the Cultural Olympiad themes. Following visits to each city, the two groups of young people will rehearse in their home city and then will be filmed performing in contrasting areas. For example young people in Aberdeen could perform on the beach and young people London in a contrasting environment.

Furthermore, the partnership with the Aberdeen International Youth Festival will allow participants to spend one week in Aberdeen together during the festival, learning new skills in dance in the morning and parkour in the afternoon. In the evenings all participants will attend cultural youth events organised by AIYF and also share some of their work as part of the "Festival in the City" performance day. This partnership will also provide free dance and parkour drop in workshops to young people in the city.

This project reflects the core values of the Cultural Olympiad which are sharing understanding, respect, generating a positive legacy, inspiring and involving young people and celebrating the United Kingdom. The project will explore environmental isolation and how young people connect with their local environments. Through two weeks of training and creative workshops the project aims to explore just how dance and parkour help to cross physical and mental boundaries, instill respect and the sense of being connected to the wider world. The project will also increase participation in and appreciation for both dance and parkour which are generally perceived as gender specific. Participants will receive a unique and hugely positive experience which will bring a range of lasting benefits. The city will gain a wider benefit through the large-scale local and national coverage of the project, which will highlight Aberdeen as a major Cultural and Sporting city.

Funding Requested	Funding Recommended
£8453	£8453

#### 6. IMPACT

The report relates to the Arts, Heritage and Sport strand of the Community Plan, specifically in relation to the Sports, Leisure and Recreation vision of developing Aberdeen as an "Active City".

The report also links to Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking through Culture, Arts and Sport:

- Increase participation in sport, provide support for athletes and reward excellence
- Recognise the contribution of Sport, Culture and Arts to promoting the area as a tourist destination
- Recognise the role of Sport and Arts in tackling anti-social behaviour

Furthermore the report relates closely to the objectives of "Fit for the Future, the sport and physical activity strategy for Aberdeen City (2009-2015)". These objectives are:

- Promote and increase opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity for everyone in Aberdeen.
- Provide a comprehensive and high quality range of sports facilities in Aberdeen.
- Maximise social, educational, health and economic benefits of sport and physical activity in Aberdeen.
- Develop and sustain pathways which nurture local, regional and national sporting people to reach their potential.
- Raise the profile of sport in Aberdeen.

# 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

'Sports Grants' – Education, Culture & Sport Committee, 24th March 2011

#### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

DATE **2 June 2011** 

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Update on Implementation of Budget Decision -

**Reduce Communities Team** 

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/035

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an update on the implementation of the decision to reduce the costs of the Communities team by £1.4million in 2011/12 and provisionally by a further £1million in 2012/13.

This includes an update on the reduction of the staffing provision within the service; and an update on the progress towards the move of Community Learning Centres to leased centre status.

Finally the report notes progress towards the development of a model lease, management agreement and constitution.

# 2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) Notes the progress in relation to the appointment of staff to the new structure, and the reduction of the overall workforce.
- b) Notes the progress in relation to moving community learning centres to leased centre status.
- c) Notes the options that are being developed in relation to each community learning centre, and agree that a further report will come to the next committee with firm recommendations for various Community Centres.
- d) Agree that officers seek to relocate the current groups within Torry Community Learning Centre to other suitable local facilities, in order to facilitate the closure of that facility.

- e) Determines whether it would wish to provide Management Committees with a Transition Grant for 2011/12 (as detailed in section 5.3), and if so, agree to remit this to the Finance and Resources Committee for consideration.
- f) Note the progress in relation to developing a citywide model lease, management agreement and constitution, and agree the heads of terms for each as set out in section 5.4.
- g) Agrees that, until the Service Asset Management Plan for Community Buildings is completed, Community Centres and Community Education Centres should only be granted one year leases.
- h) Agree that once approved, all Community Centres will be subject to the Management Agreement and Constitution. All standalone centres will also be subject to the agreed Lease.
- i) To note that a petition has been signed by approximately 500 residents campaigning against the reopening of the Hilylands Centre on Croft Road.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

#### 3.1 Budget Reduction

The Council decision on 10 February 2011 was to reduce the budget for an Integrated Communities team by £1.6million\* in 2011/12 and by £2.4million in 2012/13.

\*note that this figure is greater than the £1.4million reported to the Education, Culture & Sport Committee on 24 March 2011, due to a requirement to provide £200,000 from the service budget to the Corporate budget for Voluntary Severance/ Early Retirement.

# 3.2 VS/ER Costs

Costs associated with the disestablishment of staff through the appropriate Council procedures will be funded through the service budget, and thereafter from the corporate fund set up for this purpose. Ongoing pensions costs will be met from the corporate fund set up for this purpose.

#### 3.3 Fixed building costs

Annual revenue costs, met by EC&S Revenue Budgets, for existing and proposed leased centres is approximately £1.5million per year. (This figure does not include development grants and other services costs).

As there are 51 properties included in this category (see paragraph 5.2.1), it follows that the average current revenue cost per annum to the City Council of each building is circa £29,500. Further to paragraph 5.4.1. of this report, if the City Council offered and each Community Centre and Community Education Centre Management Committee accepted a new lease on that basis, it would make no appreciable difference to the level of annual revenue funding that the EC&S Revenue Budget would require to provide. For example, the "wind and

watertight only" repair clause is no different from the current practice of our building maintenance staff. Budgetary pressures means that, at present "wind and watertight only" is the repair criterion that is adopted, in determining whether or not to carry out a repair to one of the 51 properties. However it is noted that the current lack of preventative maintenance could result in increased wind and water-tight expenditure in the future.

In this context, the work to develop Service Asset Management Plans for Education, Culture and Sport (as described in paragraph 5.2), is an important factor. If, for instance, the City Council was minded to offer any Community Centre Management Committee a 20 year lease of their Community Centre, the aggregate revenue commitment from EC&S Revenue Budgets would be circa £590,000 (i.e. 20 x £29,500 per annum). However these costs could significantly increase due to capital repairs such as replacements to gas boilers, or central heating systems, during the 20 years, or increased repairs required due to a lack of preventative maintenance, might drive that cost even higher.

In terms of Asset Management Planning, any decision of the City Council to offer that level of long-term revenue funding commitment to any community building, should be the outcome of an option appraisal, where the level of present and future public use, building condition etc. are key factors. With that background, it is advised that no decision should be made on granting any Community Centre a long-term lease, until the Service Asset Management Plan for Community buildings is completed.

# 3.6 State Aid Implications

At this stage, it is considered unlikely that there will be any State Aid implications in relation to the above, however if any implications arise, these will be reported to the appropriate committee.

# 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

# 4.1 Personnel Implications

The budget decision has resulted in a requirement to reduce the existing staffing resource by approximately 67%. The budget available to deliver front line adult learning and youth development activities through tutors and sessional staff has been reduced by approximately 83%.

The reduction in the workforce is being delivered through the implementation of the Council's VS/ER policy in the first instance. Any excess staff remaining after the restructure is complete will be managed through the Council's Redeployment Procedure, and if required the Redundancy Assessment Procedure.

# 4.2 **Property Implications**

There are currently 27 centres owned by Aberdeen City Council and managed by Community Learning and Development to deliver community learning and development activities. The budget decisions will result in these facilities, or the programmes for these facilities becoming externally managed.

# 4.3 Legal Implications

# 4.3.1 Scottish Government Consent

Section 74 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, as subsequently amended, required every Local Authority to obtain the consent of the Scottish Government for any disposal of property (and in this context a sale or a lease could be deemed to be a disposal) where the consideration received is less than open market value.

The Disposal of Land by Local Authorities (Scotland) Regulations 2010 partially supersedes previous legislation. The Regulations spell out the circumstances in which a local authority may dispose of land for a consideration less than the best that can reasonably be obtained. One of those conditions is when the local authority is satisfied that the disposal for that consideration is reasonable; and that it's likely to contribute to social well-being.

In these circumstances the City Council could legitimately argue that granting leases of Community Centres and/or Community Education Centres at £1 per annum if asked, whatever their open market rental value, promotes social well-being and as such the City Council don't require to seek the consent of the Scottish Government to such actions.

# 4.3.2 Insurance

Aberdeen City Council will have Public Liability Insurance for the building (which is mentioned in the proposed lease) and this will cover an incidence where the building collapses or such, however Management Committees will require to have Public Liability for the activities within the building. While this is not a legal requirement it is recommended. Failure to have such insurance in place could result in individual members of the management committee being personally liable for any costs arising (and/ or potentially an individual member of the public suing the City Council, as owner of the building, if they were hurt as a result of participating in the Community Centre's activities.)

If Management Committees employ staff then by law they require employer's liability insurance.

The preferred method would be for Management Committees to buy into the existing policy arranged by the Council which provides Public Liability and Employers Liability insurance. This would likely be in the interest of the Management Committees as the current charge would be £125 per centre. Alternatively, Management Committees could procure their own Public Liability and Employers Liability Insurance.

# 4.3.3 Procurement

For the Council to determine not to tender for the leasing or management of programme of community centres may require a suspension of Standing Orders. Each case would require to be considered on a case by case basis.

#### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

This section will consider some of the major milestones that are being progressed in order to deliver on the budget decision.

# 5.1 Development and delivery of re-engineered service.

The financial decision has reduced the budgeted funding available for staff, including Community Learning & Development, Community Training and Economic Development and Neighbourhood Community Planning Staff by approximately 67%.

A new management and operational structure has now been developed and appointment to the posts is now underway via the Council's Job Matching process.

Staff were also given the opportunity to apply for Voluntary Severance or Early Retirement and a number of applications have now been supported. The affected staff are now working their notice, during which time they are developing and rolling out exit strategies for key areas of work, along with handing over elements of their work which will require to continue.

The budget available for tutors and sessional staff has been required to be reduced by some 83% in 2011/12. However, custom and practice has resulted in some tutors and sessional staff gaining contractual status. It is the case that the affected staff will have rights to remuneration and redundancy notice and associated costs. Therefore the remaining budget allocated for delivering adult learning and youth development in 2011/12 may be mostly allocated for this purpose, resulting in little or no front line delivery of youth development or adult learning services from September 2011 through to March 2012.

Officers are negotiating with Management Committees for a solution to this issue and will update on this situation at later committees.

#### 5.2 Move centres to leased centre status.

5.2.1 In the report to committee on 24 March 2011, it was noted that there are currently 51 Community Centre type facilities throughout the city which are owned by the Council. The current routine costs for servicing these facilities amounts to some £1.5million per year. Many of these buildings will require

- significant maintenance over the next 5 10 years. With this in mind, a strategic review of all of these properties as part of the wider Service Asset Management Plans for Education, Culture and Sport is currently ongoing.
- 5.2.2 A key part of the Service Asset Management Plan (SAMP) will be to look at the level of verifiable community use of each of the 51 buildings. Early indications are that the level of community use is patchy. Although officers can identify well used "seven days a week" Centres, others are much less well used. In several areas of the City, officers can identify underused community buildings, where an equivalent level of community service could be provided from fewer, better quality, better used buildings. It is anticipated that "area specific" recommendations to amalgamate community uses in fewer buildings, will emerge from the SAMP.
- 5.2.3 The SAMP and it's area specific recommendations, could potentially provide:
  - (a) at least equivalent standard and hopefully better quality, better used community facilities;
  - (b) those community activities from fewer buildings
  - (c) substantial savings for the EC&S Revenue budgets (as revenue support needs to be offered to fewer buildings); and
  - (d) capital receipts from the sale of surplus properties
- 5.2.4 While it is anticipated that the first stage of the SAMP will be reported to the Education, Culture & Sport Committee in September 2011, until the outcomes of the above review are approved, it is recommended that any new leases and management agreements are granted for a one year period only.
- 5.2.4 Along side the Service Asset Management Plan, officers have been meeting collectively and individually with the Management Committees of the Community Learning Centres which are scheduled to become leased or managed through a management agreement. These discussions have led to a number of options and recommendations being developed for each individual facility.
- 5.2.5 These options and recommendations are set out in Appendix A

#### 5.2.6 Torry Community Learning Centre

At the time of writing this report, it is recommended that activities within the Torry Community Learning Centre are moved to other venues to allow this facility to be closed:

- The building is in a poor state of repair, and would require a significant investment to bring it up to the standard to be suitable for leasing:
- Public Accessibility It is not classed as Publicly accessible.
- o Asbestos There are several types of asbestos across different locations.
- Fire Risk Assessment Works A fire risk assessment in 2008 identified a number of works required to bring it up to standard. A quote of £10,400 was obtained in 2009 for carrying out this work.

- Suitability While it was graded as a B at its last inspection in 2007, there are a number of elements within the building that are graded at a C or a D and would require to be brought up to an appropriate standard to meet the Council's terms of the proposed model lease.
- The windows and external doors are graded as a D, and have a replacement figure of £78,540. This work would be required if the building was to be retained.
- o The external walls are graded as a C with a replacement cost of £69,300.
- The Building Inspector has the view that the building is generally in a dilapidated state.
- There is no Management Committee currently in place. Therefore if the Council wishes to move this centre to leased status, officers would require to develop a Management Committee or find a suitable alternative body to take on the lease for this building.
- The existing programme is minimal. A copy of the current programme is available in the members lounge. It consists of: 4 sessions drop in crèche; 2 sessions Citizens Advice Bureau; 5 sessions After School Club; 1 session Drugs Action Group; 1 session Pathways Group; 3 sessions Parent and Toddler; 1 session Baby Group.
  - It is anticipated that all of these groups can potentially be relocated in other suitable local venues.
  - There are a range of other local community facilities available including: Torry Youth and Community Centre, Old Torry Community Centre, and Tullos Community Centre.

# 5.2.7 Hillylands Centre

Work is presently underway to develop a new community facility within the old Community Special Needs Group building at Croft Road. It has been brought to the attention of officers that residents of Croft Road and surrounding area at Mastrick have organised a petition with around 500 names on it. The purpose of the petition is stated as:

"This is a petition organised by the residents of Croft Road and surrounding area in Mastrick. Against the reopening of old Community Special Needs Group building on Croft Road. This has been signed and sealed by Aberdeen City Council without consulting the local residents. We have not been allowed any say regarding the use or times of it being opened. And it will be opening this summer. Please support us to show that we live in a democracy and that we should have a say over what happens on our front door and neighbourhood."

The current situation is that work on the building is underway and it is due to be open in November 2011. The building will re-house the Mastrick Young People's project that has been displaced as a result of the closure of Summerhill. Consultation with users has being ongoing and a meeting with local residents took place on 27 April 2011. Further consultation with local residents will be ongoing as the project progresses.

# 5.3 Transitional Period

It is highlighted that due to the requirement to reduce our workforce significantly and as early as possible, there will be minimal Council support for community centres during the transitional period from the end of the Summer when most staff will be released until Management Committees are in a position to take on the running/ programming of these facilities themselves.

While there will be a small staffing resource to support the Management Committees to build capacity to take on this additional responsibility (one or two full time officers city wide), there will be little or no support to provide operational support on a centre by centre basis.

There is capacity within the budget from 2012 onwards to provide a standard Development Grant of £10,565 per Community Centre. However members are asked to consider whether they may be supportive of providing a "Transition Grant" equal to an equivalent amount to the Development Grant for Management Committees who commit to taking on the responsibility for running the Community Centres.

Due to the high costs involved in managing the transition to the new staffing structure, it is unlikely that there would be sufficient budget for such a "Transition Grant" within the Education, Culture and Sport budget in 2011/12. Therefore if members were to agree to provide such a grant, an alternative budget source would require to be found.

# 5.4 Model Lease, Management Agreement and Constitution

Currently there are a range of different leases and constitutions in place with existing leased Community Centres. It is considered that virtually all of these leases are outdated and not fit for purpose. In addition, the differences can cause confusion and concern between leased centres.

It has previously been agreed that a single model lease and constitution for all Community Centres in the city would be desirable.

A significant amount of consultation was undertaken in 2010 with existing leased Community Centres on proposals for a model lease. With the decision to move a further 27 Community Education Centres to "leased" status, officers have commenced consultation with these other affected Management Committees on the proposed model lease.

A number of these centres will not be stand alone, and therefore would be more suited to a Management Agreement type arrangement.

It is recommended that a model Management Agreement be developed for all centres, with those which are standalone, also being subject to a model lease agreement.

A model Constitution is also being developed in line with the decision taken at the Education, Culture & Sport Committee on 24 March 2011, that it be suitable for achieving charitable status. It is suggested that as the Constitution will be owned by the Management Committee, they can amend the Constitution if they wish, however certain key elements must be included.

Due to the condition of many of the Community Centres and the potential for high costs to the Council in future years, it is recommended that longer term leases have 5 year break clauses included. This will ensure that the Council is not tied into a long term agreement that is unaffordable.

Some Centres have intimated that if they apply for some funding streams, they may require to demonstrate a longer term lease. It is recommended that these issues are considered as and when they arise, which would allow longer term leases to be confirmed on a case by case basis. (It is noted that there is no record of any Community Centre requiring a long term lease for funding in recent years.)

If Members are prepared to approve this and authorise the grant of transitional one year legal agreements, pending the outcome of the Service Asset Management Plan, then officers would intend to request that Management Committees declare their willingness, in principle to agree:-

- a. to enter into a one year lease of their Community Centre, on the basis as specified in the Model Lease
- b. to enter into a one year Management Agreement, on the basis as specified in the model Management Agreement; and
- c. to enter into a one year Constitution, on the basis as specified in the model Management Constitution.

The results of this exercise will be reported back to the next meeting of this Committee on 15 September, 2011.

Consultation is currently ongoing in respect of the Management Agreement, Lease and Constitution, and it is recommended that members agree the proposed Heads of Terms for each as set out below:

# 5.4.1 Model Lease Heads of Terms

- Mutually agreed length of lease, with break clauses as appropriate.
- Token rental amount (if requested intention is not to request.)
- Tenant liability for rates, taxes and other relevant charges levied in respect
  of the occupation of the premises (if requested intention is not to
  request.)
- Prohibits the tenant to assign or sublet the premises (spaces can still be let.)

- Prohibits the tenant to use the premises as security or to dispose of the premises.
- Stipulates the use of the premises as a community centre.
- The Council will insure the building structure.
- The Council will provide additional insurance (public and employers liability) that the Tenant can purchase.
- The tenant will be responsible for all other insurances, such as contents.
- The Tenants agree to maintain the premises in the current condition with the landlord being responsible for wind and watertight repairs and the tenants being responsible for other repairs, with an option for tenants or landlord to end the lease if they cannot meet the cost of any repairs.
- There is the ability for either party to break out of the lease if unable to pay for repairs.
- The tenant will not make any alterations to the premises without the landlords permission and the tenant may need to return the premises to their original condition.
- The Tenant is responsible for keeping the premises in a neat and tidy condition.
- The Landlord will not be responsible for the activities taking place within the premises.
- The Tenant is responsible for ensuring the premises are suitable for the Tenants needs and will not hold the landlord liable over the suitability of the premises.
- the Tenant will comply with all relevant legislation.
- The Tenant will allow the Landlord access to the building for civil emergencies etc.
- The Tenant will not store dangerous materials on the premises.
- The Landlord will supply and maintain emergency equipment (fire fighting equipment etc.)
- The Tenant will seek approval from the landlord before erecting external signs and notices.
- The Landlord can erect a wide area network aerial on the premises (Landlord will be fully responsible for this.)
- The Landlord can end the lease if the building is being unused.
- Tenant will be responsible for removing their equipment at the end of the lease.
- Details of arbitration are listed.
- Requires adherence to the Management Agreement.

# 5.4.2 Model Constitution Heads of Terms

- Name of the organisation
- Aims and objectives are to promote wellbeing, advance education and manage a community centre.
- Membership is open to local inhabitants and organisations.
- Membership can be terminated.
- Powers of the management committee are detailed.

- Management committee will consist of 4 members from user groups, 6 members appointed at the AGM, 2 youth members, a local organisation, 1 staff member, additional co-options are required.
- Office bearer posts will consist of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, with no more than one office bearer being an employee of the community centre.
- Management committee members will serve for 3 years and can be reelected. Officer bearers are elected for one year can serve up to 5 consecutive years in the same position.
- There will be a minimum of 6 management committee meetings per year with 6 clear days notice being required.
- The quorum for meetings will be 1/3 of the committee.
- Minutes will be displayed in the community centre.
- Decisions will be by a simple majority with the chair having a casting vote.
- The AGM will be held between April and June and will require 14 days notice. A quorum will be the lesser of 25 or 2/3 of the membership. There is the ability to call Extraordinary General Meetings in a similar manner.
- The Financial year will be 1 April to 31 March and the accounts require to be inspected by a qualified accountant. At least two individuals are required to release funds.
- Amendments can be made to the constitution at a general meeting which requires 28 days notice period and 2/3 majority vote for the amendments.
- The Association can be dissolved at a general meeting which requires 28 days notice period and 2/3 majority vote for the dissolution. All assets are to be given to similar organisations and cannot be distributed to members of the association.

# 5.4.3 Management Agreement Heads of Terms

\*These Heads of Terms are not available at the time of finalising the report, and will therefore be tabled at the committee.

# 5.4.4 Checklist of Responsibilities

The signed legal documents have to be legally robust and detailed. However in order to assist Management Committees in understanding their obligations and the obligations of the Council, officers intend to develop a short checklist. A example of such a checklist for the proposed model lease which is currently being negotiated is set out below:

The Key responsibilities for the Landlord and Tenant are as follows:

The following costs will be met by the Landlord

- Premises Insurance
- Alarm and safety equipment supply & maintenance
- Gas fuel bills
- Electric fuel bills

- Water & Sewerage bills
- One broadband Line
- One telephone line
- One alarm line
- Refuse collection
- Public liability insurance for the building (not the activities within the building)
- PAT safety checks (portable appliance tests)
- Maintenance of gas boiler and central heating (including safety checks)
- Wind and watertight repairs/maintenance
- Repairs to the building where there is a safety requirement.

The following costs will be met by the Tenant

- Contents insurance
- Employers liability insurance (can be purchased through a Council policy)
- Public liability insurance for activities (can be purchased through a Council policy)
- Maintenance of operational equipment (ie vacuum cleaners etc.)
- Telephone call costs
- Any required licenses
- Repairs/maintenance (other than detailed previously) to keep building in same state of repair
- Cleaning, cleaning services & cleaning materials
- Paper towels, toilet paper soap etc.
- Providing and replacing light bulbs (Landlord will provide scaffold if required)

#### 6. IMPACT

This report relates to the Combined Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement as follows:

- People of all ages take an active part in their own learning to achieve their full potential Learning and training is appropriate and accessible to learner's needs
- Children and young people access positive learning environments and develop their skills, confidence and self esteem to the fullest potential
- Children, young people and their families/carers are involved in decisions that affect them. Their voices heard and they play an active and responsible role in their communities
- Educational attainment in Aberdeen is continuously sustained and improved
- School leavers enter positive destination of employment, training or further and higher education with a focus on and support for young people who require More Choices and More Chances
- Children and young people actively participate in their communities and have optimum involvement in decision making

- All children, young people and their families have access to high quality services when required and services provide timely, proportionate and appropriate response that meeting the needs of children and young people within Getting it Right for Every Child, (GIRFEC) requirements
- Improve the quality of life in our most deprived areas
- Citizens are increasingly more active in their communities regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, where they live, disability or faith/religion/belief and contribute to 'active citizenship'
- Develop pathways to participation which enhance the diversity of local representation at and engagement with regional, national and international arts, heritage and sporting events
- Our public services are consistently high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs

Public – This report will be of interest to the public, as the recommendations will impact on services delivered throughout the city.

An Equality and Human Rights Impact Assessment has been completed in respect of this budget decision.

# 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

24/3/11 Education, Culture & Sport Committee, Implementation of Budget Decision – Reduce Communities Team

#### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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# **Community Centre Information May 2011**

Centre	Progress to lease Model	Management Committee	Footfall 28 <sup>th</sup> March – 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2011	Centre Programme	Building Type	Condition Survey	Type of Agreement	Potential Options
Beacon	Date set for meeting with Management committee 23 <sup>rd</sup> May		Total 235 centre programme users for community rooms only	Programme still to be sent.	Shared with Sports Trust, 3R's building	A	Management agreement	
Bridge of Don	Date set for meeting with Steering group 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	No management committee. Steering group being set up.	339 centre users 451 area prog. 333 outside let users total footfall for week 1123	9 under 5'group  13 children and young people groups  15 adult groups	Secondary community School	В	Management Agreement	
Cornhill	Management committee met and decided to set up meeting on 18 <sup>th</sup> April for Centre users and wider community. Have now set up steering groups and their first meeting is on 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Management committee in place. 6 meetings in last financial year, average attendance 7	542 centre users 80 outside let users total footfall for week 622 Gym Hall currently out of use. Normally have additional 297 users.	13 under 5's groups  1after school club  6 children and young peoples groups  16 adult groups 2 special needs groups	Primary community School	В	Management Agreement	Education Dept. Let programme     Management Agreement     Umbrella group with other leased centre in area

Centre	Progress to lease Model	Management Committee	Footfall 28 <sup>th</sup> March – 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2011	Centre Programme	Building Type	Condition Survey	Type of Agreement	Potential Options
Cults Primary	Met with Steering group on 11 <sup>th</sup> May. Steering groups made up of centre users and other local bodies. Agreed to continue to meet to look at the options	Did have a Management committee which met twice in last financial year with an EGM in May at which members stepped down.	333 centre users 355 Area programme Total footfall for week 688	No under 5's groups  No youth groups  14 adult classes which meet in Cults Library.  Milltimber hall, Culter Library	Community Primary School	В	Management Agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> </ul>
Cults Academy	As above	As above	As above	No under 5's groups  1 junior Badminton group  11 adult classes  3 adult groups	Secondary 3R's school	А	Management Agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> </ul>
Dyce	Met with Dyce management committee on 11 <sup>th</sup> May. They have held a centre users meeting and recruited more members. They want to carry on to look at the options for them.	Management committee in place.	429 centre users 823 Outside let users total footfall for week 1252	15 under 5's groups 1 after school club (let) 16 youth groups of which 13 lets/active schools 27 adult groups of which 10 lets	Primary Community School	С	Management Agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> <li>Joint CL programme with the Beacon</li> </ul>
Hazlehead	Met with Management committee 17 <sup>th</sup> May. Committee discussed the various options. Require more information	Management committee in place 7 meetings in the last financial year Average attendance 10	Still to come	1 youth group 12 adult groups 1 after school club which is an outside let	3 R's Primary school	А	Management agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> </ul>
Kincorth		No management committee in place	493 centre users 14 outside let users 79 users of area programme total footfall for week 586	6 under 5's groups 10 youth groups 18 adult groups	Centre shared with Library and customer Access Point	С	Lease	
Loirston			625 centre users 692 outside let users total footfall for week 1317	16 youth activity groups of which 12 are outside lets 7 adult groups 1 adult group which meets in the library	Primary community School	В	Management Agreement	
Loirston annexe					Freestanding	В	Lease	

Centre	Progress to lease Model	Management Committee	Footfall 28 <sup>th</sup> March – 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2011	Centre Programme	Building Type	Condition Survey	Type of Agreement	Potential Options
Manor Park		No management committee in place		3 under 5's groups no youth groups 11 adult groups 5 outside let groups	3 R's Primary School	А	Management agreement	
Mile-end	Met with Management committee on 20 <sup>th</sup> April. Set up users meeting on 18 <sup>th</sup> May. New members recruited – looking at options	Management committee in place.  8 meetings in last year. Average attendance 8	376 centre users 156 outside let users 19 area programme users total footfall for week 551	breakfast club     after school care     youth group     youth group in grammar     adult groups	3 R's Primary School	A	Management Agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> <li>Joint Education Dept let programme with Rosemount CC</li> </ul>
Mastrick CC	Date set for meeting with steering group on 21 <sup>st</sup> June	5 sub groups meet on a regular basis over the last financial year. They have now set up a steering group to look at options	806 centre users 27 outside let users Total footfall for week 833	9 under 5's groups 10 youth groups 15 adult groups 3 outside let groups 4 groups run in other establishments	Shared building with Library	В	Lease agreement	11000111041111
Mastrick YPP		No committee	153 centre users last week before it closed down	Still to come	Moving to Hillylands – not open yet	В	Lease agreement	
Northfield	Met with Steering Group on 4 <sup>th</sup> May. They are working on constitution and awaiting more information re options	Steering group has been set up.	528 centre users 15 outside let users 67 area programme users total footfall for week 610	Still to come	Shared building with library	В	Lease agreement	Lease agreement     Umbrella org with other leased centres in area
Rosemount	Met with management Committee on 7 <sup>th</sup> April. Set up users meeting on 3 <sup>rd</sup> May. Recruited more members. Looking at options	Management Committee in place.  5 meetings in last financial year.  Average attendance 6	409 centre users 177 outside let users 298 area programme users total footfall 884	13 under 5's groups 2 youth groups 36 adult groups 12 outside let groups	Free standing building	С	Lease Agreement	Lease agreement     Umbrella org with other leased centres in area     Joint Education Dept programme with Mile-end

Centre	Progress to lease Model	Management Committee	Footfall 28 <sup>th</sup> March – 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2011	Centre Programme	Building Type	Condition Survey	Type of Agreement	Potential Options
Seaton Project	Met with management committee on 20 <sup>th</sup> April. Committee looking at various options awaiting more info re management agreement.	Management committee in place. 6 meetings in last financial year. Average attendance 9	594 centre users 126 outside let users 38 area programme users total footfall for week 758	1 breakfast club 8 under 5's groups 1 youth group 12 adult groups 1 after school club(outside let)	3R's Primary	А	Management agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management         Agreement         Umbrella org for Seaton3'r, Seaton cec and Pittodrie leased centre     </li> </ul>
Seaton CEC	As above	No management committee	125 centre users	Drugs rehab work 1 youth group 2 adult groups	Free standing centre	С	Lease agreement	As above
Sunnybank	Steering group being set up	No management committee, Steering group being set up	282 centre users 100 outside let users 98 area programme users Total footfall 480	10 under 5's groups 7 youth groups 23 adult groups	Primary community School	В	Management Agreement	
Tilly Youth Project	Met with management committee on 25 <sup>th</sup> April. Young person committee. Meeting Shmu to look at taking over lease of building	Management committee in place.  Met 3 times in last financial year  Average attendance 10	Still to come	19 youth group sessions 5 outside lets	Free standing	С	Lease Agreement	Negotiating with Schmu to take on lease
Torry Youth Project			148 centre users 103 outside let users total footfall for week 251	Still to come	Shared building with Sports Trust	А	Management agreement	
Tullos CC	Met with steering group on 14 <sup>th</sup> may. Group are awaiting more information on management agreement	No Management committee. Steering group now in place	307 centre users 81 outside let users total footfall for week 388	6 under 5's groups 17 adult groups 10 youth groups 3 outside lets	Community Primary School	В	Management Agreement	<ul> <li>Education Dept. Let programme</li> <li>Management Agreement</li> </ul>

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Centre	Progress to lease	Management	Footfall 28 <sup>th</sup>	Centre Programme	Building Type	Condition	Type of	Potential Options
	Model	Committee	March – 3 <sup>rd</sup>			Survey	Agreement	
			April 2011			-	_	
Torry		No management	Still to come	1 after school club	Free standing		Lease	<ul> <li>Lease agreement</li> </ul>
Community		Committee		(outside let)		С	agreement	_
Learning				5 under 5's groups				
Centre				4 outside let groups				

Copies of Centre programmes will be in a file in the Members lounge

#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Education, Culture and Sport

DATE: **2 June 2011** 

DIRECTOR: Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT: Lease Agreements for Voluntary Organisations

**Occupying Woodside Fountain Centre** 

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/015

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report seeks direction from the Committee regarding the legal and management options to address key challenges regarding the management of the Woodside Fountain Centre which has developed from a leased community centre into a multi-occupancy building providing various services to the local community.

# 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the committee:-

- (a) agrees that the User Group, which contains representatives from all four voluntary organisations (tenants) within the building, manages the overall operation of building;
- (b) agrees that each tenant within the building continues to be responsible for their own programme, activity and service;
- (c) agrees that all tenants and City Council Services within the building pay a proportion of the property costs pertaining to the whole building, with the aggregate of those proportions totalling 100%;
- (d) agrees that the relevant proportions be calculated by City Council officers in relation to the floorspace exclusively occupied by the tenants and City Council Services, with those occupying a larger proportion of the floorspace paying a larger proportion of the property costs;
- (e) agrees to begin recovering these costs be from the occupants from April 2011.
- (f) agrees that areas of the community centre should be made available for let, by the community centre, to other tenants of the building when they are not in use by the community centre. i.e. games hall, coffee bar, kitchen, small hall and garage.

(g) Instructs officers to negotiate the amount of development grant payable to Woodside Community Centre Management Committee to ensure that the level of grant reflects the change in circumstances while ensuring the Management Committee is not disadvantaged financially by the changes (subject to the Development Grant amount not exceeding £10,565 per annum.).

# 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council has made a capital investment of some £1.4m in the extension and refurbishment of the Woodside Community Centre building. This has seen the creation of Woodside Fountain Centre which includes not only the existing leased community centre facilities but a host of other services provided by the Council and other third sector organisations. The Council services are a Housing Office and a Customer Access Point and the four third sector organisations are Woodside Community Centre, St Machar Credit Union, Fersands & Fountain Community Project and Fersand's Mini Market.

Woodside Fountain Centre has been occupied by these services since November 2009 and work has been ongoing since this date to agree and finalise lease and management arrangements for all building occupants. It was agreed at Council on 25 April 2007 that the cost for operating the building should be met from within the current budgets of all stakeholders, however officers had interpreted this such that the rental income from tenants had to meet the operating costs of the building. This negated the existing budget allocation for Woodside Community Centre and has resulted in there being great difficulty in agreeing the financial terms of the leases. The budget allocation for premises costs for Woodside Community Centre has been £21,500 for the previous two financial years.

The operating costs for the Centre have already been met from existing Council budgets for the 2009/10 and 2010/11 financial years. Given that the financial terms have been a major delay in progressing the lease there is an intention that there will be no charge placed on the occupants for this period.

The operating costs for the Woodside Fountain Centre were £48,253, which includes repairs and maintenance, for the 2010/11 financial year. This excludes the development grant and capital financing.

In order that the operation of the centre does not increase revenue budgets for Education Culture & Sports the Centre has to be operated in a way that is revenue cost neutral. It is intended that after existing budgets have been taken into consideration, the costs are recovered proportionally from all Centre occupiers, based on the respective floorspace each of them occupy, with the aggregate of the proportions totalling 100%.

The Council services occupying the building will also meet the proportion of the operating costs based upon the floorspace occupied by the Council.

The four third sector organisations have formed a User Group which will manage the operation of the Centre as a whole. This User Group is similar to the management committees for leased community centres in that its membership is drawn from the third sector organisations that occupy the building. The User Group can work to reduce the costs of operating the building, and maximise the revenue earning potential of the building to further reduce those costs.

# 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Woodside Community Centre was a leased community centre prior to the extension and refurbishment programme taking place. While the Woodside Community Centre Management Committee still continues to provide a range of social and recreational activities it is no longer the only occupant of the Centre. The Centre is occupied by two Council services and four voluntary or third sector, organisations. The management of the Centre has reverted to Council.

A single lease has been developed for the third sector organisations within the building, however the unique circumstances regarding the multiple occupancy of this building has required that this lease is different from the lease negotiations that are taking place with the leased community centres within the city.

While the management of the centre has reverted to the Council there is a commitment to local community control in a similar way to leased community centres. A User Group has been established that will hold the responsibility for the overall management of the building.

Prior to the extension being built Woodside Community Centre Management Committee was responsible for the overall management of the building. While the User Group will include representatives from Woodside Community Centre Management Committee the building is no longer managed exclusively by them.

Each occupant will still be responsible for providing and developing their own services and will have areas of the building that are wholly occupied by themselves. However, within the communal areas of the building, such are meeting rooms, there will be need for agreement with the User Group as the overall development and management of the building will be the responsibility of the User Group.

The formation of the User Group should help strengthen the community involvement in the management of the building as the User Group will consist of representatives from all four third sector organisations.

The User Group is concerned with the management of the building, not the activities of the tenants. Woodside Community Centre Management Committee with therefore still have full responsibility for their programme and activities and areas wholly occupied by them, however to maximise the use of the building they will need to be willing to let their centre space when not in use by themselves. This will not only help ensure the building

is working closer to it's capacity, but will generate additional income for the Community Centre.

The building is not currently being used to its full potential and revenue income could be generated from offering serviced meeting space, in maximising income from lets and in developing a community café. Currently there is little interest from Woodside Community Centre Management Committee in developing these types of proposals and therefore other occupants could be offered lets from the Community Centre to develop these.

The development of the relationships between the four third sector organisations and the Council must be seen in the wider context of community capacity building, delivering on local needs, effective asset management, and budgetary considerations.

#### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

At the Council meeting on 25 April 2007 the Council agreed to the extension and refurbishment of Woodside Community Centre to extend the services available to the community.

To facilitate this it was agreed that:

the existing lease be ended with Woodside Community Centre Management Committee and that the responsibility of the management of the building would be assumed by the Council;

all current programmes and activities which are viable and meet the needs of the community will continue as present in the refurbished building; and

management arrangements would be put in place with current and future services who will operate in the building.

The report also detailed that the estimated revenue costs for operating the refurbished and extended building would be no greater than the total of the separate costs for the occupiers and that therefore the revenue cost to the Council would be met from within existing budgets.

The works programme extended and developed the old Community Centre building into a modern multi-purpose building that's now occupied by two City Council Services and four third sector organisations.

Although all the six occupiers have their own dedicated space within the building, it also has common parts and circulation space used by all six and the general public who come to the Centre to use it's facilities. The building has one set of utilities, such as electricity and power. It follows that, with the building now operational, it's impossible to accurately assess the amount of use each occupier makes of the utilities and the whole building, which leads us into a practical difficulty of assessing how the property costs can be fairly divided between the six.

Arrangements have been put in place to establish a User Group with representatives from each of the four third sector organisations to manage the building. This User Group is similar to the management committees for leased community centres in that it membership is drawn from the third sector organisations that occupy the building.

There are pressing legal, financial and insurance reasons for the City Council to agree formal leases with the four third sector organisations. Technically the City Council cannot grant leases to ourselves, so that the two City Council Services in occupation are required to commit themselves to occupy the Centre as if a lease was in place. Provisional negotiations have taken place to try and establish a common lease agreement with the four third sector organisations with property charges based upon the proportion of floorspace exclusively occupied by each organisation, plus the two City Council Services. The proposal is that all the proportions aggregate to 100% of property costs.

For properties in multiple occupancy under the management of the City Council, it is common practice that property costs are split in proportion to floorspace occupied. Alternative means of splitting property costs were examined and rejected by our officers following discussion with the occupants of the Centre. For example, as there are six occupiers, each of them could simply have been liable for one-sixth of property costs. This option was rejected by our officers as it would be demonstrably unfair on the St. Machar Credit Union, who only occupy two rooms in the building. Each of the occupiers use their part of the building to a greater or lesser extent at certain times of the day and at weekends. Given the virtual impossibility of determining all the occupiers level of use of the property. over time, proportion of floorspace has been fixed upon by our officers as the least unfair means of determining the split of property costs. The User Group can reduce their costs by reducing the property operating costs of the building and by maximising income through building lets and use of building facilities.

The lease on offer to the Woodside Community Centre Management Committee is very different to the lease they previously held (where virtually all property costs were met by the City Council) and very different to any lease that's been proposed for all other leased Community Centre Management Committees as part on the ongoing Community Centre Review.

It is noted that the circumstances of the Woodside Fountain Centre are a "one off" that shouldn't be considered to set a precedent for any other leased Community Centre. For the City Council to have any prospect of getting the agreement of all six occupiers to lease and management agreements, we require to offer all six the same "deal". Any proposed lease arrangement that makes any one occupier pay (or get relief from paying) property costs on a different basis to all the other occupiers, would be effectively unworkable as it would be seen by them as unfair. As such it would make it impossible to get unanimous agreement.

For the City Council to set up a lease and management agreement with all six occupiers, we require the Woodside Community Centre Management Committee to pay a proportion of property costs, the same as all other occupiers of the building. However the existing budget allocation for Woodside Community Centre Should be able to offset any costs that should be met by the Management Committee. At present, it has not been possible to provisionally negotiate a lease agreement that all four third sector organisations agree with.

The delay in negotiating the lease has partly been due to property costs. However using the existing community centre budget will reduce the costs for the occupants.

Another reason that it has not been possible to negotiate the lease agreement is due to there being disagreement between the third sector organisations as to the use of the coffee bar kitchen area, which is not currently being used to its full capacity. It is proposed that this area should be wholly occupied by Woodside Community Centre Management Committee. However in order to maximise the use of the building and the services available to the local residents the Management Committee should agree to let this space to other occupants of the building when not in use by the Management Committee. This will help maximise the use of the building and generate let income fro the Woodside Community Centre Management Committee.

As Woodside Community Centre Management Committee is no longer solely responsible for the management of this building their operating costs have reduced and it may not be appropriate to continue to provide the same level of development grant.

It is recommended that negotiations take place with Woodside Community Centre Management Committee to agree a level of Development Grant that provides the same benefits as they previously experienced.

Negotiations between Officers and occupants of the Centre have been ongoing for a number of months. There has been considerable difficulty in obtaining a consensus with the occupants with regards to agreeing and signing any lease documents. It is hoped that the recommendations contained within this report will allow the leases to be progressed. If Officers cannot agree a lease with the Occupants over the summer recess then a report on other management arrangements may require to be presented to the Committee.

# 6. IMPACT

This Development of the Woodside Fountain Centre relates to the national priorities in the Combined Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement as follows:

We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.

We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation.

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

Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.

We live longer, healthier lives.

We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.

We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.

We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.

We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity.

This is likely to be of interest to the Public as

# 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report Council 25 April 2007, Woodside Community Centre - Extension and Refurbishment.

#### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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#### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

DATE 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT "Big Noise": Sistema Scotland in Stirling

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/034

#### PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides information on the recent visit to "Big Noise" project in Stirling by elected members. It also outlines the findings of the recent evaluation on behalf of the Scottish Government and proposes that further consideration be given to its applicability in the City.

# 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1. The Committee notes the report and the potential for a similar project in Aberdeen
- 2. The Committee instructs officers to investigate a business model for the delivery of a project working with Sistema Scotland
- 3. The Committee instructs officers to report to a future meeting of the Committee on the proposed business model, criteria for identifying an appropriate community and possible funding sources.

#### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are none at this stage. Full financial details will be required for a subsequent report.

#### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are none at this stage.

All the above will be included in the proposed, more detailed report.

#### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

At its meeting on 8 October 2009, the Committee considered a report on the Strategic Music Partnership and the potential links with Sistema Scotland. At that time it was noted that in relation to the funding of the initiative, Sistema was currently working with the Scottish Government with the hope that a funding agreement for the next Sistema Centre would be split with the local authority providing 50% of the costs, Sistema Scotland providing 25% of the cost and the Scottish Government providing 25% of the cost during years 1 to 3 of the project. From year 4 onwards it was noted that the local authority would be expected to provide 75% of the cost with Sistema Scotland meeting the other 25%.

The report recommended:-

#### That the Committee -

- a. endorse the work done to date in exploring potential links with Sistema Scotland;
- b. recognise the potential opportunities provided by Sistema as a socially driven initiative;
- c. note the costs, timescale and actions involved in being a Sistema Scotland orchestra centre;
- d. instruct relevant officers to consider feasibility of the development of the Sistema Children's Orchestra Centre in Aberdeen as part of an integrated approach to community regeneration and to report to future committees as appropriate; and
- e. if the initiative is agreed, request a further report within 18 months, by which time the strategic music partnership would have been operational on the feasibility of developing a Sistema Children's Orchestra Centre in Aberdeen as part of an integrated approach to community regeneration

Longer term outcomes are expected in the following five National Outcomes; which will need longer term tracking of children and families and official data.

- We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger
- We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions an how they affect others
- We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation
- We live longer, healthier lives
- We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society

The Committee determined that it wished to learn more about the work of Sistema Scotland and send representatives to the Big Noise Project in Stirling. As the Committee will be aware, best efforts to find a mutually convenient date have been ongoing and the visit took place on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> April. Attendees were Councillors Cormack, Kiddie and Laing, accompanied by Ken McLeod, Music Co-ordinator and Neil Bruce, Service Manager, Culture and Sport. The programme included meeting the Chairman of Sistema Scotland, Richard Holloway and

Chief Executive, Nicola Killean, attendance at the Big Noise Easter Concert and a subsequent discussion which included the Provost of Stirling Council, the Executive Councillor with the Portfolio for Children and Lifelong Learning, a local Councillor and the Head of Educational Services. Sistema Scotland's Communications Officer, George Anderson co-ordinated the visit.

# Background to Big Noise

Sistema Scotland has founded in 2007 and has the following core mission:

- To transform children's lives with music;
- To empower communities;
- To grow future inclusive orchestras; and
- To focus this work on communities in most need, in areas of deprivation

Sistema Scotland is the official Scottish partner of 'El Sistema', founded thirty years ago in Venezuela and has adapted the model to meet the needs and conditions of the Scottish environment. This model is based on evidence which shows that skills learned through orchestral education have the potential to bring the following benefits: - developing self-esteem; discipline; and achieving; so improving the outcomes for children who face inequality and disadvantage.

Sistema Scotland aims to work in areas where the need is the greatest, focusing on communities characterised by high levels of deprivation such as unemployment, crime, anti-social behaviour and poor community cohesion. In the summer of 2008, Sistema Scotland established Big Noise Children's Orchestra in Raploch, Stirling.

Big Noise is an early intervention programme that uses music and engagement in an orchestra from an early age with the aim of fostering confidence, teamwork, pride and aspiration in the children taking part. It aims to engage the whole family and wider community and so extend achievement of these outcomes across the wider community.

In Stirling, the Big Noise programme includes an out of school orchestra programme for children in Primary 2 to Primary 7, delivered mainly in a group setting. The programme is designed to be intensive, so children attend 3 evenings per week after school and 5 mornings per week during school holidays, a total of between 7.5 and 20 hours per week on a voluntary basis. The model is designed so that children of all musical abilities learn to play in an orchestra environment, rather than the traditional model of learning to play an instrument and then joining an orchestra only if they develop sufficient musical ability.

The out of school orchestra programme is complemented by a preorchestra programme for children aged 0 to 5, delivered weekly during nursery and school time for all children in the nursery and in Primary 1, and additional support for learning (ASL) for children attending Castleview School. These programmes are designed to engage in care of the whole child, sustain engagement over time and engage with the majority of children in Raploch, so then it has the potential to achieve more than a series of positive outcomes. It may, as part of a programme of regeneration, achieve social transformation. The above information is taken from the Evaluation of Big Noise by GEN, for the Scottish Government.

The Evaluation had a number of main findings:

- There are 344 children who attend nursery and school at the Raploch Campus. Big Noise has successfully engaged with 80% of the children. Primary 2 to Primary 7 children are eligible to attend after school and during school holidays. There are 219 children who can attend; 65% took up this voluntary opportunity.
- Children involved were found to gain benefits in personal and social development, including improving confidence, self esteem, social skills and the ability to concentrate.
- The families of children involved reflected on improved relationships at home, wider social networks and more shared activities between parents and children. Parents could also recognise a "more positive, aspirational future for their children", and that Big Noise has given them pride and widened their future potential achievements.
- Parent and professionals interviewed identified changing perceptions of the wider community in the Raploch area. There was evidence of more positive relationships between parents and officials and organisations and skills being shared between partner organisations.
- Big Noise is contributing to eight National Outcomes
  - We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger
  - We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others
  - We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation
  - Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, affective contributors and responsible citizens
  - Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed
  - We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity
  - We live longer, healthier lives
  - We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society

The visit to Stirling gained an understanding that while there was a very clear recognition that Big Noise is a project which needs time to be able to make and demonstrate a lasting difference, it can already show it is:

- encouraging ambition and giving life chances

- building on the resilience of the young
- giving new life skills
- offering a taste of success
- broadening horizons
- bringing the discipline of playing together as a team

In Stirling, the benefits being achieved by youngsters are also being built in to school work and the Curriculum for Excellence. The Evaluation noted that improvement in attainment had still to be shown. However, it was recognised that this would be only seen or able to be measured in the longer term.

The costs of the project in 2009/2010 were £474,000, which was £1,866.14 per child per annum. This was a cost of £1.98 per hour for each child involved across all aspects of the programme. The cost of involvement in the out of school programme per child per annum was £5,266.67 and per hour was £11.59.

The project is generational; it is about the whole community being involved or engaged, improving the community, social justice and wellbeing. By investing in children, it seeks to make a difference to the next generation and into the future. The initial project is five years long, with Stirling Council committing to mainstream the work thereafter.

Overall, the impression was of an initiative which had enthusiasm, strong commitment and belief from those involved in its delivery; Sistema Scotland's Board, officers and musicians; and, equally strong belief and commitment from the local authority, both senior and local elected members and officials. The enthusiasm appeared to be matched by participants, from pre-school to the seven month-old adult "Noise" group; while there was seriousness and concentration in performance, there was also enjoyment, confidence and a sense of achievement.

# **Applicability in Aberdeen**

There are a number of issues to consider here:

- The level of elected members and officer commitment from the local authority.
- Recognition that it will take considerable time to see sustained changes. Expectations and demands for evidence of change and results will be seen only in the longer term.
- ➤ Identifying a community to work with, however objectively selected, will potentially challenge perceptions of the City and that community and portray the latter in a detrimental way. Comparative data would be used to explain the community identified.
- Finally, decisions will be required about the level of funding and from where it is allocated, with ongoing commitment over a period of years. This might include both Revenue and Capital funding.

Should a decision be subsequently taken to adopt Sistema Scotland's model, it would also need to be recognised that there would be up to 18 months required in planning and set up, to ensure that the Aberdeen project was successfully launched.

There are potential synergies with ongoing discussions between the City Council and Creative Scotland in respect of an integrated and inclusive approach to developing work in youth art. Consideration would also be given to review how opportunities are currently made available for all youngsters to enjoy music tuition and other creative activities; how this project may assist and in addition, how it would fit within the Strategic Music Partnership's work.

The approach highlights commitment to long term change and encourages a wider assessment of how funding might be allocated. In addition, the reports to the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee, on "Working Better Together: A Collaborative Approach to Public Service Design and Delivery" relate; the Report to Committee on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2010 estimated each youth crime costs £4,585 on average. As Sistema Scotland's evaluation has shown, investing in youngsters at an early age can make a difference to achieve positive change, rather than continue to be reactive to social and other problems.

# 6. IMPACT

The proposal and approach set out in this report supports Community Planning, the delivery of the Single Outcome Agreement and the objectives of *Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking* by identifying priorities for co-ordinated and joined-up service delivery, as well as more effective collaborative working with partners and citizens. It would also contribute to the vibrancy of the city in terms of cultural opportunities, for youngsters, for audiences and for musicians.

Within the priorities in the Five Year Business Plan, the focus is to contribute to helping ensure that all schoolchildren can reach their potential; raising broad educational attainment and achievement; providing for the needs of the most vulnerable people; and, ensuring efficient and effective delivery of services by the Council and with its partners.

The report is likely to have public interest as it relates to a project which has already engendered media attention.

#### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Education, Culture and Sport Committee, 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009, Strategic Music Partnership and potential links with SIstema Scotland ECS/09/31

Report to Policy and Strategy (Education) Committee, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2009, Strategic Music Partnership Progress
Report to Corporate Policy and Performance Committee, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2010, Working Better Together: A Collaborative Approach to Public Service Design and Delivery
Report to Corporate Policy and Performance Committee, 25<sup>th</sup>
November 2010, Working Better Together – update

# 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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### **ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL**

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

**DATE** 2 June 2011

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Closing the Gap

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/040

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The report provides an overview of the key factors associated with underachievement and the gap between the highest and lowest performers in attainment.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that Committee:

- 1. notes the content of the report.
- 2. instructs officers to develop a policy on raising achievement which sets out the approaches to be taken in schools and across services to reduce the gap in attainment.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are none at this stage. Following the development of a strategy to raise standards and achievement resources may need to be re-targeted.

### 4. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

- 4.1 At its meeting on 20 January 2001, the Committee considered a report on performance which contained data on the gap in educational attainment of between the highest and lowest attainers. The Committee instructed officers to bring back a further report on the gap between the lowest attaining 20% and the highest attaining 20% of pupils and to include any lessons learned from how other local authorities had tackled the problem.
- 4.2 This report sets out the key factors that can impact positively to close the gap in attainment and achievement. It draws on the work of other local authorities as well as research in Scotland, the UK and more widely.

- 4.3 Closing or narrowing the gap in educational attainment is a stubborn problem not only in Aberdeen but across Scotland and in other countries. A country wide review of Scottish education carried out by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and published in 2007 recognised that improving educational attainment and employment outcomes was a strong priority within Scottish education. There have been various policy interventions in place over the last two decades which have sought to address these complicated and long standing problems.
- 4.4 underlying causes of inequality in attainment One in four children in Scotland is achievement are complex. growing up in poverty. By the age of three children living in poverty can be up to a year behind other children in their learning. An achievement gap associated with deprivation opens up about Primary 5. This gap continues to widen throughout secondary school. A report by the Rowntree Foundation shows that only 14 per cent of variation in students' performance can be put down to school quality, most is explained by factors in the home and The attitudes and aspirations of both children and parents seem to be key in breaking the link between poverty and attainment. This therefore requires us to look at the context in which children grow up and the opportunities that will be open to them.
- 4.5 As yet no single approach has solved this problem for our children and young people. Given this affects at least one quarter of the pupils in our schools across Scotland it is a major challenge. The children affected are not just in schools in very deprived areas, they are scattered across the country.
- 4.6 Schools can and do make a difference. Schools have been found to narrow the gap in attainment for vulnerable groups. There is no single factor which reduces the gap but a number of approaches taken together can have a significant effect. In some instances attainment has been improved across all pupils and therefore the gap has not been narrowed but all have benefited equally. Providing work-related opportunities for low attainers can lead to overall improved attainment and greater likelihood of continuing in education and training post 16. Where schools have reduced bullying and improved behaviour this can improve achievement of vulnerable learners. Activities such as pupil decision making, effective pastoral care and out of school learning can improve outcomes. Improving approaches to learning and teaching can have a significant effect on the attainment of all learners. The involvement of parents and children in interventions has been shown to have a beneficial effect on outcomes, both for vulnerable groups and the whole school population. When combined with work with families and in communities and where

the intervention is early enough to make a difference there can be quite marked improvements.

- 4.7 Groups of pupils most at risk of missing out include:
  - Looked after and accommodated children
  - Children with additional support needs, including emotional and behavioural difficulties
  - Children who experience barriers to their achievement because of their race, gender, disability or health
  - Children experiencing homelessness
  - Young carers
- In Aberdeen City we are already putting in place a number of approaches designed to maximise the achievement of all our young people. In developing a strategy for raising standards and raising achievement for Aberdeen we would propose to include and develop advice and guidance on the following priorities:
  - Continuing to develop a curriculum for excellence which provides flexibility and which works with families and communities as well as children and young people;
  - Develop our early intervention approaches with children and their families;
  - Develop our partnerships with local employers to provide innovative learning opportunities;
  - Improving learning and teaching;
  - Improve transitions from nursery to primary school and from primary to secondary school;
  - Develop a personal learning approach for children and for adult learners in families:
  - Develop classroom approaches which are differentiated to meet learners needs;
  - Develop integrated working practices throughout our services which support our most vulnerable and disadvantaged families;
  - Place parents, as the primary educator at the centre of our partnership approaches;
  - Promote health and well being for children and their families;
  - Continue to develop family learning approaches to support children from a very early age; and
  - Developing a multi-agency approach to providing service and using resources based on the findings of the Total Place work being carried out in the north of the City.
- 6. In order to achieve this we will need to:
  - Target resources at priority areas of need;
  - Support achievement for all pupils;

- Ensure our management information system provides reliable information on attainment and achievement to enable us to act quickly; and
- Ensure we have a range of provision to meet the needs of our learners.
- 7. A study by the Rowntree Foundation found that that children of similar ability and backgrounds have better test scores by 11 years-old if:
  - they believe they can affect their own lives, believe in their own ability and believe that school is important;
  - they are not struggling with behaviour problems or being bullied;
  - their mother wants them to go to university and believes in her own ability to affect her life.

This study points up the key importance of placing the child at the centre but working with children, within families, within their communities.

8. Officer propose to develop a policy and strategy outlining in more detail how we will seek to reduce the gap in achievement building on the key approaches set out in sections 6 and 7. This strategy will be built in to the 5 year service improvement plan which will come to the next committee cycle.

### 9. IMPACT

This report is likely to be of interest to the public. It will affect those with children and those working in schools. It will also be of interest to those involved in lifelong learning and to other public provider partners.

### 10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Report to Education, Culture and Sport Committee, 20 January 2011

### 11. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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### **ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL**

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

DATE 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Celebrating St Andrews Day 2011 in Schools

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/045

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek the approval of the Education, Culture & Sport Committee for schools to remain open to pupils on St Andrew's Day, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011, allowing them to celebrate the occasion in school.

In the previous two years, St Andrew's Day has been designated a school in-service day, which meant that pupils have had a holiday to celebrate the occasion. This was in response to a request by the Cabinet Secretary to consider making St Andrew's Day a school holiday.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

To give approval to the change in approach to celebrating St Andrew's Day, by allowing pupils to celebrate the day in school, rather than using the day as a school in-service day.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

The dates of in-service days have an impact on parents and employers, so it will be important for them to be notified of the agreed dates for 2011/2012 as soon as possible. An early decision would therefore be welcomed.

### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

In January 2009 a letter was received from the Cabinet Secretary, encouraging us to consider marking St Andrew's Day 2009 by making it a school holiday.

This was subsequently discussed by the Policy and Strategy Committee on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009, where it was agreed that, rather than making the day

a holiday for both staff and pupils, it would instead be made a school inservice day, which would allow pupils a holiday in order to celebrate the occasion.

This approach was continued in 2010, when 30<sup>th</sup> November was also a school in-service day.

The Committee is requested to consider making 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 a normal school day for pupils. This would allow teachers an opportunity to focus on the occasion of St Andrew's Day and use it as an opportunity to teach pupils about this important aspect of Scottish culture.

In considering this proposal the Committee is reminded of the principles adopted when producing the current holiday arrangements, namely:

- 1. There is a need to establish a holiday pattern that avoids schools opening during public and local holidays.
- 2. Whole weeks of holiday and school term time are preferable to incomplete weeks
- 3. There are benefits for some children, parents and employees in harmonisation of holiday patterns with neighbouring Authorities e.g. Aberdeenshire
- 4. Harmonisation requires full and early consultation with neighbouring Authorities
- 5. In any school year, the stipulated number of attendances for pupils is 190 days and the number of working days for teachers is 195 days, the additional 5 days for teachers being in-service days.

In 2011, the 30<sup>th</sup> November falls on a Wednesday. If the day was to be made an in-service day, we would require pupils to be at school on the Monday and Tuesday of that week, then to take a holiday on the Wednesday, and to return to school for the Thursday and Friday.

Traditionally we have ensured that in-service days fall immediately before or after a weekend or other school holiday, to minimise any disruption to the school week.

Aberdeenshire did not make St Andrew's Day a holiday for pupils or staff in 2009 or in 2010. They have already set their dates for holidays and inservice days up until the end of school session 2013/2014, and have no plans to make 30<sup>th</sup> November in the coming years a holiday or an inservice day.

The proposed in-service days for Aberdeen City in 2011/2012, should the committee approve this proposal, are as follows:

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2011 (*First day of term*) Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011\* Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012 (*Monday 13<sup>th</sup> is the mid-term holiday*) Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2012 Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012 (*Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May is May Day holiday*)

The proposed dates have been set to ensure that three of the days coincide with Aberdeenshire's in-service days (14<sup>th</sup> November, 14<sup>th</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> February). This would allow opportunities for teachers from both local authorities to benefit from joint-working and shared input into their professional development on some or all of these days.

\*If the committee decides that St Andrew's Day should remain an inservice day, the November in-service day would be the 30<sup>th</sup> and not the 14<sup>th</sup> November, and only two of the days would coincide with Aberdeenshire's days.

### 6. IMPACT

We require to advise parents and families as soon as possible of the dates of the in-service days for 2011/2012 so that the can make their plans accordingly.

### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Aberdeen City School Terms and Holiday Dates 2010 – 2015

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/SchoolsColleges/scc SchoolHols.asp

Aberdeenshire School Terms, Holiday and In-Service Day Dates 2009-2014

http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/schools/information/Schoolholidayplanner.pdf

### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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### Agenda Item 9.4

### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE: Education, Culture and Sport

DATE: 2 June 2011

DIRECTOR: Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT: Provision for children with additional

support needs arising from complex factors

- Progress Report

REPORT NUMBER: ECS/11/043

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is:

To update members on progress with the proposed School Campus for children with severe and complex needs.

To seek members endorsement for the proposed way forward for services for children with severe and complex needs.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the members of the Committee:

- (i) note the wishes of parents/guardians, and the new information brought forward by officers, following discussions with NHS Grampian about the future of the Raeden site:
- (ii) endorse the actions taken since the last meeting of the Committee, and the proposed way forward for services for children with severe and complex needs.

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 At its meeting in June 2009 the Resources Management Committee approved funding for the proposed new school campus for children severe and complex needs, at an estimated cost of £16,675,000 to be spread over five years. This was on a clear understanding that this cost would be offset against ongoing revenue savings associated with: rationalising Hazlewood, Woodlands and Raeden schools into one new school; the costs associated with supporting children with disabilities in out of authority placements; and the potential capital receipts from the sale of the Hazlewood site.

- 3.2 The annual property running costs of the three schools was in excess of £3.2 million, (based on 2007/08 costs), and planned maintenance costs for Hazlewood and Woodlands Schools over the next 4 6 years were predicted to amount to £2,068,625, based on information from condition surveys of both buildings.
- 3.3 Separate from the construction costs for the new school campus on the Raeden site, it was anticipated that there would be costs associated with moving the nursery from the current site to the temporary site at Braeside School and then back into the new school and to move equipment into the 3 new local developmental nurseries. In addition, there will be refurbishment costs at Ashgrove Children's Centre. The Corporate Asset Group is currently reviewing the possible funding of these works, which it is anticipated should amount to no more than £175K, and if necessary this issue will be reported to the next Finance & Resources Committee.
- 3.4 In line with the decision of the Resources Management Committee in June 2009, funding for the new complex on the Raeden site, at an estimated cost of £16.675 million was built into the indicative non-housing capital programme, to be spread over five years. Since that decision, the capital programme has been reviewed in line with the reduced available capital and this project was not able to be supported within the 2011/12 programme. Officers were however instructed to explore alternative funding options for the project.

### 4. SERVICE & COMMUNITY IMPACT

- 4.1 This proposal fits with the vision in the Community Plan to develop Aberdeen as a 'City of Learning'. It also links to the priorities set out in Vibrant Dynamic and Forward Looking Manifesto commitments to: ensure Aberdeen's pupils and teachers have school buildings fit for 21st century; ensuring expenditure on education delivers maximum benefit to pupils' education; continue to involve parents and pupils in their schools; ensure education is appropriate to pupils' needs; allocate additional resources to support for learning, target areas of greatest need; continue work to raise the achievement of vulnerable children and close the attainment gap across the city and make greater provision within the city for young people with additional needs to avoid placements out of the area.
- 4.2 It relates to the requirement to report in the Single Outcome Agreement in particular Priority 5 Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed; and Priority 8 We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.

### 5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 It is proposed that the new locally based developmental nurseries will be established by August 2011. The aim will be to minimise the disruption to any children currently attending the pre-school nursery at the Raeden

- Centre, and to ensure we are able to offer new children places in the locally based special needs nurseries or in the full day care provision being commissioned from the voluntary sector.
- There will be property implications as a direct result of this report. No construction work will be required at Kaimhill Primary, though minor changes will be required to the accommodation at Seaton School. Refurbishment work is required at Ashgrove Children's Centre to improve accessibility.
- 5.3 There will be implications for Information Technology, Human Resources, and Facilities Management and these will be reported to committee at a future date.

### 6 REPORT

- 6.1 At the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 24 March 2011, members considered the outcome of the statutory consultation, and agreed in principle to the closure of Raeden Nursery and the allocation of children to the three proposed developmental nurseries and the temporary decant of children to the former Braeside School. This was to enable the construction of the new school campus on the site of the Raeden Centre, subject to the approval of the business case by Finance and Resources Committee.
- 6.2 In addition, the Committee instructed officers to complete a full business case for the development of the new school campus on the site of the existing Raeden Centre, to be considered by Finance and Resources Committee for a decision on the proposed funding methodology.
- 6.3 Following the Committee's endorsement of the outcomes of the statutory consultation process, officers sent the full report to the Scottish Government for their consideration, in line with the guidance contained within the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.
- 6.4 On 3 May 2011 the City Council received official confirmation from the Scottish Government that they had received no representations in relation to the proposals. They confirmed that, 'the Scottish Ministers consider that Aberdeen City Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 2010 Act and therefore do not intend to issue a call-in notice in respect of the decision', (see Appendix 1).
- In relation to the funding for the new School Campus on the Raeden site, the Finance and Resources Committee on 21 April 2011 agreed that the Head of Asset Management and Operations should complete a detailed business case, in order to determine the financial viability of any proposals. Officers were also instructed to consider various funding arrangements, and report back to the next meeting of the Finance and Resources Committee on the outcome of this work.

- 6.6 Since these meetings, staff from Raeden Nursery have been in discussion with parents and guardians of current and prospective pupils to establish the most appropriate provision for their children for the new school session starting in August 2011.
- 6.7 In relation to the future of the Raeden Centre, NHS Grampian has confirmed that, as planned, they are entirely vacating the Raeden Centre from the end of June 2011. This results from the planned service redesign undertaken by NHS. This redesign has already been consulted on and agreed. Should Aberdeen City Council wish to carry on operating the Raeden Nursery from the Raeden Centre, we would take on sole responsibility for all costs associated with the operation of the building, including facilities management, health and safety, legionella testing, together with a backlog of repair and maintenance work.
- 6.8 Whilst NHS Grampian have confirmed that they are happy if the City Council wishes to continue to use the building, this is potentially a very expensive option, given the small number of pupils involved, and officers feel is unlikely to serve the best educational needs of the children, or provide the opportunities for integration with mainstream children offered by the developmental nurseries option.
- 6.9 Furthermore, feedback from recent meetings and visits to the developmental nurseries has been very positive, and both parents and staff can see the advantages that the developmental nurseries offer, not least the opportunities for integration with mainstream children.
- 6.10 As a result, the majority of children have now been placed in one of the three developmental nurseries, at either Ashgrove Children's Centre, Kaimhill or Seaton School.
- 6.11 The Head Teacher has therefore been in discussion with the families of the remaining four children, and has agreed that places can be provided in Seaton School, where, subject to some minor alterations to the proposed accommodation, there is capacity to accommodate the children.
- 6.12 Given the planned relocation of children to the developmental nurseries from August 2011 and the proposal to set up provision at Seaton School. There is no longer the requirement to keep the nursery provision operating at the Raeden Centre, or to relocate the provision to Braeside School, as originally envisaged.
- 6.13 Business Case in relation to developing a business case to support alternative sources of funding for the new School Campus on the Raeden site, officers are working to develop detailed proposals. It is anticipated that officers will have sufficient information in time to report to the next Finance and Resources Committee on 16 June 2011.

### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Review of the Provision for Children and Young People with Additional Support Needs Arising from Complex Factors June 2007
Brief for a New Specialist Facility for Children with Additional Support Needs Arising from Complex Factors October 2008
Review of Long Term Health Provision by NHS Grampian for Selected Categories of Children with Disabilities and Complex Needs (NHS Grampian 2003)

Review of Pre-school Services in Aberdeen City for Children with Special Needs (NHS Grampian and Aberdeen City Council 2004)
Aberdeen City Council's Nursery Admission Policy
The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000
Early Years Framework 2008

Report and minutes of reports to the following Committees:

- Policy and Strategy (Education) Committee on 3 March 2009
- Resources Management Committee on 16 June 2009
- Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 16 September 2010
- Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 24 March 2011
- Finance and Resources Committee on 21 April 2011

### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

David Wright
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### Learning Directorate School Infrastructure Unit



T: F:

Annette Bruton
Corporate Director for Education, Culture and Sport
Aberdeen City Council
Town House
Broad Street
ABERDEEN
AB10 1FY

3 May 2011

Dear Amette,

I refer to David Wright's email of 28 March 2011, to inform the Scottish Ministers that Aberdeen City Council took the decision on 24 March 2011 to close Raeden Nursery School, Hazelwood School and Woodlands School, as part of the Council's redesign of ASN provision.

As is required under section 15 (4) of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (the 2010 Act), a three week period was allowed, which expired on 13 April 2011, for anyone to make a representation to the Scottish Ministers requesting that the decision should (or should not) be called in by them. No such representations were received in relation to the decision to close these education facilities.

After carefully considering the information provided by your Council, I can confirm that the Scottish Ministers consider that Aberdeen City Council has fulfilled its obligations under the 2010 Act and therefore do not intend to issue a call-in notice in respect the decision. Aberdeen City Council therefore now have Scottish Ministers' consent to close Raeden Nursery School, Hazelwood School and Woodlands School in line with the specific proposal to develop the Raeden Development Campus.

Yours snicerely.

JULIE HUMPHREYS
Head of School Infrastructure Unit







# EDUCATION CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE - COMMITTEE BUSINESS 2 JUNE 2011

	_	Agenda Item 10.
Expected (if known)	15.09.11	
Report Due	02.06.11	2012 2012
Lead Officer(s)	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance
<u>Update</u>	This is linked to the Council decision as part of the General Fund budget proposals, to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report to the relevant Committee on new ways of working for the provision of library services within the City (see item 18 on the business statement).	This item will be rolled together in to one report to be presented to Committee in early 2012.
Committee Decision	Library Service Development  The Committee requested that the current fortnightly street site at Kingswells be maintained until January 2011, thereafter officers in Culture and Leisure, Neighbourhood Services (North Area) be instructed to report to Committee concerning the provision of a library service within the Kingswells community.  A report will be submitted in 2011 taking into consideration the outcome of the priority based budgeting proposals.	Learning Estate Strategy (Schools) – Rezoning Exercise (Secondary)  At its meeting of 28 October 2010, the Committee resolved, amongst other things:- to request that officers develop fully detailed proposals for the longer term management and provision of secondary schools which will result in twelve academies in total, as outlined in the report.  Following the decision on 28 October 2010 that officers fully develop proposals to redefine the catchment areas of Aberdeen Grammar School and Harlaw Academy, at its meeting of 24 March 2011, the Committee considered a report on the catchment areas of these schools and agreed that officers should include the potential re-zoning of the two secondary
	Area North Committee 18 November 2008 Article 7	Education, Culture & Sport 27 May 2010 Article 11 Special EC&S Committee 28 October 2010 Article 2
ON N	<del>-</del> Pag	e 119

Report Expected (if known)		02.06.11	02.06.11
Report Due		16.09.10	15.09.11
<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>		Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport
<u>Update</u>		This item has been deferred to the January meeting of the Committee to allow time for the Stirling project to bed in and to allow a visit to the partnership next year.  The visit to Stirling took place on 15 April 2011. A report is on the agenda.	A report is on the agenda.
Committee Decision	schools in a comprehensive review of the primary school estate, to be completed by December 2011 with a report to Education, Culture and Sport Committee early in 2012.	Strategic Music Partnership  The Committee approved the recommendations in the report and requested that officers report back on potential links with Sistema Scotland.  A report was considered by the Committee, amongst other things (a) noted the costs, timescale and actions involved in being a Sistema Scotland orchestra centre; (b) instructed relevant officers to consider feasibility of the development of the Sistema Children's orchestra centre in Aberdeen as part of an integrated appropriate; and (c) requested a further report within 18 months, by which time the strategic music partnership would have been operational, on the feasibility of developing a Sistema Children's orchestra centre in Aberdeen as part of an integrated approach to community regeneration, with regular progress reports submitted to the Committee as appropriate.	Communities Services Team / Leased Community Centres - At the Council Budget meeting, the Council agreed as part of the General Fund budget proposals, to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report to the relevant Committee with an
Minute Reference		3. Policy & Strategy (Education) 9 June 2009 Article 11	4. Council Budget 10 February 2011
<u>8</u>		Page 120	٧

<u>N</u>	Minute Reference	Committee Decision	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>	Report Due	Report Expected (if known)
		implementation plan on how the reduction in funding for the Communities Services Team will be delivered, in conjunction with how this will also provide continued support to leased Community Centres, and the transfer of all centres to the leased model for full implementation by 2012. At its meeting on 24 March 2011, the Education, Culture and Sport Committee agreed:-  (i) that all community centres move to a lease type model by 31 March 2012, managed by community organisations as appropriate to the facility;				
Page 121		(ii) to instruct officers to negotiate an arrangement with management committees of the above centres which will ensure a sustainable, ongoing delivery of adult learning, youth development, and capacity building activities which fit into a local and city-wide pathway framework;				
		(iii) to agree that if required, transitional arrangements can be negotiated with transferring centres to ensure that they remain operational during the period of change;				
		(iv) to agree that any model constitution that is agreed by future Committees is compatible with the requirements of OSCR, thereby allowing community organisations to seek to achieve charitable status if they wish;				
		(v) to note that a future report will be brought to Committee on the future of Torry Learning House, Tilly Flat and Cummings				

Report Expected (if known)		15.09.11
Report Due		18.11.10
<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>		Head of Communities, Culture and Sport
<u>Update</u>		The Community Learning hub at Seaton 3Rs School commenced operation in October 2010. Officers will be looking at opportunities to create a community learning hub in a future regeneration development in the Tillydrone area, working in
Committee Decision	(vi) to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to carry out a detailed analysis of all funded activity (both externally and internally delivered), taking into consideration a social and economic impact analysis of each activity, reporting back to an appropriate Committee;  (vii) to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report back to a future Committee on future priority areas of service delivery, based on feedback from members of this Committee;  (viii) to note the service delivery implications of the reduced budget, and seek more information on service implications in future reports;  (ix) to note that the Service will continued to be inspected by HMIe; and  (x) to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to review the number of community facilities within Aberdeen City, as part of the wider service asset management plan for Education, Culture and Sport.	ASG At its meeting on 27 May 2010, the Committee resolved, amongst other things, to instruct officers to undertake further work, in liaison with partner agencies and other Directorates, and report back on
Minute Reference		Education, Culture and Sport 27 May 2010 Article 7 (Resources
왿	Page 122	က်

medium to long-term community learning hub options for St Machar ASG.		7
medium to long-term community learning partnership with other hub options for St Machar ASG.  This item is affected reduction to the commute amount to the commute amount to progress	_	المراجعة المراجعة
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	this tin	
Management Committee 5 February 2009 Article 12) Education,	Ication, Kaimhill Community Learning Hub	

Report Expected (if known)		02.06.11
Report Due		
<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>		Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance
<u>Update</u>		At its meeting on 21 April 2011, the Finance and Resources Committee considered a report on the ongoing discussions with Hub Co, and resolved that:-  (i) the Heads of Finance and Asset Management & Operations continue discussions with Hub Co, along with the completion of detailed Business Cases by all appropriate Services, to determine the financial viability of this
Committee Decision	deployment of janitorial cover and report back; (iii) that officers report to a future meeting on the outcome of the review of the Corporate Budget; and (iv) to receive oral updates at each meeting on the Bookings and Lettings Review and its implementation.  At its meeting on 20 January 2011, the Committee heard that officers had reviewed the rationale for groups receiving free lets via the Corporate Budget held by Corporate Governance, and it was noted that a report would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee on this matter. Finally, a report would also be produced on the review of the Access to Leisure Scheme to ensure that it was achieving its objectives.  At its meeting on 24 March 2011, the Committee approved the principle of implementing new staffing arrangements for evenings and weekends lets, subject to the outcome of detailed engagement with staff and trade unions by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure.	Support Needs – Raeden At its meeting on 16 June 2009, the Resources Management Committee approved the development of a new specialist facility for children with additional support needs arising from complex factors on the current Raeden Development Centre site. At its meeting on 15 April 2010, the Education, Culture and Sport Committee requested that this remain on
Minute Reference		9. Resources Management Committee 16 June 2009 Article 20
2	Page 125	

Minute Reference	Committee Decision	<u>Update</u>	<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>	Report Due	Report Expected (if known)
	At its meeting on 24 March 2011, the Committee instructed officers to complete a full business case for the development of the new school and campus on the site of the existing Raeden Centre, and agreed in principle to the closure of Raeden Nursery, the allocation of children to the 3 proposed developmental nurseries; the temporary decant of children to the former Braeside School, to enable the construction of the new school and campus on the site of the Raeden Centre, subject to the approval of the business case by the Finance and Resources Committee.	proposal;  (ii) the Director of Education, Culture and Sport evaluates the specific impact of not progressing the Raeden and Bucksburn/ Newhills projects within the current timescales, and reports these to the next meeting of Education, Culture and Sport Committee;  (iii) appropriate officers continue to consider other funding arrangements;  (iv) a full report is submitted to the next Finance and Resources Committee on the outcome of the above; and  (v) to instruct that everyone with an interest be advised immediately that a decant in the summer recess was unlikely.			
	At its meeting on 15 April 2010, the Committee instructed officers to conduct an options appraisal on the redevelopment of the Cordyce site to include, in addition to a replacement school, a specialist residential facility on a spend-to-save basis, subject to confirmation of the required funding. The options appraisal was referred to the Finance and Resources Committee of 11 May 2010, for funding approval. Funding approval was granted.  The Committee received an oral update at its meeting on 18 November 2010, and resolved:-	An update was provided in the March 2011 information bulletin.  Officers will provide a bulletin update on 2 June 2011, and then will aim to provide a full report to the September meeting, following discussion with the architects involved.	Head of Educational Development Policy and Performance	18.11.10	15.09.11

Report Expected (if known)		
Report Due		15.09.11
<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>		Director of Education, Culture and Sport
<u>Update</u>		At its meeting on 18 November 2010, the Committee resolved:- (i) to note that the review of water in the city would take approximately a year to complete, and to therefore amend the "report expected" column to September 2011; and (ii) also in relation to item 16 (Tullos Swimming Pool – Internal Works), to request that Annette Bruton and Patricia Cassidy meet with the local Ward Members to discuss the detail of the review.  At its meeting on 20 January 2011, the Committee heard that work had commenced on the Water Management Plan; that a survey had been issued to swimming clubs; and that a briefing would be provided to local Members following a meeting to be held with all parties on 14 February 2011.
Committee Decision	(i) to note the update provided, and that a report would come back to Committee on the options appraisal, to include a number of different options on how to manage provision; (ii) to request that in preparing the report, officers take account of the Social Care and Wellbeing implications and make mention of the provision of children's homes	Tullos Swimming Pool – Internal Works  The Committee had under consideration a request from Education, Culture and Sport Committee to consider urgent funding from the Capital Plan to carry out works to the interior of the Tullos Swimming Pool. Members expressed their concern that not enough detail was included within the report, and questioned why the repairs had not been carried out at a much earlier date. The Convener expressed his concern that the Service Committee was requesting capital funding for the repairs and intimated that Service Committees should take ownership of their Non Housing Capital Programmes, and reprioritise their budgets to take account of urgent matters such as this case. The Committee, amongst other things, resolved that the matter be referred back to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee in order that members may consider the matter as part of a review of the Non Housing Capital Programme for that Service.  At its meeting on 16 September 2010, the Committee resolved, amongst other
No Minute Reference		Finance and Resources 17 June 2010 Article 34
		Page 127

Expected (if known) (15.09.11		15.09.11
Report Due 15.09.11		02.06.11
Officer(s)  Head of Communities,	Culture and Sport	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport
<u>Update</u>		A report will now come to Committee in September.
becision  eview the need for Tu  ool as part of a city-w gement plan, in partners i Swimming, Sport Aberde swimming clubs, to inclu g of Aberdeen agai aburgh and Glasgow.  report on proposals Aberdeen Art Gallery	Museums and Galleries collections The Committee resolved:- to instruct officers to prepare a capital business case for further consideration and report to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 16 September 2010, and Finance and Resources Committee on 28 September 2010, to include recommendations on the most appropriate option to redevelop the Art Gallery, and on the commitment the Council is being requested to make at that stage.  At its meeting on 18 November 2010, the Committee agreed that a fundraising campaign be progressed at no net cost to the Council.	At its meeting of 20 January 2011, the Committee noted a report which had been referred from the Corporate Policy and Performance Committee and resolved:  (i) to request that officers take cognisance of ongoing work in Nottingham on early intervention; and (ii) to request a report back on progress with Total Place and Community Signature work in Torry.
No Reference Reference 12 Education, Culture and	Sport 27 May 2010 Article 14	Corporate Policy & Performance 25 November 2010 Article 9

Report Expected (if known)	24.11.11			15.09.11	15.09.11
Report Due	02.06.11	02.06.11	02.06.11	02.06.11	02.06.11
<u>Lead</u> Officer(s)	Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance	Head of Educational Development, Policy and Performance	Director of Education, Culture and Sport	Director of Education, Culture and Sport	Director of Education, Culture and Sport
<u>Update</u>	New leaver destination information will not be published until later in the year. Officers will therefore bring a report back on this in November.	A report is on the agenda.	A report is on the agenda.	A report will now come to Committee in September.	A report will go to Committee in September 2011.
Committee Decision	Leaver Destinations 2009/10  The Committee noted with concern that the proportion of young people classified as unemployed and seeking employment was slightly higher than the national average, and requested a report back with an analysis of the cause and any action which could be taken to address the issue; and requested that the report also include information on those unemployed and not seeking employment.	Closing the Gap  The Committee requested a further report on the gap between the lowest attaining 20% and the highest attaining 20% of pupils, to include any lessons learned from how other local authorities had tackled the problem.	As part of the General Fund budget proposals, to instruct all Directors to report to the relevant Committee on the progress with their Transformation options prior to the summer recess which includes all Service Options relating to external delivery models.	As part of the General Fund budget proposals, to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report to the relevant Committee with further information on the role and support of Pupil Support Assistants.	As part of the General Fund budget proposals, to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to report to
o <u>Minute</u> Reference	Education, Culture and Sport Committee 20 January 2011 Article 7	Culture and Sport Committee 20 January 2011 Article 7	16 Council Budget 10 February 2011	17 Council Budget 10 February 2011	18 Council Budget 10 February 2011
<u>N</u>		Page 1	29		

				<u>Lead</u>	Report	Report
Reference	9	Committee Decision	<u>Update</u>	<u>Officer(s)</u>	<u>Dne</u>	Expected (if known)
		the relevant Committee on new ways of working for the provision of library services within the City.				
19 Education, Culture and Sport Committee 24 March 2011 Article 15		At its meeting on 24 March 2011, the Committee considered a report on how the decision from the Council Budget meeting on 10 February 2011 to move to a cultural trust would be implemented.		Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	24.11.11	
		The Committee agreed, amongst other things:- to instruct the Director of Education, Culture and Sport to progress, by way of an officers' working group, an options appraisal on the transfer of services to a cultural trust, and that the options appraisal (1) include consideration of which services could transfer, including the Beach Ballroom, (2) examine a preferred governance model, including the option of community ownership of assets, and (3) to request that the options appraisal include SWOT analysis and options for governance arrangements; and to report the findings of the options appraisal to Committee by 24 November 2011.				
20 Audit and Risk Committee 29 March 2011 Article ??		Internal Audit - Summary of Audit Findings - Trusts and Arms Length Organisations Audit (i) to instruct officers to provide a report on the governance arrangements in place for the Aberdeen International Youth Festival to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee in due course; and		Head of Communities, Culture and Sport / Head of Legal and Democratic Services	15.09.11	

Report Expected (if known)			
Report Due		02.06.11	02.06.11
<u>Lead</u> <u>Officer(s)</u>		Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure / Education, Culture and Sport	Head of Schools and Educational Establishments
<u>Update</u>		A report is on the agenda.	An update on the virtual campus is provided as part of the update report on implementation of the PBB decisions.
Committee Decision	(ii) to instruct officers to report on the following bodies (for Education, Culture and Sport this was the Aberdeen International Youth Festival) to their relative Service Committee explaining why no Service Level Agreement was currently in place and to instruct the Service to establish a Service Level Agreement within a strict timeframe.	50m Swimming Pool  The Council resolved:- In regard to item 1 (50m Swimming Pool), (1) to delegate authority to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee to make all necessary decisions at its meeting on 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2011, in order to keep the project on track, and that officers report accordingly; and (2) that the Vice Convener of the Finance and Resources Committee be invited to attend the aforementioned meeting of the Education, Culture and Sport Committee in connection with this item and be entitled to speak at the meeting.	Virtual Campus  During consideration of the performance report, the Committee resolved to note the proposal to hold a Members' seminar on the virtual campus and to request that a report also be presented on this issue to the 2 June meeting of the Committee
Minute Reference		21 Council 27 April 2011	Culture and Sport 24 March 2011 Article 20
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# EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORT COMMITTEE

## MOTIONS LIST

### 2 JUNE 2011

ls authority sought to remove motion from list?	Agenda Item 10. ₂
Due Date	
Responsible Head(s) of Service	Director of Education, Culture and Sport
Action taken / Proposed Future	At its meeting on 18 November 2010, the Committee endorsed the work undertaken by parent council representatives and officers to establish the new Forum, and noted the progress since its establishment.  A report is on the agenda in relation to the possible inclusion of a parent representative on the Committee.
Committee Motion referred to / date/ decision of Committee	The Committee resolved (i) that the terms of the motion be approved, subject to adding "guardian and carer" after parental; and (ii) to request that a background report be brought back to the Committee on the options for parental representation on the successor to this Committee within the new Committee within the new Committee should include information on other local authorities which have (a) parents as members of their education committees; (b) parental involvement units; and (c) should involvement Council Liaison Group, as well as the national development officer with regards to the plans being prepared involvement.
Date of Council Meeting	Policy and Strategy (Education) 28/04/09
Motion	Motion by Councillor Cormack "That this Council agrees to promote further and to continue to develop parental involvement in the Council's decision making process and that a report is therefore produced with recommendations for including parents in the work of the main Council committee with education responsibilities, relevant sub-committees and consultation processes."
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ls authority sought to remove motion from list?	ON ON	
<u>Due Date</u>	24/3/11	
Responsible Head(s) of Service	Head of Communities, Culture and Sport	
Action taken / Proposed Future Action	A bulletin update is provided.	
Committee Motion referred to / date/ decision of Committee	the Committee on 27 May 2010, and the Committee endorsed the work undertaken to establish the new Forum and requested a further report back in 6 months' time. The Committee requested that the wording of Councillor Cormack's original motion be included in the next report so as not to lose sight of the second part of the motion.  At its meeting of 7 January 2010, the Committee agreed the terms of the motion and noted that a full report would be submitted to a future meeting which	would contain details of the potential links with local geology, oil companies and the Curriculum for Excellence and would look at partnership working with Aberdeenshire Council to promote the history of granite in the wider area.  At its meeting of 18 November 2010, the Committee resolved:- (i) to approve the recommendations in the
Date of Council Meeting	18/11/09	
Motion	Motion by Councillor Cormack "That in the light of the restoration and reuse of Marischal College, the second largest granite	building in the world, and in recognition of the central role that the granite industry has played in the city's economic development and in its cultural identity, that this Council agrees to the production of a report with options on how the Council and its partners can properly acknowledge the key contribution that the use
No.	25	

ls authority sought to remove motion from list?		
<u>Due Date</u>		2/6/11
Responsible Head(s) of Service		Head of Schools and Educational Establishments
Action taken / Proposed Future Action		A background report is on the agenda.
Committee Motion referred to / date/ decision of Committee	report and request that officers investigate the possibility of sponsorship for the interpretation panels;  (ii) to request that officers circulate details of the book "Granite – A Story of the Granite – A Story of the Committee for information; (iii) to request that officers investigate the possibility of providing each school library with a copy of the book;  (iv) to request that officers keep the committee updated with progress on the motion through the information bulletin; and (v) to thank staff for their work on the matter.	At its meeting of 24 March 2011, the Committee requested a background report to include references to school transport costs.
Date of Council Meeting		23/02/11
<u>Motion</u>	of granite has made to the environment of Aberdeen and the wider North East region."	Motion by Councillor Boulton  "That Aberdeen City Council writes to Mike Russell, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, asking for a review of 'The Parent's Charter'."
No.		က်

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### Agenda Item 10.3

### ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE Education, Culture and Sport

DATE June 2011

DIRECTOR Annette Bruton

TITLE OF REPORT Education, Culture and Sport

**Performance Report** 

REPORT NUMBER ECS/11/033

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to:

provide Elected Members with a summary of performance data up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 from the Education, Culture and Sport Directorate

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

The Committee are asked to:

Approve the ECS Service Performance report for the financial year 2010/2011

Note the progress toward service plan actions

Note the progress against performance targets

Note the good performance against key outcomes from Public Library Quality Improvement (PLIQM) self evaluation for Library and Information Services

### 3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising directly from the report.

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct implications arising from this report however, the purpose of performance measurement and reporting is to manage improvement to services to the community. The measures ensure linkage to the Single Outcome Agreement, the Administration's Policy Statement - Vibrant, Dynamic and Forward Looking and the themes contained in "Improving Scottish Education." Improvements in the services provided by Education, Culture and Sport impact positively on communities across the City.

### 5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 This report provides Elected Members with a summary of performance data up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 from the Education, Culture and Sport Directorate.

Members will see that the report presents updates on the key priorities as set out in the Education, Culture and Sports Interim Service Plan 2010-2013. The plan sets the context for service delivery and outlines the key performance indicators and improvement actions identified to measure the performance and progress of each priority.

### 5.2 Service Plan actions

5.2.1 Members will note that 8 of our service plan actions are now fully complete. These include the following:

Improved outcomes for our young people through the completion of our More Choices More Chances 2011 action plan
Outstanding learning environments for our children and young people with the final school in our 3Rs Programme, Kaimhill School, opening on 20 April 2011. This brings to ten, the number of schools delivered under this programme, seven new and one significantly refurbished primary schools and two new secondary schools, completed in under two years

More effective involvement of parents through our successful implementation of the Parental Involvement Act

The transfer of our sports facilities to Sport Aberdeen in July 2010 Improved cultural outcomes for children and young people with more school visits to cultural establishments as a result of our Art Gallery & Museums Resource Pack for Teachers

Enhanced information to parents and support to help children, young people, their families and carers access services through our award winning Family Information Service

Our enhanced WiFi Library Network now means that our library members can now use their laptops, PDAs and mobile phones to gain free, fast broadband connections to the internet in key libraries throughout the City

Redesign of our Lifelong Learning, Culture and Active Aberdeen Community Planning Forums with improved impact and outcomes

5.2.2 Members should note that 55 service plan actions are now partially complete as follows:

9 actions are over 75% complete

10 actions are 50-74% complete

21 actions are 25-49% complete

15 actions are less than 25% complete, with 6 actions showing progress at 0%

5.2.3 Outcomes from our Service Planning workshop in April 2011 highlighted priorities for the Service for the next 5 years and included our Priority-

based budgeting proposals and new legislative influences. Elected Members can anticipate that these will be reflected in our 2011-2016 Service Improvement Plan.

### 5.3 Service Plan performance measures

Members should note that, of the performance measures where targets have been set, the following 2010/11 performance can be demonstrated:

5.3.1 8 measures where performance is either on target or has exceeded target. These include:

primary and secondary school inspections local authority Care Commission and HMIe inspections partner provider Care Commission inspections admissions to sports facilities our Health Promoting accreditations and our Health Promoting excellence accreditation

5.3.2 2 measures where performance is within 5% of the target and is being monitored. These include:

our progress towards establishing learning partnerships and our management of sickness absence

5.3.3 4 measures where performance is within 20% of the target and is being actively pursued. These include:

special school inspections partner provider joint inspections, Health and Safety reportable accidents and our success in dealing with enquiries,

Additional highlights this month include the latest Public Library Quality Improvement (PLIQM) update from our Library and Information Service which shows good performance against key indicators and the latest report on young people's activity within our Community Learning and Development Service.

5.4 The August report consists of three appendices as outlined below:

**Appendix 1**: Education, Culture and Sports Committee Service Plan Performance report for the financial year 2010/2011, showing progress toward service plan actions and performance targets

**Appendix 2** which shows good performance against key outcomes from Public Library Quality Improvement (PLIQM) self evaluation for Library and Information Services

**Appendix 3** Young people's activity (January – March 2011)

5.5 Within the report the following symbols are used:

Performance Measures Traffic Light Icon

On target

Within 5% of target and being monitored

- Within 20% of target and being actively pursued
- Data only PI as there is no target set

### **Short Term Trend Arrow**

- Improvement from last reporting period
- Reduction from last reporting period
- No change since last reporting period
- Unable to determine trend

### **Long-term Trend arrow**

- Improvement from the previous year
- Reduction from the previous year
- No change since last year
- Unable to determine trend

### 6. IMPACT

### Legal

The Council is required to act as set out in the Statutory Performance Indicator Direction.

### Resources

No additional resources are required to undertake performance management which is a core responsibility of managers.

### Other

There are no property, equipment or Health and Safety implications arising directly from this report.

### 7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

**Appendix 1**: Education, Culture and Sports Committee Service Plan Performance report for the financial year 2010/2011, showing progress toward service plan actions and performance targets

**Appendix 2** which shows good performance against key outcomes from Public Library Quality Improvement (PLIQM) self evaluation for Library and Information Services

**Appendix 3** Young people's activity (January – March 2011)

### 8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Sarah Gear, Service Manager (Policy and Performance) Education, Culture & Sport

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## 01.01 - Children and young people access positive learning environments and develop their skills, confidence and self esteem to the Priority 01 - Curriculum for Excellence fullest potential

Action		Due	Progress	SS	Managed By
ECS-SP 01.01a	Improve early years development, learning and care experiences via implementation of the Early Years Framework	29 Mar 2013	On schedule	%09	Liz Gillies

## Progress Overview

01 Mar 2011 Following on from the very successful Planning day the Early Years Framework will be reviewed and updated by June 2011.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.01b	Implement Curriculum for Excellence as part of 3 year rolling programme with initial focus on literacy and numeracy	31 Mar 2013	On schedule	37%	Derek Samson

## **Progress Overview**

Groups and individual priorities. Collaborative working with other professionals is taking place. Seconded Officers are supporting delivery of the new curriculum in Nurseries/Primary Schools Numeracy, Health and Well-Being and Science. There is also a range of working groups at authority level which are striving to shape the strategic plans for Curriculum for Excellence. There and in Secondary Schools. Literacy is supported by another development officer and a previously seconded head teacher. Quality Improvement Officers manage curricular areas of Literacy, is a Primary Implementation Group, Secondary Implementation Group and a Strategic Group. Schools have a Literacy Coordinator, Numeracy Coordinator and a coordinator for Asessment and Reporting. A process of taking stock has been completed and this will inform a review of Education, Culture and Sport's priorities for session 2011-12. The process of implementation 08 Mar 2011 All Nurseries, Primary and Secondary Schools have been implementing Curriculum for Excellence since August, 2010. Schools are working on city-wide, Associated Schools will continue after the initial three year rolling programme and implementation is currently on track.

ECS-SP Ensure the delivery of high quality learning experiences which meet the needs of the learner 31 Dec 2013 🔄 Work ongoing 137% Liz Gillies 01.01c	Action		Due	Pr	rogress		Managed By
	ECS-SP 01.01c	Ensure the delivery of high quality learning experiences which meet the needs of the learner		8	going	37%	Liz Gillies

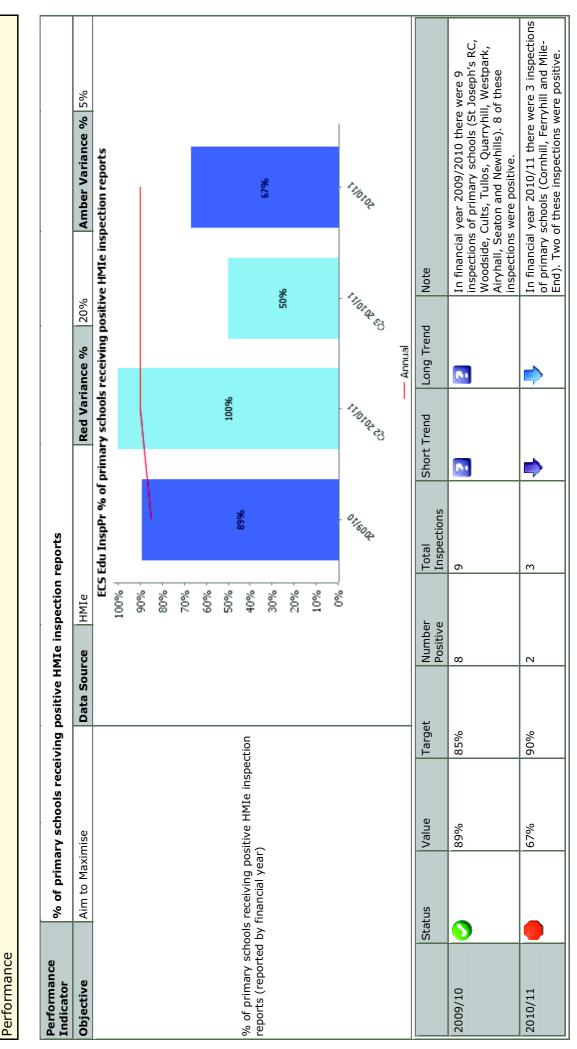
## **Progress Overview**

20 Dec 2010 The ongoing self evaluation which staff in schools carry out on a regular basis is providing the starting point for all improvement. In addition all schools have produced a High Level Curriculum map which have informed the school improvement plans for session 2010-2011. All plans have been submitted and feedback given. The Quality Improvement Officers (QIOs) continue to monitor the standards in school through regular visits, continuous support and feedback. A more proportionate approach is being delivered to ensure that schools receive the necessary support and challenge according to need and current circumstances.

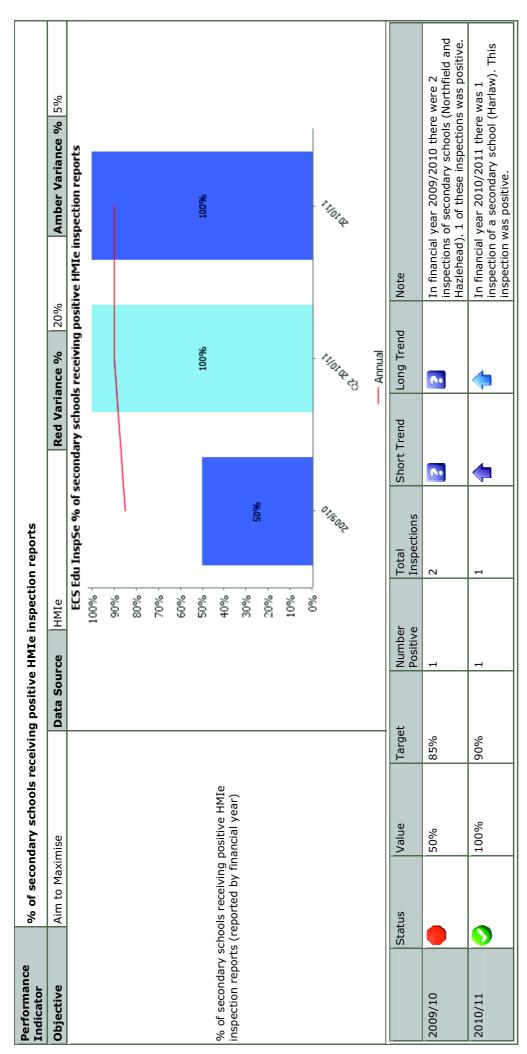
A new model of School Review is being developed which will involve a wider group of personnel including peer head teachers, experienced practitioners, parents and pupils. A group to plan for the new review model will meet in March with a view to piloting the new model in one Primary school and one secondary school in June 2011.

'What's the Story?' - a short story competition run by the Arts Education Teams of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council in conjunction with Word - University of Aberdeen Writer's Festival. Pupils from across the North East were invited to write a short story based on the theme of 'Something to Celebrate'. Eleven winners were selected from over 100 entries from Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire secondary pupils. Leafing the Green - A two year writer in residence programme as the main education initiative for The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative commenced in October 2010. Funding of £50,000 from Scottish Arts Council Lottery and £20,000 The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative. Northfield Reads - a project aimed at improving the literacy levels of some of the school's pupils by encouraging them to read for pleasure and develop reading as a habit. The project, which secured a £9,600 grant from Awards for All, included the design and installation of a new reading area in the school library, new reading materials, the installation of IT equipment for book reviews, author visits and training for teachers and librarians. The end result is a significant improvement in pupils' reading habits.

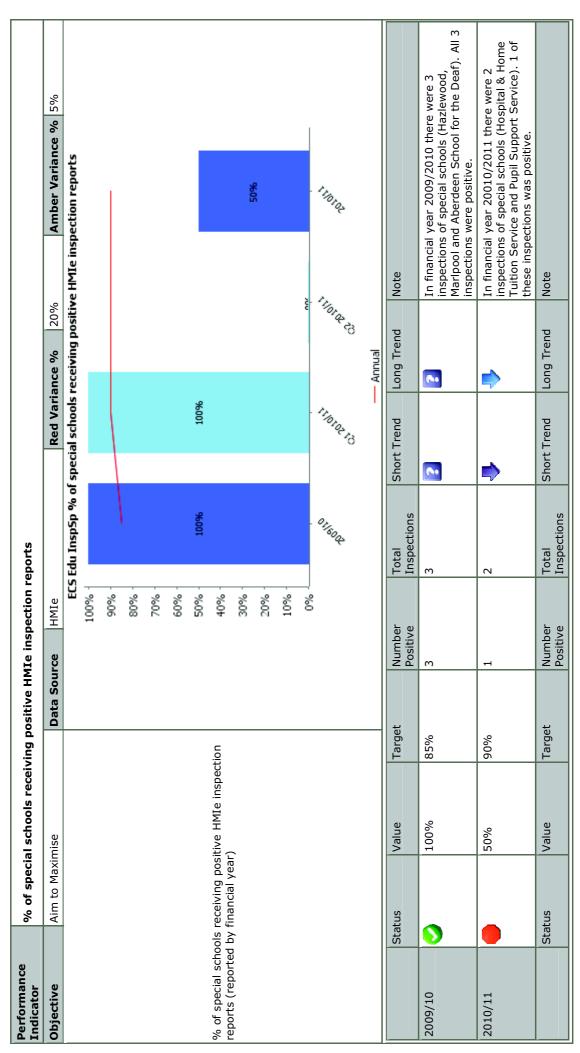
Citymoves promotion of dance in education - Increase opportunities for people to participate in dance and for young talent to be nurtured by providing a wide variety of creative and imaginative cross curricular workshops which are specifically devised to help deliver the arts infused approach to learning promoted in the Curriculum for Excellence.



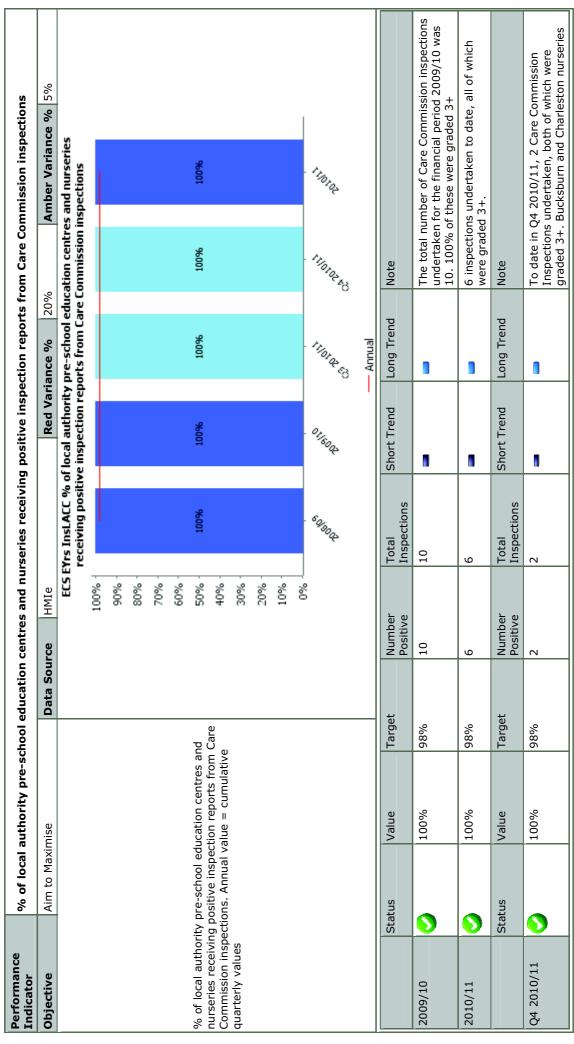
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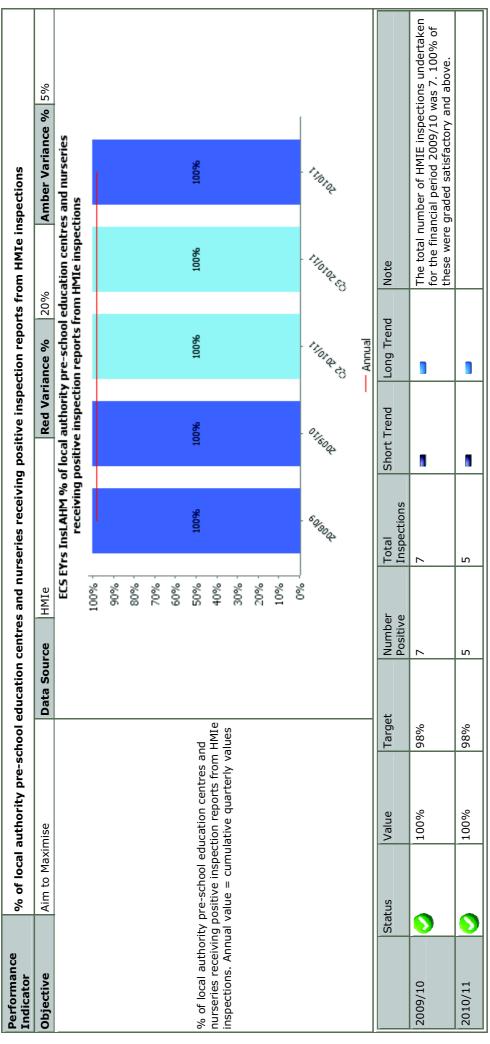
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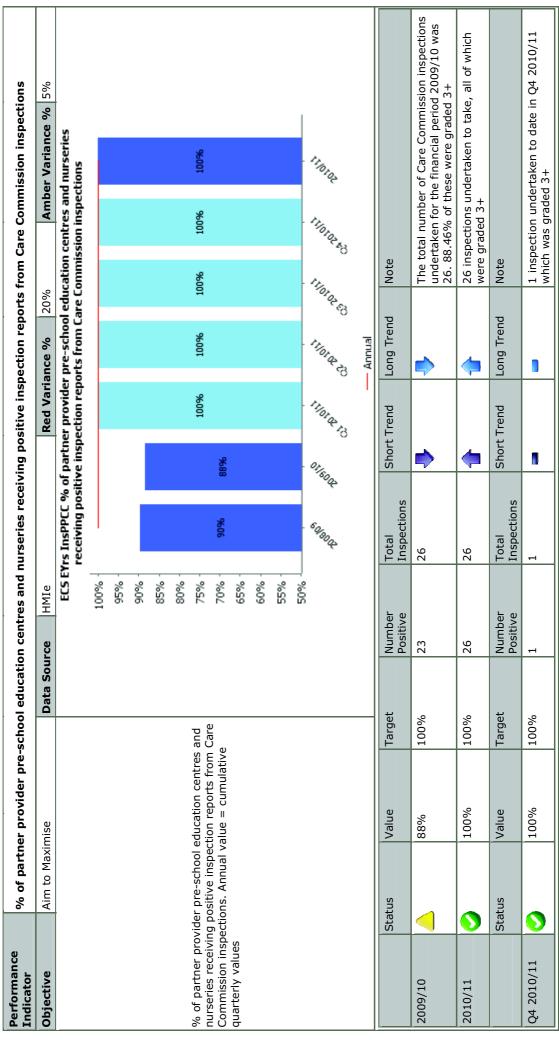
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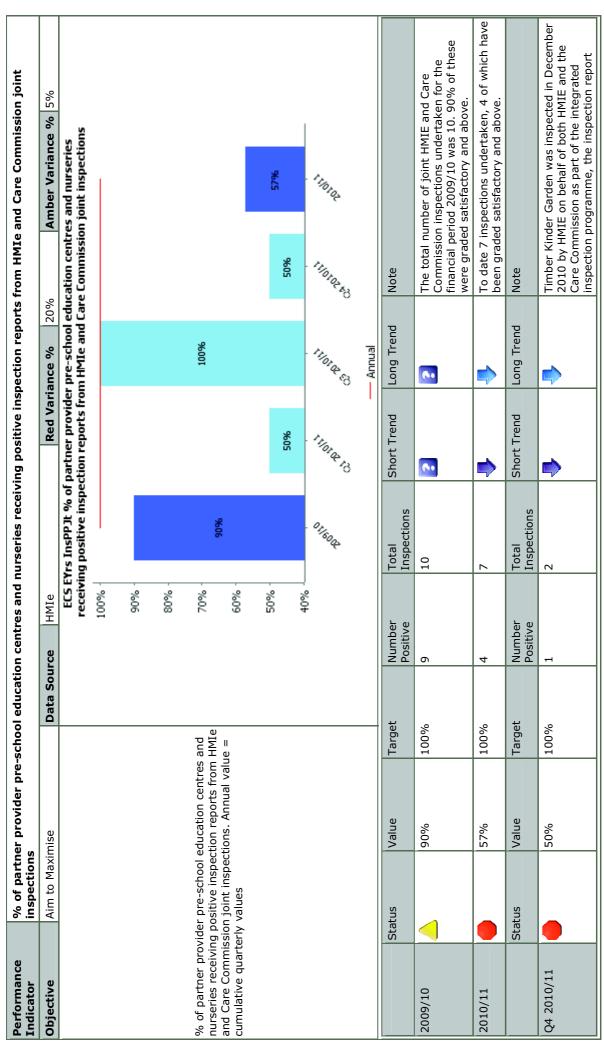
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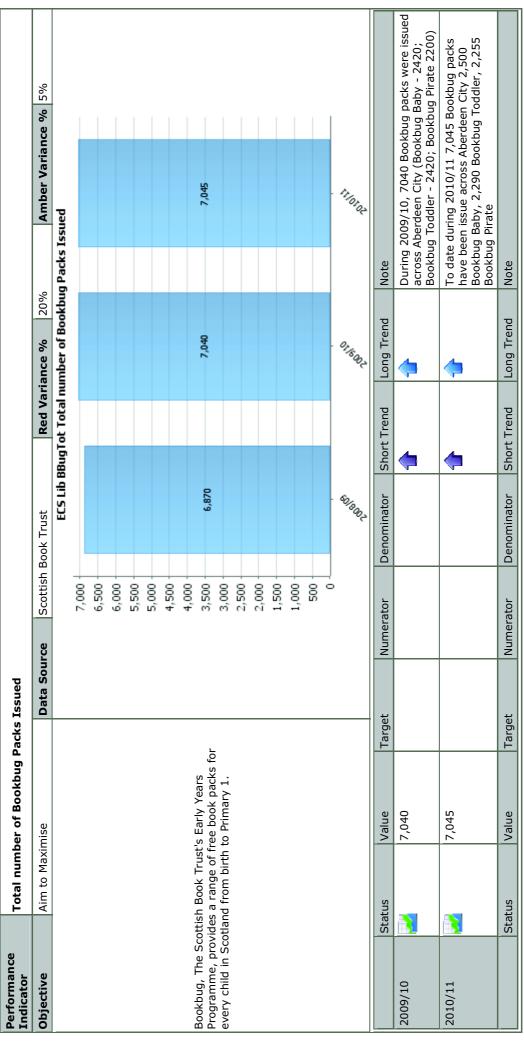


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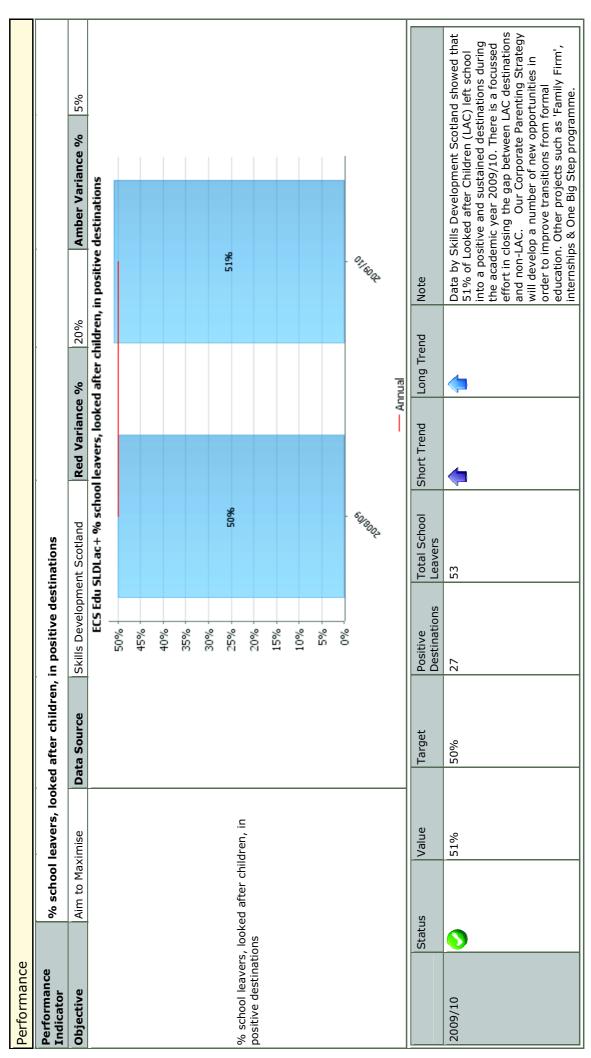
# 01.02 - Improve the outcomes for all our children and young people Priority 01 - Curriculum for Excellence

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.02a	Implement action plans to support young people under More Choices, More Chances Strategy and 16+ Learning Choices	31 Mar 2013	Complete	103%	103% Sheila Sansbury
Progress (	Progress Overview				

11 Apr 2011 More choices More chances action 2011 on target. Accepted Scottish Government funding to implement Activity Agreements

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.02b	Implement improved work experience opportunities	31 Mar 2013	্র	Work ongoing	33%	Gail Woodcock
<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview					

06 May 2011 The Work experience service are continuing to work with schools to place pupils with employers to gain experience. The following Academies will have pupil placements arranged by the service during May and June: Aberdeen Grammar, Harlaw Academy, Bridge of Don Academy and Kincorth Academy



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# 02.01 - Everyone will have access to high quality learning environments and facilities supporting them to achieve their full potential Priority 02 - Fit for Purpose Schools & Learning Centres

	Due		Progress		Managed By
Complete delivery of 3Rs Schools Programme	30 Apr 2011	) )	omplete	103%	David Wright

## **Progress Overview**

one significantly refurbished primary schools and two new secondary schools, completed in under two years. These schools will be operated by an external facilities management company. 21 Apr 2011 The final school in the 3Rs Programme, Kaimhill School, opened on 20 April 2011. This brings to ten, the number of schools delivered under this programme, seven new and

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01b	Develop and implement Learning Estate Strategy to ensure an affordable and sustainable learning estate which makes hest use of resources, ensuring focus on areas of greatest need	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	%08	David Wright

## **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 Comprehensive engagement exercise undertaken and report presented in October 2010 to Education, Culture and Sport Committee on Secondary School Estate setting out short, medium and longer term options. Work progressing on the development of a new-build primary school, to replace Bucksburn and Newhills Schools. Currently undertaking statutory consultation on the closure of Raeden Nursery; Hazlewood and Woodlands Special Schools, and replacement with a purpose-built new facility on the Raeden

Currently developing possible approaches to reviewing the Primary School Estate, with a view to embarking on a comprehensive city-wide review during 2011.

Wherever possible, we are seeking to declare vacant or un-needed properties surplus to requirements as early as possible, in order to make best use resources.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01c	Establish effective learning communities - communities of schools, community education, libraries and other learning providers	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	103%	Gail Woodcock

### Progress Overview

21 Apr 2011 Establishment of learning partnerships is complete and will include learning hubs. Work is ongoing to ensure effective continuation and development of the learning partnerships via monitoring and review. Review of delivery of Library and Information Services will be reported to Committee in September.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01d	Deliver regional aquatic centre (50m pool and diving pool) led by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Directorate	31 Jan 2012	>	On schedule	21%	Maggie Bochel;   Neil Bruce

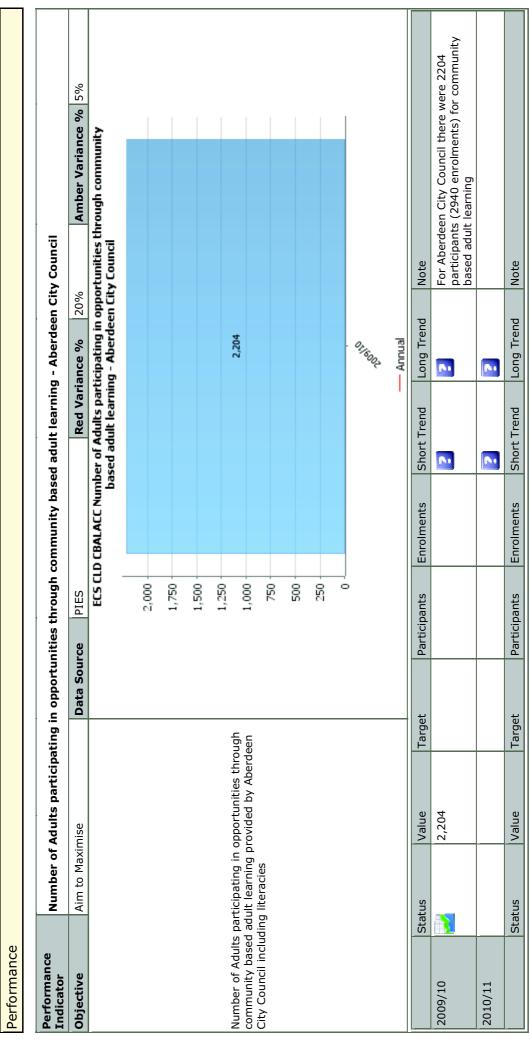
07 Apr 2011 Tenders were returned for the main contract works on 21st February 2011. All five contractors, who were selected from a list of twelve who were assessed following a PQQ submission in accordance with EU Procurement regulations, returned tenders. The Invitation to Tender Documents were issued on a cost quality basis. The tenders were issued on a twin track basis with costs being obtained for both an eight and a ten lane option for the main 50 metre pool. The tenders have now been assessed for quality and compliance with the

Managed By Neil Bruce
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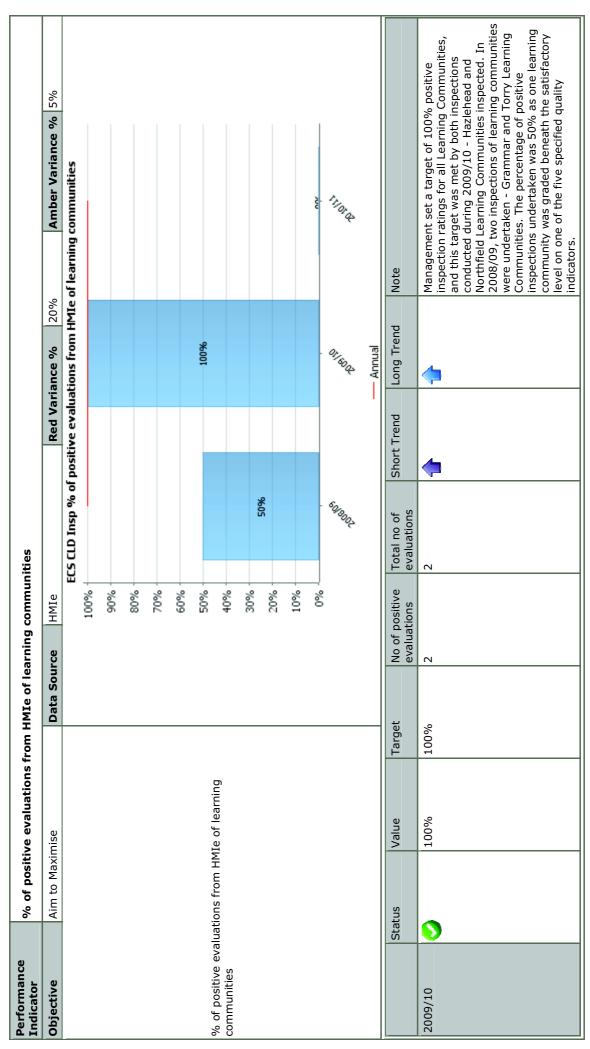
## Progress Overview

25 Feb 2011 Redevelopment of the Art Gallery - work is ongoing to assess how best to develop a fundraising campaign.

Museums Collections Centre - A suitable storage site to move the collections held at Frederick Street has been identified. Remedial works required to make good as a museum collection facility will be undertaken by EP&I. This will be a solution for up to 2 years.

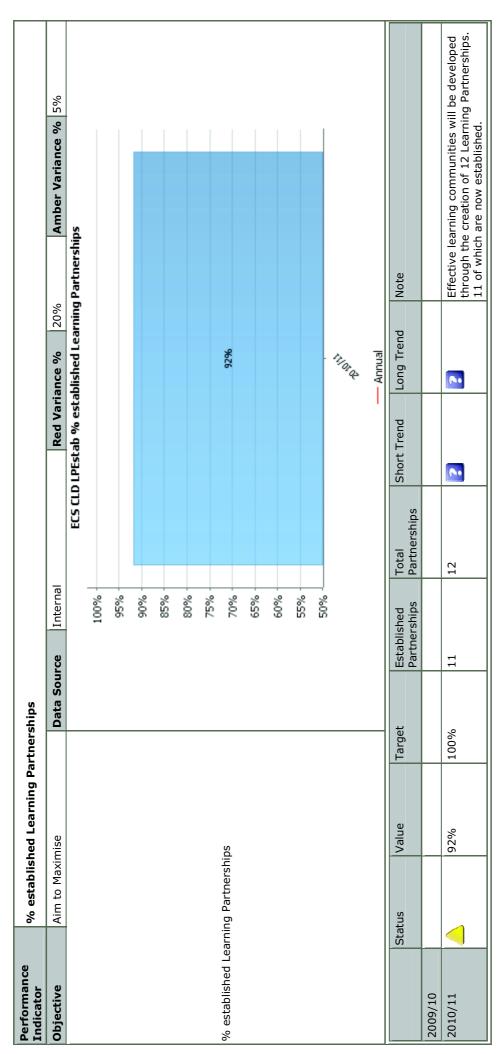


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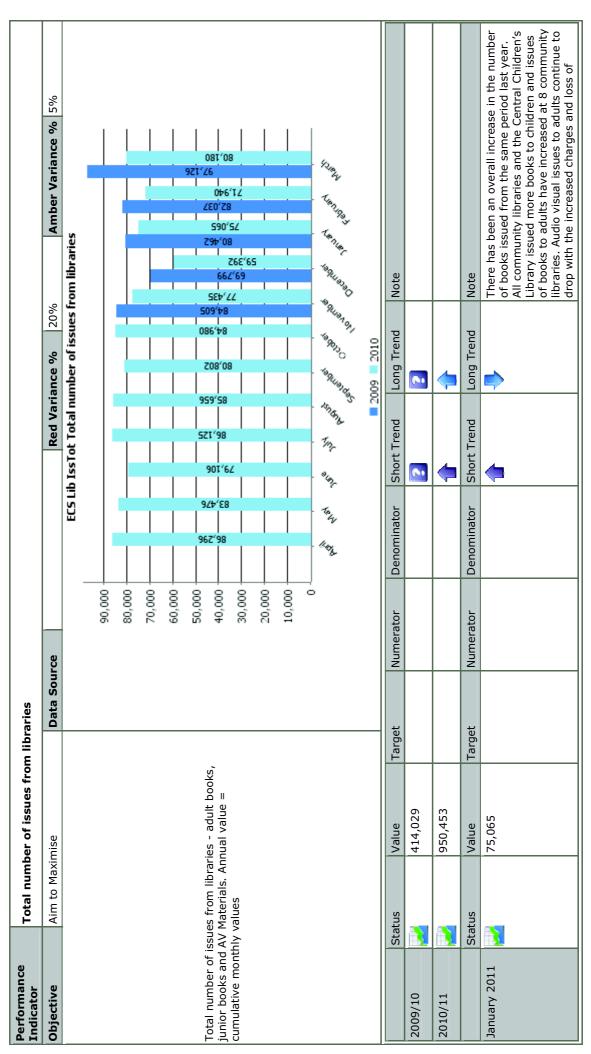


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2010/11	%0	100%	0	1	<b>➡</b>	In financial year 2010/2011 there was one inspection of a learning community (Harlaw). The evaluation was graded beneath the satisfactory level on two of the five prescribed quality indicators.

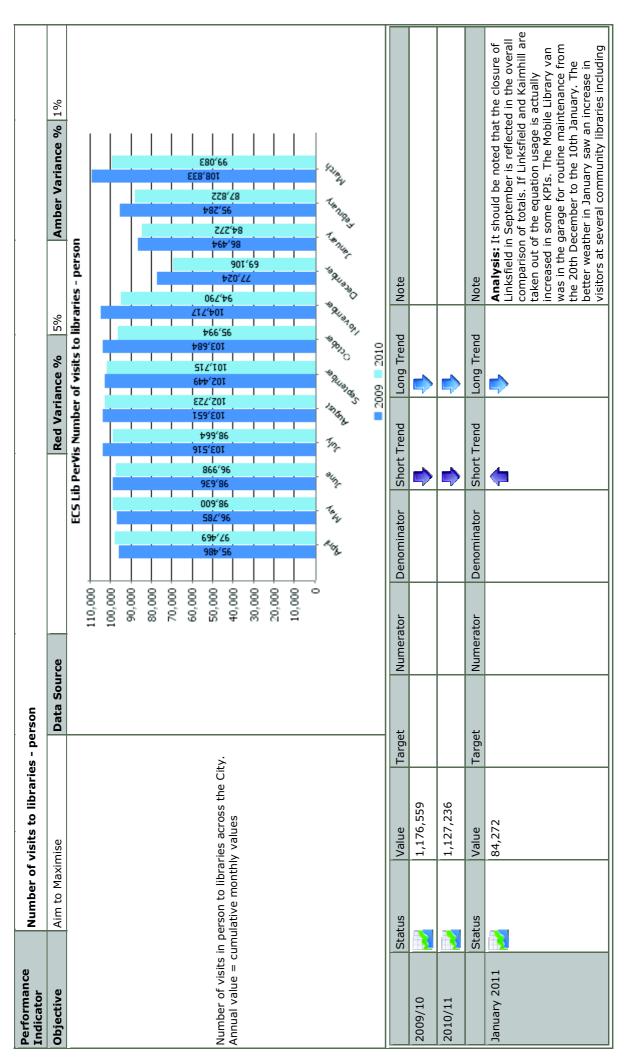


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					subscription with only the free loan of audio visual items to children under 12 showing an increase.
February 2011	71,940		<b>→</b>	<b>➡</b>	Overall issues are down on same period as last year due to ongoing closure of Kaimhill and the closure of Linksfield Library in September 2010. Issues of audio visual items continue to drop with the Media Centre showing a 57% decrease from last year this is mainly due to the move from annual subscription to increased pay-as-you-go charges.
March 2011	80,180		<b>4</b>	<b>➡</b>	Libraries were open 127 hours less this year compared with last March and issues are down overall. Children's issues have increased at 12 of our 18 service points continuing the general increase in borrowing by children. A/V issues to adults have again dropped while issues to children continue to increase.



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87,822
1 40

March 2011							
CAP and Kincort.	March 2011	N	89'66		<b>_</b>	<b>_</b>	There has been an increase in the use of Information Centre in the central Library and outreach activities at Seaton project, Woodside CAP and Kincorth CAP.

# 03.01 - Encourage people of all ages to play an active role in their learning in order to maximise their potential Priority 03 - Learning in the Wider Community

Г			Managed By
ECS-SP Develop and implement the Aberdeen Learning Strategy outlining key developments and 31 Mar 2013 🔃 Work ongoing 03.01a improvements of city learning services	Work ongoing	75%	Sohail Faruqi

## Progress Overview

08 Mar 2011 The Aberdeen Learning Strategy is currently being implemented as part of our Service Plan priorities.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01b	Implement the recommendations of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006	31 Dec 2010	Complete - On schedule	100%	Sheila Sansbury

## Progress Overview

23 Dec 2010 Report presented to Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 18 November 2010, informing that the arrangements to establish an Aberdeen City Parent Forum had been implemented. The Forum complements the termly meetings structure for all Parent Councils and helps to enhance effective representation. It also enhances effective communication between parents and the Authority. The new Forum consists of up to twenty-four representatives, two drawn from each Associated Schools Group (ASG). To date the Forum has met on four occasions and is quickly beginning to establish itself. A Chair and other appropriate office bearers have been selected and Terms of Reference are being finalised.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01c	Facilitate high quality adult learning services with a particular focus on youth and adult literacy and numeracy	31 Mar 2013	<i>₹</i>	Work ongoing	26%	Gail Woodcock

21 Apr 2011 A series of 6 writing workshops were held by the Libraries Service as part of the city's 50+ Festival. 4 reading groups have been established by library staff, meeting monthly and supported by a developing multiple copy collection. Impact on Literacy and numeracy - figures to date: 130 new titles added to literacy collections. 3,150 items have been issued to 597 individual readers.

Good Practice Awards in Adult Learning were received by the Healthy Minds Team for engaging and working with learners with mental health issues and the South Adult Literacies Team wide collaborative project which resulted in a very successful conference for adult literacies learners organised and run by learners for learners.

Adult Learning was part of a Community Service group which was highly commended in the Community Service Awards held in Glasgow. Three learners carrying out Community Service Orders completed their John Muir Awards and SCQF4 Working with Others after taking part in a beach clean up at the Torry Battery.

Action		Due	Progress	 Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01d	Every learner will have a personal learning plan developed following assessment of their skills, competencies and needs	31 Mar 2013	<u>%0</u>	Gail Woodcock
Progress	Progress Overview			

21 Apr 2011 Work towards this action will commence in 2011/12. Process to be developed to enable monitoring and reporting to assess achievement of outcomes.

## 03.02 - Enable an economically active population Priority 03 - Learning in the Wider Community

Action		Due	Prog	rogress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.02a	Agree citywide strategies to close the opportunities gap	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	<u> </u>	75%	Gail Woodcock

## **Progress Overview**

06 May 2011 Course ceased currently as a result of the Integrated Communities team re structuring

y 03 - Learning in the Wider Community	- Improve engagement and sustained involvement of all people in the learning process
Priority 03 - Le	03.03 - Improv

_		Due		Progress		Managed By
03.03a agencies to identify and assess needs	with front line services and	31 Mar 2013	Wor	ork ongoing	%00	Gail Woodcock

25 Feb 2011 Neighbourhood Planning is funding a Cash In Your Pocket information event in Seaton to promote local services.

Iwo "Steps to Work" pilot events being held during March in Seaton and Woodside to encourage the use of local services and begin the transition toward work.

Ongoing development work with the Woodside Community Planning and Regeneration Network to assist with expanding their membership and representation.

Hosting of Stockethill and Cornhill Celebration Weekend event in February to encourage participation in local learning activities at both Community centres and promote local services and businesses Large and small scale site based regeneration projects in greater Northfield and Mastrick engaging local residents and school pupils to develop and oversee improvements including activity based site events to attract/engage otherwise unengaged/hard to reach audience

#### CL&D organised -

- · Northfield themed learning events series January-March 2011
- Mastrick themed celebration days with multi agency involvement

Neighbourhood Planning supported the re-establishment of Friends of Duthie Park in 2010, culminating in the first AGM and subsequent reforming of the committee. NP provided back office support e.g. paperwork, minutes, publicity. This support in ongoing - members come from throughout the city .

Neighbourhood Planning supported the Your Culter Day in October 2010 to encourage local residents to engage with services, voluntary groups and agencies operating in the neighbourhood. part funding from NP. Services included Fire and Rescue (who had over 100 referrals) ACC Home Safety Unit (who had approx 50 referrals), social work, libraries, city wardens, planning (who had approx 50 enquiries) sports, various local groups. Neighbourhood Planning will be working with the Kincorth Learning Partnership to encourage 16 - 19 year olds to engage with local employers at an event 22 March 2011 to support unemployed young people into work or training.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.03c	Strengthen Lifelong Learning Forum through appropriate membership	31 Mar 2013		%[	Gail Woodcock

### **Progress Overview**

24 Feb 2011 Lifelong Learning Forum, membership and operation will be reviewed by Summer 2011.

# 04.01 - Encourage active and appropriate use of technology to widen learning opportunities Priority 04 - Technology

Action		Due	4	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01a	Embed the use of ICT to enhance learning and teaching	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	ngoing	24%	David Wright

## **Progress Overview**

teaching groups has been completed for those who replied in the first batch. There have been recent requests of which some have been possible and others are dubious because of timing and budget spending status. Plans have been agreed for work to be done in the next financial year. These plans involve some work for educational establishments, renewal of switches, internal wireless networking and learning, and also corporate items. 08 Mar 2011 Education Rolling Programme for ICT in Schools - The current financial year plan has been completed. The additional plans to increase capacity of ICT suites to allow larger

The Library & Information Service is working in partnership with Aberdeenshire Library and Information Services to implement e-book lending. Information literacy skills training packages are being developed by the Library Information Service. Outreach activities will include taster sessions and workshops on the use of online resources. Training is also being developed in Web 2.0 technology and social networking.

Action		Due	Progress	S	Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01b	Develop a Technology Strategy for Education, Culture and Sport	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	%6	David Wright

## **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 Wireless Access in Schools - Every effort is being made to complete this project in the current financial year. With recent events this is looking less likely but the pressure to complete is still being maintained. Approval has been given to allow working over weekends to try to meet deadlines. This has implications for the budget. The health and safety issues have been completed but they will push the budget into an overspend. The work to be done by local technical teams has highlighted the need to change the telephone systems which will give overall benefit to the council by reducing telephone revenue costs but will also increase the demand on the budget. Schools have changed the order of work pushing the timeframe beyond the end of the financial year.

Glow - The ICT Education Team continues its support of schools in the new aspects of Glow: Glow Light, blogs, wikis and the new resources - many schools are using blogs for interesting projects, central staff are being supported in their usage. Support in ensuring pupils have their logins to Glow continues. Glow user names have been issued to all schools and all pupils should be able to access Glow before the planned timescale. The Glow National Team, with the support of the ICT Education team, continues to support four secondary schools with two projects. There is a review meeting planned for 7 March.

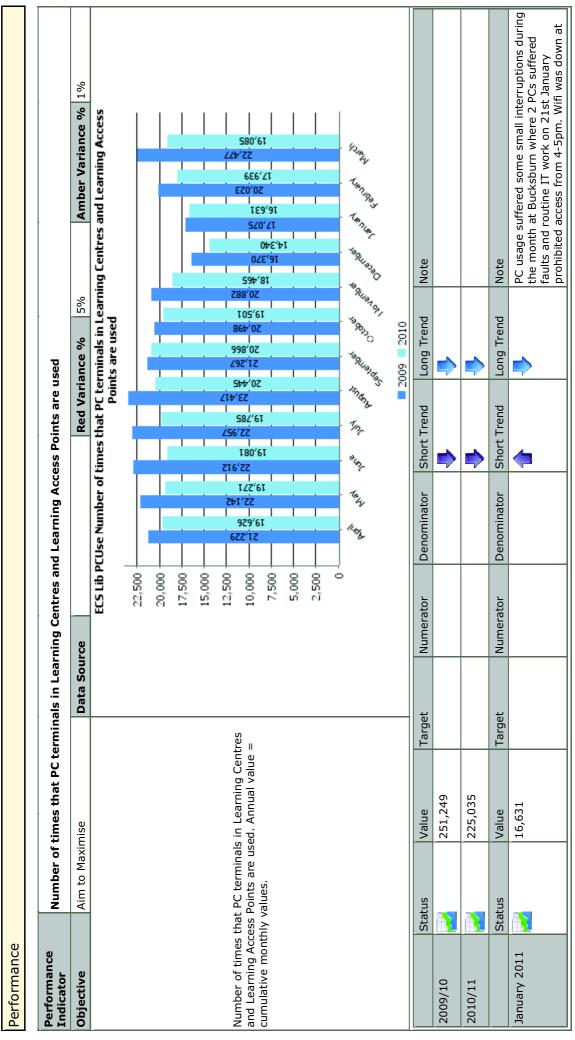
Interactive whiteboard training continues and there were additional days provided for schools for train the trainer and content creation.

ECS-SP Develop user friendly learning websites Work on 04.01c	Action		Due	Progress	88	Managed By
		ıg we		8	%0	Neil Bruce

## **Progress Overview**

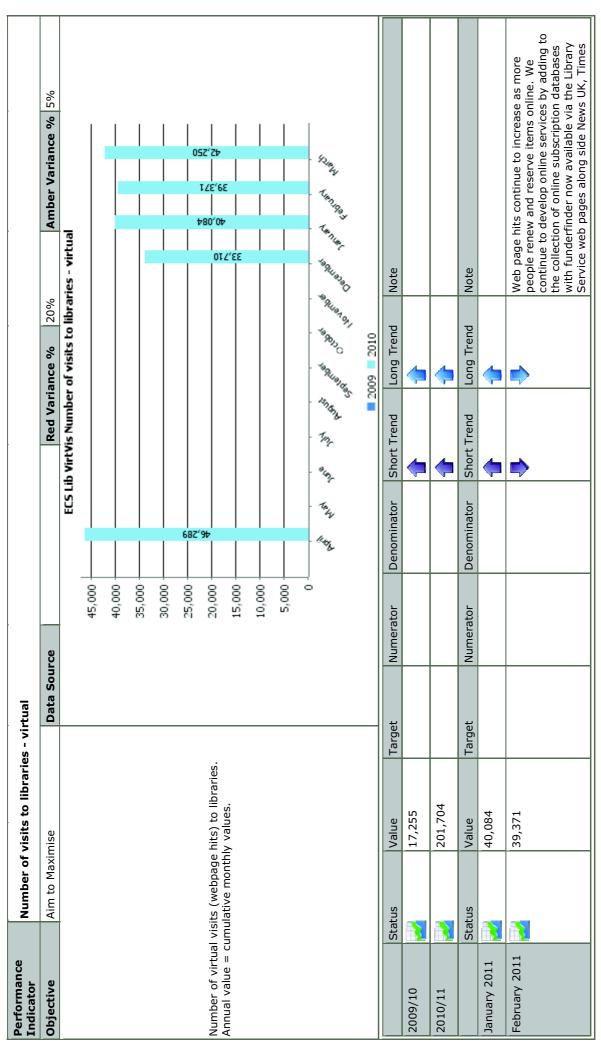
23 Dec 2010 Library web pages to be developed to allow for increased community information.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01d	Further develop online learning within communities	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	33%	Neil Bruce
Progress Overview	verview					
23 Dec 201 accessing in	23 Dec 2010 People's Network - Online Services from Public Libraries - the PC replacement rollout programme for 2010/11 is complete maintaining access for all to PCs adequate for accessing internet and learning packages.	for 2010/11 is	complete	maintaining access	s for all to PCs a	idequate for



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					all Community Libraries due switches being changed on 22/1/11and a PC in Central Lending was out of operation from 27 Jan 14:40pm - 31 Jan 11:15am.
February 2011	17,939		<b>_</b>	<b>➡</b>	While PC usage shows a drop overall form this time last year there has been an increase in usage at Airyhall, Brdige of Don, Torry and Woodside community libraries. Wifi usage continues to rise across the city.
March 2011	19,085		<b>4</b>	<b>_</b>	Major work involving the relocation of servers to Atos along with problems with networks and in particular the Education network in the Bucksburn area have affected PC access resulting in a downturn in usage. Overall figures are affected by the loss of Linksfield Library and the reduced number of hours open this March.



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March 2011	42,250		<b>(**</b>	<b>4</b>	Online access to library services continues to rise despite several disruptions during March including the relocation of servers to Atos and some network issues. In particular family history resource Ancestry has seen a large rise as a result of our programme of taster sessions and new course on family history currently being piloted at Done Community Centre and Done Library.

## 05.01 - Encourage people to get involved in recreational activities, leisure pursuits and a wide variety of sports maximising the social, educational, health and economic health benefits Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing

# Progress Overview

14 Jul 2010 The transfer of Aberdeen City Council's sports facilities to Sport Aberdeen took place on 9 July 2010. Sport Aberdeen has established workable financial arrangements which will enable it to operate and develop the services in an efficient manner helping to achieve the Council's strategic and financial objectives.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.01b	Implement 'Fit for the Future' – Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for the City	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	35%	Neil Bruce

## **Progress Overview**

10 Feb 2011 Fit for the Future, Aberdeen City's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy was launched on 31 August 2009. It defines the strategic direction for sport and physical activity in Aberdeen until 2015. The Active Aberdeen Forum will convene next in March 2011 to consider the priority based budgeting process and sporting priorities. Sport is considered within the learning strategy as a key means by which health and well being can be improved, and this will be further evidenced in the HGIOCS self evaluation where commissioned services will be evaluated. The team are concluding the planning the benefits to the Sheddocksley pitches agreed as part of the planning gain from the sale of the Oakbank school site. An ongoing review of the funding agreements with local and national sports bodies will form part of the root and branch review of culture and sports organisations. Staff continue to support Sports governing bodies and as part of PBB will review all funding agreements. The process for agreeing community sports hubs will be concluded in March, and the partnership agreement with sportscotland renewed to continue Active Schools.

ECS-SP	Increase the number of activities for all children to get engaged in physical activities and sport	Mar 2011	a	Work ongoing	%06	Neil Bruce
05.01d	through Active Schools		Ş	)		

11 Apr 2011 Scottish Schools Gymnastics - 10 Teams from Aberdeen travelled to Perth on 20th March to compete in the Scottish Schools Gymnastics National Competition. With top teams from all over Scotland taking part the competition was fierce. 4 Teams managed to stamp their mark on the competition walking away with medals. Walker Road Pre-Level 1 - Bronze Meda winners, Dyce & Culter Level 2 - Joint Silver Medal Winners, & Dyce Level 3 - Bronze Medal Winners. Overall a fantastic result for the schools in Aberdeen.

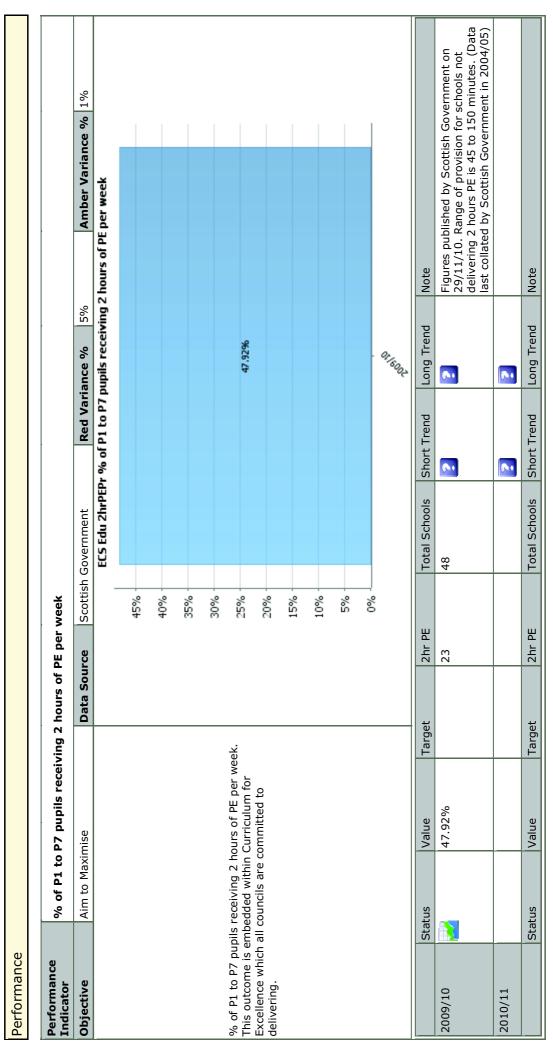
Active Schools gain funding to support student coach education - Active Schools received a funding grant from 2014 communities to help support Students through Coach Education. The main aim of the program is to offer all students in Aberdeen the opportunity to undertake a wide variety of coaching qualifications and to gain invaluable coaching experience following completion of the course. The 2014 Communities fund is about building a legacy of well-being before and beyond the Commonwealth Games. The programme aims to encourage more people to take part or volunteer in sport or physical activity as well as encourage greater community cohesion in the run up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Harlaw & Hazlehead Academies debut teams in Badminton Crombie Cup - Two teams from Harlaw & Hazlehead Academies recently made their debut in the Crombie League, a badminton team competition for youth and school players which was held at the Beach Leisure Centre over dates in Jan, Feb and March. The next block of activity takes place during May 2011. St Machar ASG - Sports teams from many of the St Machar ASG primaries have been very active this term and putting into practice all they have learnt during training by participating in a and St Machar Academy were recently involved in the launch of the new SFL Communities Cup. The young people were invited to help launch the sponsorship of the new cup with the First have been attending regular Active Schools football tournaments at Sheddocksley Sports Centre. St Peters Athletics team entered the St Machar ASG/ Grammar ASG Sportshall Athletics Kittybrewster, St Peters and Woodside will play in the St Machar ASG Basketball Festival at Aberdeen Sports Village next week. Pupils from Kittybrewster and Sunnybank Primary School wide variety of Active Schools festivals. Woodside Lacrosse Team entered the Active Schools Lacrosse Tournament and played extremely well. The girls football team from Kittybrewster Minister, Alex Salmond and AFC Manager, Craig Brown. All the children really enjoyed themselves and it was a great opportunity for them to participate in football at the sports village Event and came 2nd. Woodside Wildcats Rugby team have attended the Touch Rugby tournaments organised by Active Schools at Sheddocksley. Finally, basketball teams from

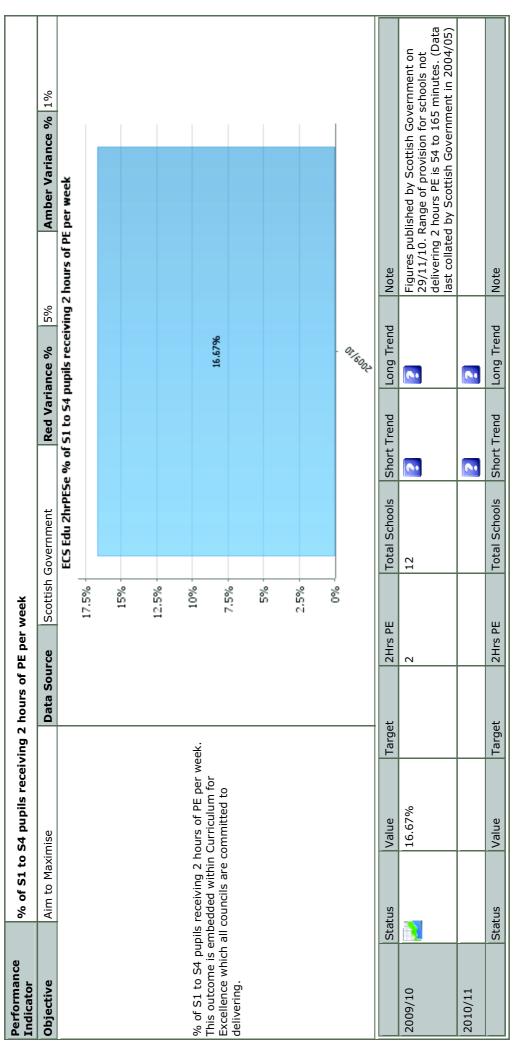
Aberdeen Grammar School - Aberdeen Grammar School has been the venue for a number of successful Active Schools primary festivals this term: Netball, Lacrosse and Athletics. Teams from Ashley Road, Mile End, St Joseph's, St Peter's, Cults and Woodside took part in the festivals which provide an opportunity for children from across the City to have some friendly competition Dyce ASG - Almost 50 children from Dyce Primary & Dyce Academy have been enjoying hip hop lessons this term on Wednesday afternoons after school. The sessions run for P1 - 3's, P4 5 & P6 - S3's. The clubs are open to both boys and girls and are thoroughly enjoyed by all who attend. Some of the children were selected to take part in the dance element of a fashion show at Union Sq in the coming months.

Kincorth & Torry ASG - As the Active Schools Fun Run series is about to get underway in the summer term, a pilot 4 week series was set up in Torry for P5-7 children. With the assistance of school staff the races have proved successful and we have had over 60 children register. Also keeping in with the running theme, the termly Cove inter-schools race went ahead on Tuesday 22nd March with another 60 children taking part at the event held this time at Loirston Primary, with Charleston regaining the girls trophies and Loirston keeping the boys trophies. Well done to all who have taken part and helped in both sessions

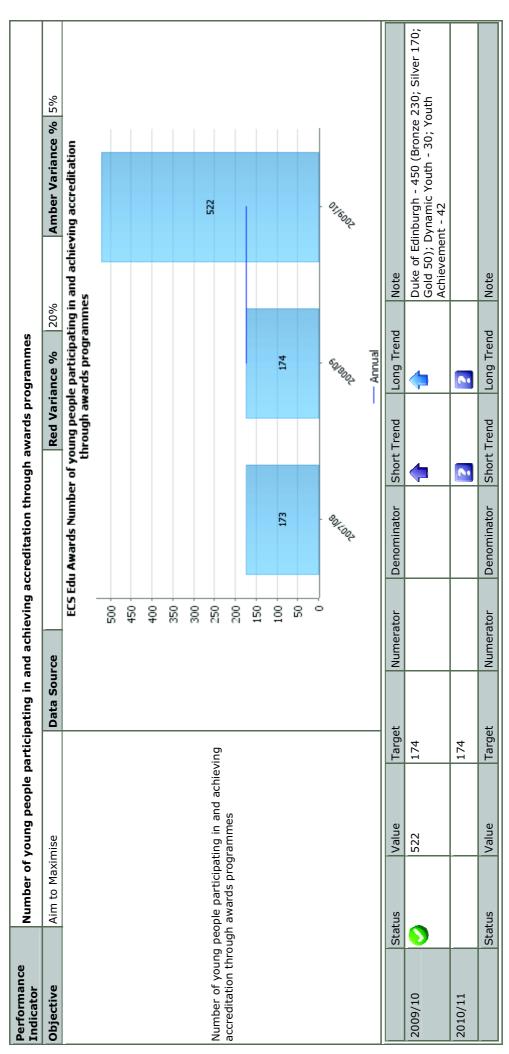
within the sessions helps build on the children's coordination and the music allows them to express themselves with the music. Woodlands School have been keeping active this term with ASN Update - Throughout this term pupils Hazlewood school have been participating in Exercise to music sessions. These sessions have been extremely successful. The exercise content Athletics and Boccia sessions. The athletics sessions are taking place within Aberdeen Sports Village, where the pupils can participate in different events such as hurdles and throwing techniques. This is building their coordination and movement skills.



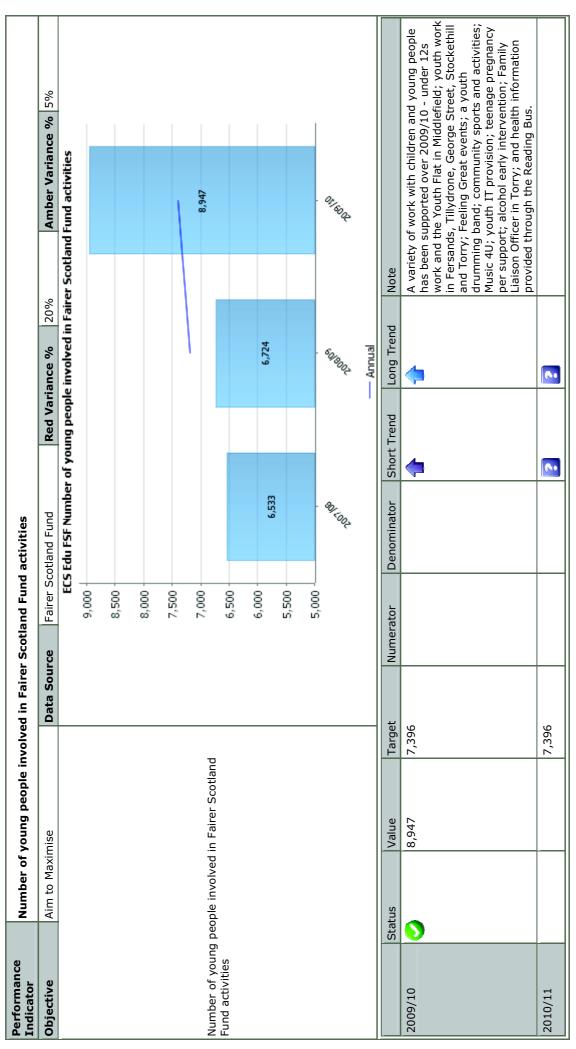
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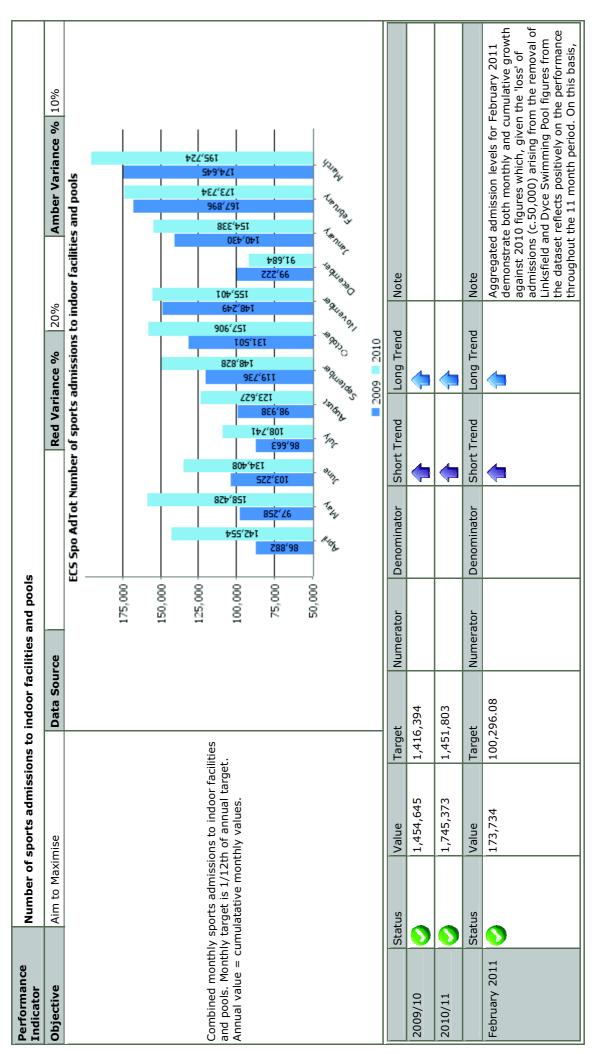
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and whilst a proportion of the cumulative increase has been influenced by the compensatory reinstatement and/or inclusion of additional facilities (i.e. Linx Ice Arena/Beacon Sports Centre) the year-end figures, based on the current cumulative position, are likely to demonstrate year-on-year growth of around 22-24%. Although achievement of similar levels of growth would not be expected in 2011/12 as facility development and comparative data will, effectively, settle down into a more sustainable pattern, admission levels will, in all likelihood, continue at levels in advance of the present targets which may necessitate further adjustment of the baseline figures.	Aggregated admission levels for March 2011 demonstrate both monthly and cumulative growth against 2009/2010 figures which, given the 'loss' of admissions (c.40,000) arising from the removal of Linksfield and Dyce Swimming Pool figures from the dataset and even when counter-balanced by around 80,000 'new' admissions arising from the re-instatement of both the Linx Ice Arena and Beacon Centres, reflects positively on the City's performance throughout the 12 month period. Although falling slightly short of the mid-year predictions for year end outcomes, an increase of 19.1% has to considered to be a significant advance on previous figures and is reflective of the level of investment that the Council and major partners (e.g. University of Aberdeen, sportscotland, NYOP and others) have committed to over the previous 12-24 months. Although achievement of similar levels of growth would not be expected in 2011/12 as facility development and comparative data will, effectively, settle down into a more sustainable pattern, admission levels will, in all likelihood, continue at levels in advance of the present targets which may necessitate further adjustment of the 2011-15 targets to provide for Continuous Improvement factoring
	2.08
	100,296.08
	195,724
	March 2011

Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing

# 05.02 - Encourage people to making positive choices about their diets and lifestyles

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02a	Improve the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff via continued development of the Health Promoting Schools initiative	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	33%	Derek Samson

### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 63 schools in the City achieved commitment level during academic year 09/10 (equating to all but one who have not), 59 schools achieved commended and 7 schools achieved excellence, including the first special school, Hazlewood and secondary school St Machar to gain excellence in Grampian. Aberdeen City has also developed a new model of Health promoting School of Excellence Award which will continue to use the same criteria for excellence but will be a self evaluation model.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02b	Increase the number of health promoting establishments	31 Mar 2013	» <i>~</i>	ork ongoing	%88	Derek Samson

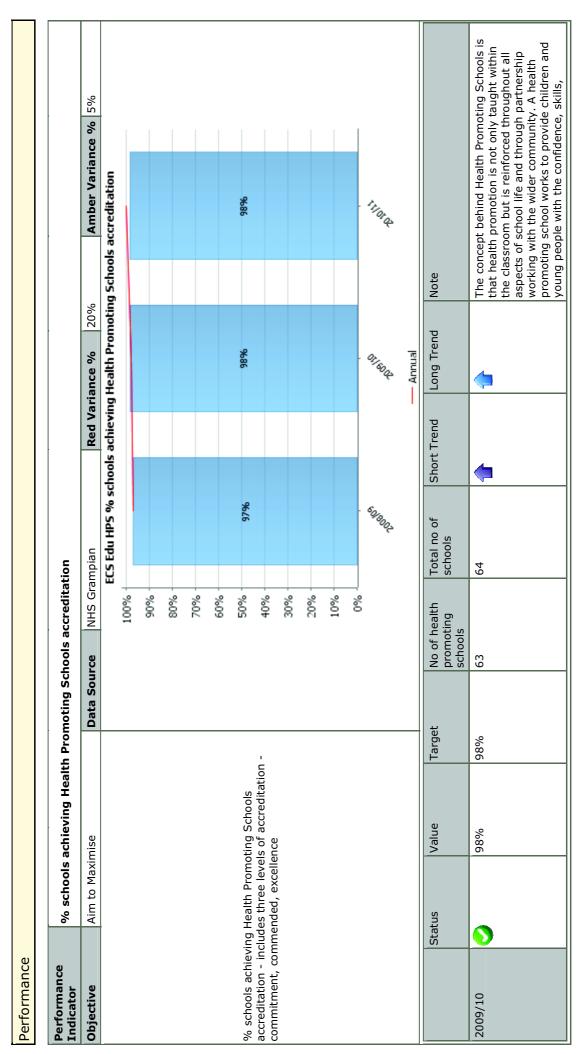
### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 Currently on the City Schools Health Focus Group there are representatives from NHS, Sport Aberdeen, Community Learning and Development, school catering services and Grampian Police. Promotion of healthy living also takes place via libraries. Consultation with community partners on local library service and potential for joint working being undertaken via Learning Partnerships

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02c	Implement the requirements of Schools (Scotland) Health Promotion and Nutrition Act 2007	31 Mar 2013		33%	Derek Samson

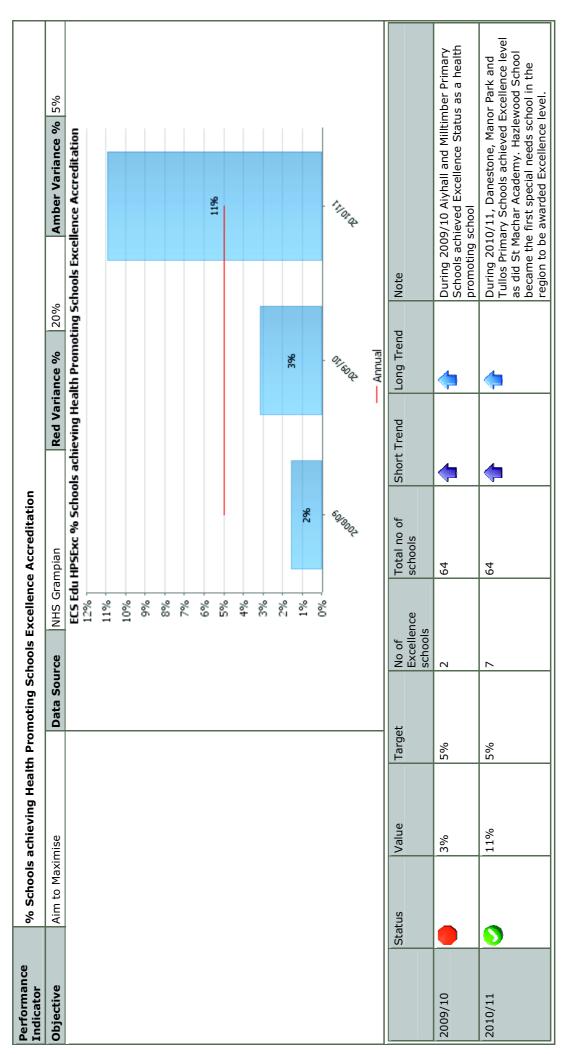
### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 The Aberdeen City Policy for Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition)(Scotland) Act 2007 was passed by Education Culture and Sport committee on the 20 January 2011. This policy has since been issued to all schools and will help schools to further establish good practise in their own community. Schools catering services continue to monitor all school meals using the nutmeg analysis tool to ensure that all food service in city schools fulfil the nutritional requirements of the Act.

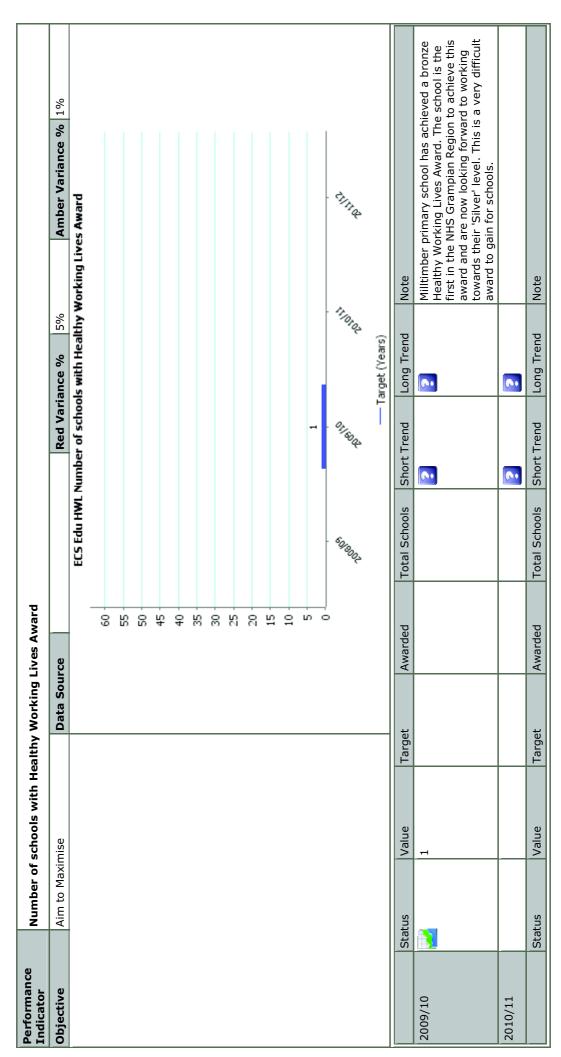


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2010/11	•	%86	100%	63	64	1	<b>4</b>	63 out of 64 schools are registered in the Health Promoting Schools Initiative. All registered schools have achieved Commitment status; 59 have achieved Commended status and 7 Excellence status.



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### Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing 05.03 - Environmental sustainability

Action		Due	Progress	Managed By
ECS-SP 05.03b	Promote healthy travel options	31 Mar 2013	<u>%0</u>	Charlie Penman

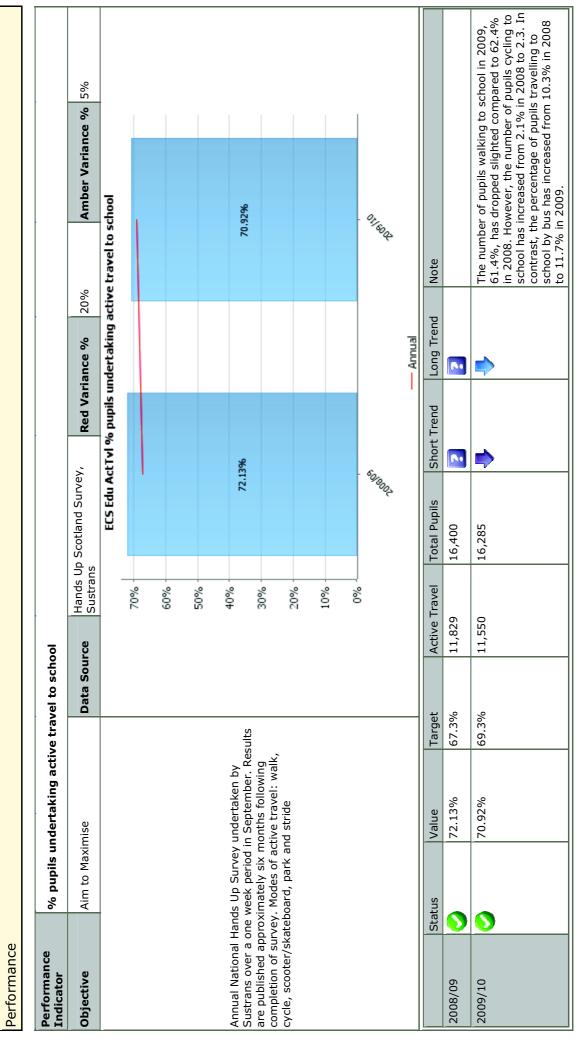
### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 18 teams of 5 from Education, Culture and Sport have entered the 'Walk at Work Step Count Challenge' co-ordinated by Aberdeen City Council in association with Scottish Charity 'Paths for All'. A total of 44 teams from services across the Council have risen to the Challenge. The Challenge commenced on 14 February and continues for a period of 12 weeks during which team members will record their daily step count via pedometer. Weekly team step count totals are submitted to 'Paths for All' for recording.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.03c	Increase the number of Eco-Schools within the city	31 Mar 2013	₹¥	Work ongoing	100%	Derek Samson

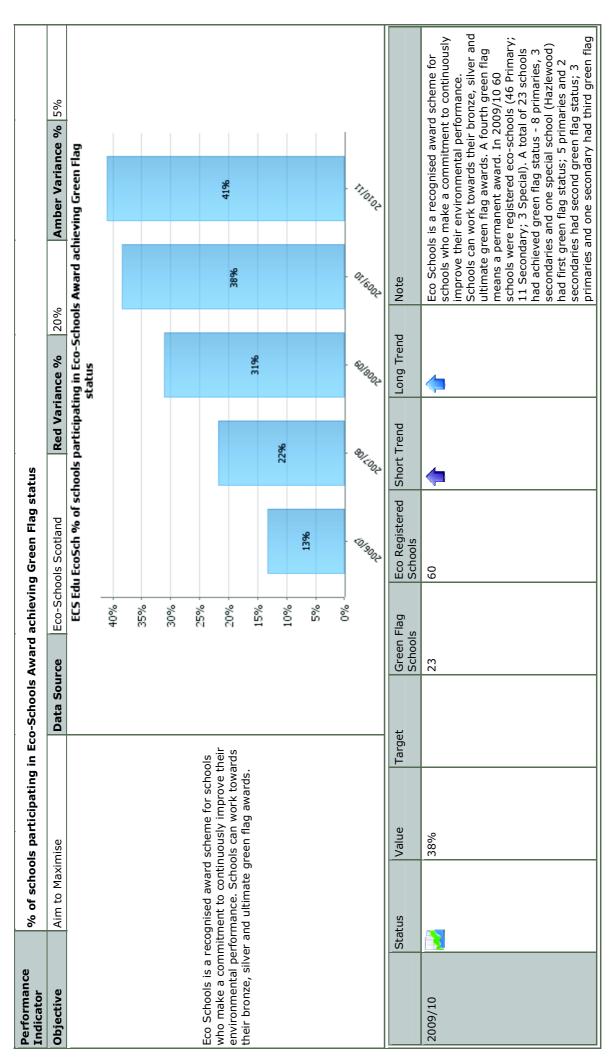
### Progress Overview

11 Apr 2011 As of March 2011, 61 out of 64 schools are registered eco-schools (47 Primary; 11 Secondary; 3 Special). A total of 26 green flags have been awarded - 9 primaries, 3 secondaries and 2 secondaries had second green flag status - Ashley Road and Scotstown primaries achieved their second green flag during 2010/11; 3 primaries and one secondary had third green flag status.



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					http://www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/Safe%20 Routes/publications/scotland/SRS_Handsup_Scotl and_Survey2009.pdf
2010/11		71.3%		•	Awaiting publication of 2010/11 results.



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	2010/11		41%	25	6.1	<b>_</b>	<u> </u>	As of March 2011, 61 out of 64 schools are registered eco-schools (47 Primary; 11 Secondary; 3 Special). A total of 26 green flags have been awarded - 9 primaries, 3 secondaries and one special school had first green flag status Culter Primary achieved their first green flag during 2010/11; 7 primaries and 2 secondaries had second green flag status - Ashley Road and Scotstown primaries achieved their second green flag during 2010/11; 3 primaries and one secondary had third green flag status.
Status Value Target Green Flag Eco Registered Short Trend Long Trend Note Schools		Status	Value	Green Flag Schools	Eco Registered Schools		Long Trend	Note

## 06.01 - Increase the opportunities for all residents and visitors to engage in arts, culture and heritage activities Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

1	Action		Dne		Progress		Managed By	_
00	ECS-SP 06.01a	Develop and implement 'Vibrant Aberdeen' – A Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen	31 Mar 2013	(I)	Work ongoing	%99	Neil Bruce	
اسم	<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview						_
<u></u>	10 Feb 2011 Forum for Al his, the stra	10 Feb 2011 The strategy was launched in Aberdeen University during a cultural conference hosted by InterCult on Friday the 30th of April 2010. The Strategy, developed by the Cultural Forum for Aberdeen, aims to provide the strategic framework to drive culture in the city towards achieving a shared vision and meeting the identified objectives which lie behind this. Within this, the strategy presents the challenges Aberdeen faces in developing culture and the opportunities which must be taken in order to achieve this vision.	lt on Friday the nared vision an ist be taken in	30th of 1 meeti order to	April 2010. The Strat of the identified object achieve this vision.	egy, developed tives which lie	i by the Cultural behind this. Within	

The Strategy Team is working with external funding officers to maximise future initiatives in terms of EU funding, in particular those which relate to public space and EU City of Culture. The SOA targets will be reviewed in accordance with the next corporate SOA review by the Strategist representing the sector on the lead officers group. The Lively Cities bid allows for a level of continuing professional development which will increase capacity and knowledge. The public art strategy, currently a work in progress, will provide a framework for achieving planning gain and community benefits opportunities. Progress 15%

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.01b	Demonstrate and evidence the key role culture can play in all aspects of life including city regeneration	31 Mar 2013	<u>د</u>	Work ongoing	75%	Neil Bruce
Progress Overview	iverview					

22 Dec 2010 Arts Development have developed a WordPress site and Flicker site - http://artsdevelopment.wordpress.com/ - through which to promote case studies and publicise the services they provide

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.01c	Engage with hard to reach groups – bring cultural activities to each community	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	20%	Neil Bruce

### Progress Overview

25 Feb 2011 National Galleries Scotland project - work is continuing on this partnership, Silver City Soul. An exhibition devised in collaboration with representatives of Aberdeen's communities will take place in Aberdeen Art Gallery from 11.2.12 - 24.3.12. The exhibition will be developed through a series of public consultations - the first meeting takes place on 2/3/2011.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
ECS-SP 06.01d	Implement a co-ordinated programme of school visits to cultural establishments linked to learning programmes	31 Mar 2013	>	Complete	10.1%	Neil Bruce	
Constant Constant	in constant						

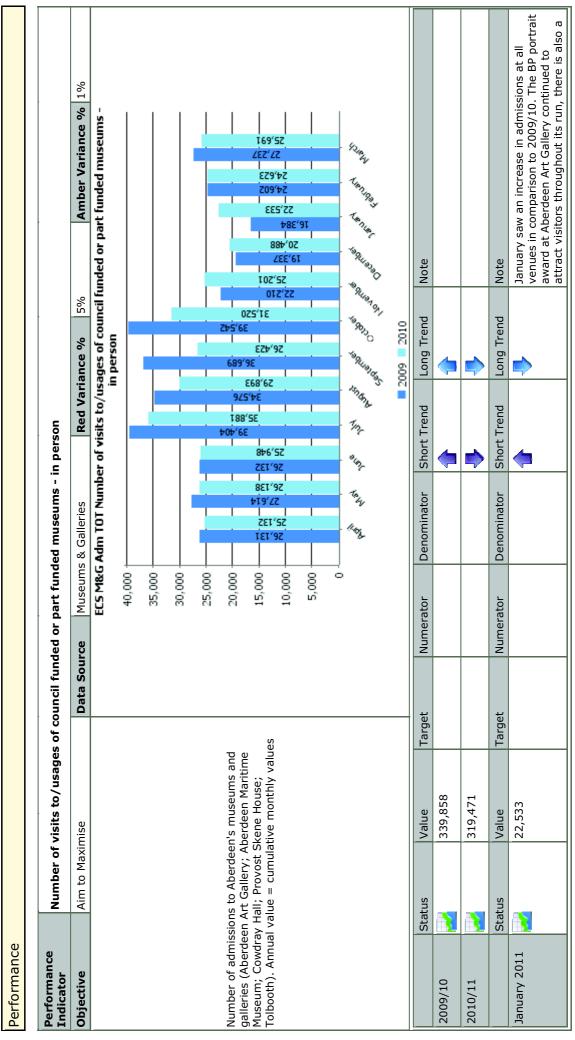
#### rogress Overview

25 Feb 2011 The pilot of Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums Resource Pack for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluation will take place in April 2011 with a report on outcomes due May 2011

Act	tion		Due		Progress		Managed By	
100	ECS-SP 06.01e	Develop virtual resources for virtual online visitors	31 Mar 2013	<del>(1)</del>	Work ongoing	31%	Neil Bruce	
1								

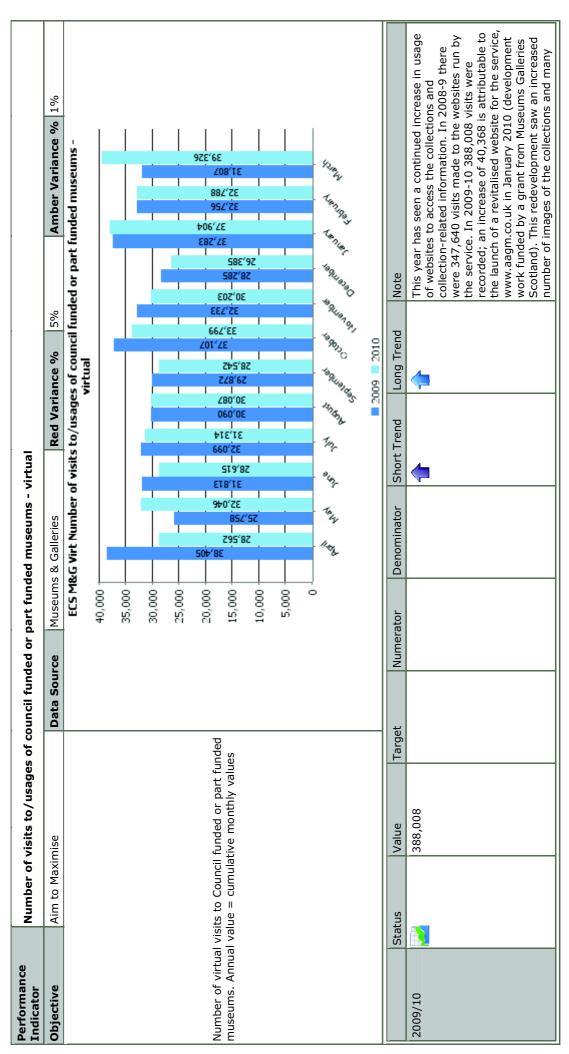
### **Progress Overview**

04 Mar 2011 A Facebook page for Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums has been launched and small internal working group set up to develop it further in line with a proceedure for use of the site. The Facebook site will be used to communicate with new audiences and promote the service's activities. A number of staff will attend a podcasting training course on 28/2/2011 after which a new series of podcasts will be launched. The Library Service are developing a presence on social networking sites.



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new installation – Nasty Piece of Stuff by Jordan Baseman at the gallery. Aberdeen Maritime Museum has photographs on display by Keith Allardyce 'The Caring Profession and Life on the Rocks'.	Slight decrease in number of visitors to Aberdeen Art Gallery compared to 2010. Artist Rooms Diane Arbus exhibition opened 5th February. Back court closed for re-display. Two Lunchtime Talks within the venue. Increase in number of visitors to Aberdeen Martime Museum compared to 2009 and 2010. Exhibition spaces closed for re-display. Seamarking and What Might Have Been exhibitions opened. One Lunchtime Talk within the venue. Increase in number of visitors to Cowdray Hall compared to both 2009 and 2010. Three hires from external organisation throughout the month. Four Lunchbreak Concerts given as part of our own Lunchbreak Programme. Slight decrease in number of visitors to Provost Skene's House compared to 2009 and 2010. Top Floor of the Museum remains closed. Costume Gallery changeover - Aberdeen's Designer Wardrobe exhibition opened. Increase in number of visitors to Tolbooth Museum compared to both 2009 and 2010. Venue closed for season and only opened for pre-arranged visits.  Feedback from Visitor Attractions (The Moffat Centre) states that attractions pertaining to the Aberdeen and Grampian region demonstrate a decrease of -12.9% in visits compared to February 2010. Aberdeen City Museums and Galleries have bucked this trend though and are showing a slight increase in visits compared with the same period in 2010. Overall visits to Scottish attractions were up 0.7% across the Country when comparing February 2011 with February 2010.	
	<b>(</b>	4
	24,623	25,691
	February 2011	March 2011



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								new features including curator blogs and improved publicity and promotion pages. Anecdotal evidence indicates that visitors are increasingly using the website to access information about the service, although these general enquiries / hits are not counted for the SPI return. The Aberdeenquest website, which is aimed at young people and families, continues to be popular with schools and maintains a good level of usage during vacation periods suggesting a much wider use beyond schools.
2010/11		379,571					<b>—</b>	
	Status	Value	Target	Numerator	Denominator	Short Trend	Long Trend	Note
January 2011		37,904				<b>_</b>	<b>—</b>	
February 2011		32,788					<b>—</b>	
March 2011		39,326				<b>_</b>	<b>—</b>	

### 06.02 - Improve the quality and impact of arts, culture and heritage provision across the City Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.02a	Attract major exhibitions to the City	31 Dec 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	19%	Neil Bruce
Progress Overview	Werview					

25 Feb 2011 The exhibition Diane Arbus: Artist Rooms opened at Aberdeen Art Gallery on 5/2/2011. The exhibition is a partnership project with the Art Fund, the Scottish Government and ARTISTS ROOMS which is jointly owned by Tate and National Galleries Scotland. This exhibition of photographs by one of the great figures of American photography is promoted across the JK, attracting visitors to the city

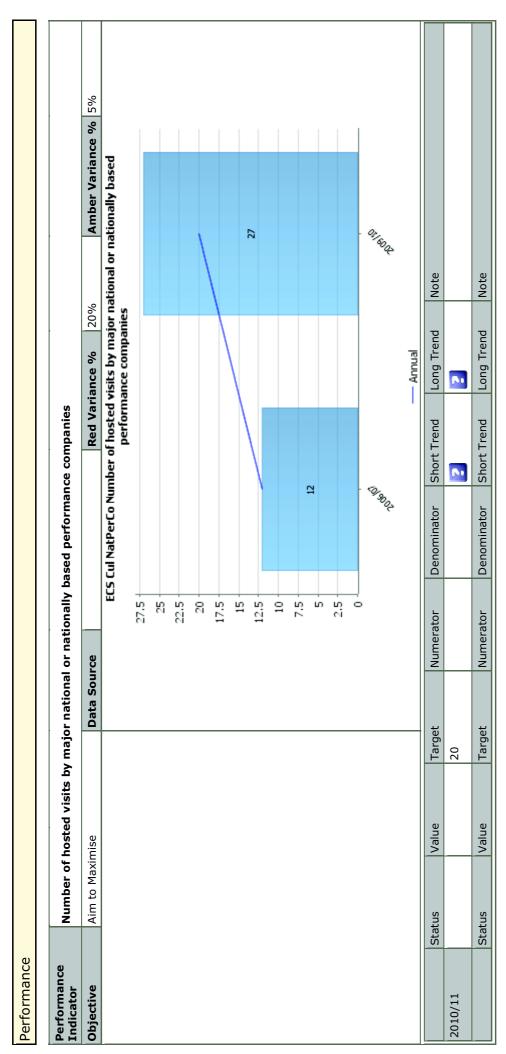
agreed with a date in October 2011 for siting in Castlegate. Work on Community Sports Hubs as part of the Games Legacy is due for completion in March 2011 and work is ongoing on a The Strategy Team has worked with Arts Development and the External funding officers to gain £250,00 in funding from the EU Lively Cities Programme (NB – this is subject to some confirmations). The recent Scotland/Samoa and Scotland/Faroes internationals were supported in kind and financially by Aberdeen City Council. The Gordon Highlanders commission is Public art strategy which it is expected will attract future funding and community benefits.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.02b	Ensure new and existing venues are fit for purpose and have the capacity for development of cultural activities	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	24%	Neil Bruce

### Progress Overview

08 Mar 2011 Media Centre Cafe at Central Library - Delays in progression of tender however several social enterprises have noted an interest.

Refurbishment of Adult Learning Floors - Awaiting confirmation of contractors. Legal work completed for contract for self issue machines.



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### 06.03 - Development of meaningful and successful partnerships that increase opportunities available to engage in culture, arts and Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage heritage activities

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP De 06.03a	Develop partnership networks and links with both cultural and non cultural bodies e.g. tourism 31 Dec 2013	31 Dec 2013	<i>₩</i>	Work ongoing	98%	Neil Bruce

### **Progress Overview**

23 Dec 2010 The Arts Education Team are the lead partner working with Aberdeenshire Council and approximately 60 local music providers to develop an overarching strategic music partnership and vision for music for children and young people in the North East of Scotland. Funding: £180,000 Scottish Arts Council, £12,000 Aberdeenshire Council and £12,000 Aberdeen City Council.

successful in attracting the maximum amount which can be awarded, and the money will be used to develop new and existing creative learning networks, and to champion the arts, culture The Arts Education Team had been awarded £10,000 from the Scottish Arts Council and Children in Scotland to establish a creative learning network in the city. The team has been and creativity in schools and communities within the context of the Curriculum for Excellence.

Two members of staff were part of the Lord Provosts' Delegation that went to Regensburg to celebrate 50 years of the twinning agreement between Regensburg and Aberdeen. As part of the celebration, photographic artwork by the group from Aberdeen was exhibited in the City highlighting partnership working between Arts Development, Aberdeen and Regensburg.

Three members from Aberdeen Potters group went on an exchange to Regensburg Social Initiatives Christmas Market. They travelled to Regensburg in December and sold items on the market. The 'Common Thread' twinning project was a 6 month long project involving 18 young people aged 14-18 year from Aberdeen, Stavanger, and Regensburg. The aim of the project was to create a contemporary piece of youth theatre to be performed at Aberdeen International Youth Festival.

In 2010 the Museums and Galleries Service worked in partnership with National Galleries Scotland, National Museums Scotland, British Museum, The Royal Collection, National Portrait Gallery, University of Aberdeen, Robert Gordon University, schools and community groups, Arts Education and Arts Development, the Ranger Service, Aberdeen Philatelic Society, the Association of North Sea Cities, Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS), artists, private collectors and individuals to deliver the exhibitions programme.

Action		Due		Progress	Managed By
ECS-SP 06.03b	Recruitment, development and retention of volunteers to support delivery of cultural, arts and heritage type activities	31 Mar 2013	M N	ork ongoing	 Neil Bruce

### **Progress Overview**

22 Dec 2010 Within Arts Development, Community Volunteer sessions have been developed as part of 'Our Story' project; Arts Graduate volunteers have been offered opportunities throughout the year and unqualified volunteers have been supported to offer sessions to community groups.

Library Volunteer Policy group established and developing policy/volunteers handbook

## 06.04 - Enable creative opportunities for practitioners and artists to retain creative individuals within the City Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.04b	Encourage and support artists to produce new and innovative work	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	%ÞC	Neil Bruce
Progress Overview	Dverview					
23 Dec 201 Strategy ck Cultural Gra developmer	23 Dec 2010 The research and consultation work undertaken as part of Aberdeen's 'City of Culture' Feasibility Study in 2009 and the development of the 'Vibrant Aberdeen' Cultural Strategy clearly highlighted the requirement to establish a structure which supports the development of contemporary public art in the city. With support from Aberdeen City Council's Cultural Grant scheme a new public art project, 'Art Engagement', has been developed. This project will use various innovative methods to actively consult and involve communities in the development of commissioned public art pieces. This process of community engagement will form the basis for the development of a public art tool-kit and policy which is reflective of the wants and needs of the city and its residents.	Study in 2009, mporary public arious innovativ r the developm	and the art in tl e meth	development of the '' ne city. With support f ods to actively consult public art tool-kit anc	ibrant Aberdee rom Aberdeen and involve co policy which is	n' Cultural City Council's mmunities in the reflective of the

Major arts participation project with National Theatre of Scotland and Transition Extreme Sports Ltd using the experience of extreme sports as the inspiration to create new artistic work. Focussing on three schools and their communities, the project culminated in a festival of events during March 2011 at Linksfield Academy.

Ļ								
1	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
98	8 ECS-SP 06.04c	Ensure culture and the arts becomes an attractive and viable career choice in the City	31 Mar 2013	(F)	Work ongoing	0%	Neil Bruce	

### Progress Overview

23 Dec 2010 Provide routes into further training to develop a career in dance. Ensure dance artists have access to professional level training. Provide access to vocational training in dance

## 06.05 - Create and celebrate a cultural identity which is recognised locally, nationally and internationally Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.05a	Develop a cultural programme reflecting the uniqueness of the area exploiting our unique assets	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	360	Neil Bruce

### **Progress Overview**

25 Feb 2011 Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums published a free leaflet providing further information on how granite is used to create Aberdeen Art Gallery, one of the city's finest and most distintive granite buildings.

Working with a panel of experts drawn from the granite industry and related industries, Museums and Galleries has devised a programme of learning activities and events, including walks and talks, which will explore our unique granite heritage throughout the month of May. The programme was launched formally in March.

### 07.01 - Support children and young people through an integrated children's service with single points of access Priority 07 - Helping those with different needs

	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
Pac	ECS-SP 07.01a	Develop, implement and deliver Integrated Children's Service Plan 2010-13	30 Jun 2011	>	On schedule	%96	36% Sheila Sansbury
e	<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview					

11 Apr 2011 ICS Plan now will cover 11-15 to align with the ACC corporate five year business plan

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.01b	Raise awareness and provide support to help children, young people, their families and carers access services to meet their individual needs within the requirements of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)	31 Mar 2013	<i>₹</i> 2	Work ongoing	103%	103% Sheila Sansbury
Progress Overview	Verview					

11 Apr 2011 Family Information Service now sits

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.02a	Early identification and provision of support to families to help them meet their children's needs	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	73%	Sheila Sansbury
<b>Progress Overview</b>	iverview					

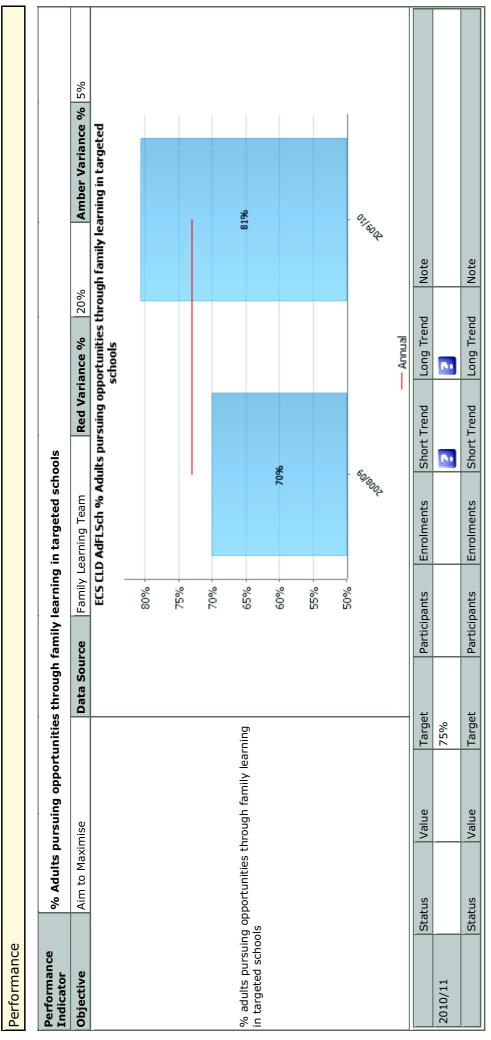
11 Apr 2011 Family Information Service realigned with Integrated Children's Services providing information to parents about all services to children and young people

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.02b	Improve the engagement, involvement and achievement of the City's looked after children as part of our corporate parenting role	31 Dec 2010	(L)	Work ongoing	360	Sheila Sansbury

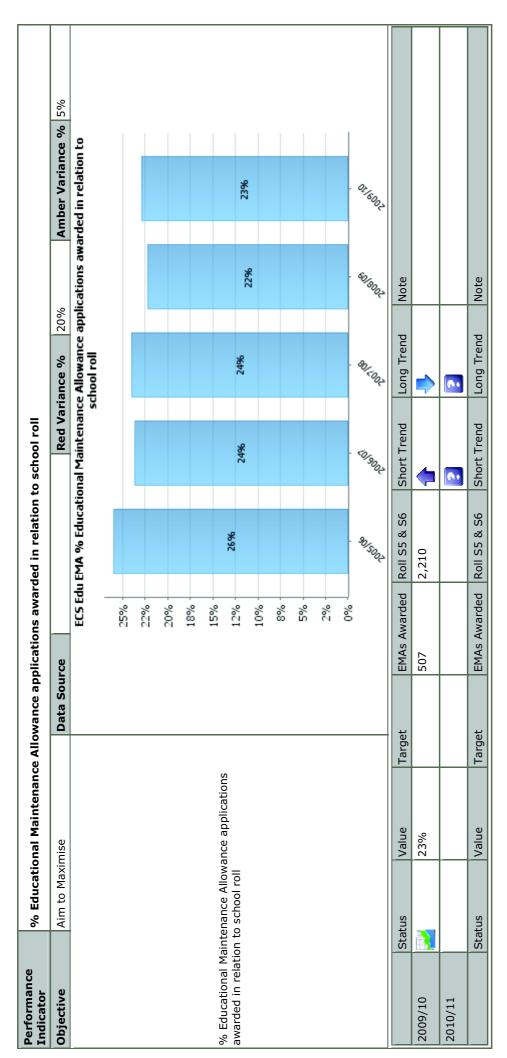
20 Dec 2010 Piloting Family Firm approach with Directors and Marriot Group. Established 16+ Black Group for positive destinations. Progress Overview

ActionDueProgressECS-SP 07.02cIdentification and support of young carers31 Mar 20133 Work ongoing	Р	20 Dec 2010	20 Dec 2010 Piloting Family Firm approach with Directors and Marriot Group. Established 16+ Black Group for positive destinations.	positive destina	tions.			
ECS-SP Identification and support of young carers 07.02c Work ongoing 50% Department Overview	age	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
	e 20	ECS-SP 07.02c	Identification and support of young carers	31 Mar 2013		ongoing	20%	Gail Woodcock
	00		erview					

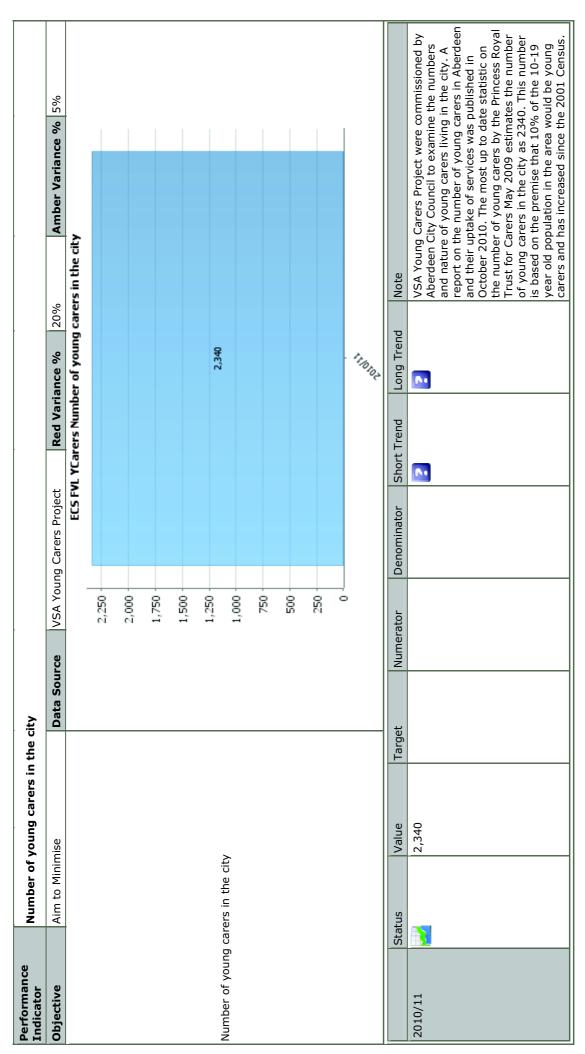
11 Apr 2011 Young Carers work is supported by VSA in partnership with CLD Services



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# Priority 07 - Helping those with different needs 07.03 - Ensure our services and facilities are accessible to all

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.03a	Apply Council's strategy on disability access to services and properties	31 Mar 2013		20%	David Wright

### **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 Given limitations of resources, disability access improvements are generally implemented as and when specific needs are identified. Wherever facilities are replaced or redeveloped, these are designed and built to fully meet DDA standards, and whenever possible engagement takes place with relevant disability and access stakeholders.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.03b	Promote equalities to support the inclusion of minority or disadvantaged groups	31 Mar 2013		20%	Sarah Gear

### Progress Overview

Equalities Action Plan in place and actions being monitored,

C							
ae	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
204	ECS-SP 07.03c	Provide affordable, quality childcare places	31 Mar 2013	₹	Work ongoing	20%	Liz Gillies

### Progress Overview

10 Mar 2011 18 new childminders have completed their training opening up over 30 new childminding places. Partner providers continue to provide good quality childcare. A number of after school clubs are experiencing a drop in numbers due to the financial climate. This is being monitored by the Early Years Manager and Child Care development officers and information is being fed back to the Integrated Childrens Service Management Board.

## 08.01 - Simplify and standardise service provision targeting resources to the right areas and helping to balance budgets Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01a	Explore shared services delivery and joint contracts to reduce procurement costs	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	20%	Charlie Penman

### **Progress Overview**

09 May 2011 Business case has been prepared. Initial scoping underway with Moray, Aberdeenshire and Shetland. Case Study research underway begining April 2011. Meeting is being arranged with Stirling Council to discuss their experience of shared service delivery in June.

Action		Due	В	rogress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01b	Maximise available resources to the 'front line' and reduce central service costs	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	going	50%	David Wright

### **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 The service continues to extend the devolvement of areas of responsibility to schools and community learning and development establishments. Work is ongoing to devolve the following budgets to establishments in the course of 2011: Schools - pupil support assistants, technicians, school support employees and nursery nurses; Community Learning & Development - full time professional workers and support employees.

Additionally and to allow establishments to better manage resources there has been significant investment in providing them with access to the corporate e-Financials, PECOS and Collaborative Planning systems.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01c	Service implementation of corporate robust financial systems – PECOS, E-Financials, Collaborative Planning	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	30%	Lesley Kirk

### **Progress Overview**

February 2011 covering use of Collaborative Planning, e-financials and Infosmart systems. In this time, 206 key staff in respect of the use of financial systems have attended 30 sessions, each session lasting 3 hours. 111 establishments were targeted with 98 establishments having been represented. Feedback has been extremely positive and, in the main, staff felt they had 17 May 2011 To address the requirements for additional support required in schools and community centres a series of "hands on" sessions have been running since mid November 2010 to benefited from the sessions.

In addition to these organised sessions, the drop-in centre has also been available for any member of staff wishing to book a slot - assistance is at hand to guide them through the financial systems. Education, Culture and Sport support staff have been supporting the schools and community centres in the use of financial systems both by phone, and by undertaking regular visits to establishments. One to one support is given when needed, primarily in the use of e-financials and Infosmart.

To facilitate improved budget monitoring, all budget holders who manage budgets totalling £250,000 have been having regular face to face meetings with a nominated Services Accounting contact. These meetings, which have been taking place since December 2010, have also provided both parties with a better understanding of the operating position and challenges being faced. The SLA target is for each budget holder over the £250k threshold to have nine face to face meetings each year with their Service Accountant.

A programme of training is being planned for August 2011. Corporate Governance colleagues will provide budget holders with training on the use of Collaborative Planning to enable scrutiny and monitoring of individual budgets and will also detail what their financial and budgetary responsibilities are under Standing Orders.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01d	Implement priority based budget approach to developing proposals for 2011-12 budget	31 Mar 2013	On schedule	%93	Charlie Penman

### Progress Overview

09 May 2011 A progress update paper will be tabled at E C and S committee in June 2011 which will outline progress towards implementation of transformation options. A further report on the other service options will be tabled at a future committee cycle once the academic arrangements for 2011 are finalised.

	Due	Progress		Managed By
nplementation of integrated management information systems for Education, Culture and 3 sort	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	50%	David Wright

### **Progress Overview**

occurred. This was followed by Local Authority training, presentations to secondary Head Teachers, primary Head Teachers and Local Authority staff. Phase 1 schools have been identified and training has occurred for the phase 1 primary schools. The review of Phase 1 Primary is on 17th March. Phase 1 secondary commences on 16th March. Subgroups will decide on issues highlighted, policies and procedures which require to be updated and developing areas for Aberdeen City in partnership with Pearson. 04 Mar 2011 The Implementation Plan for the MIS for educational establishments has been agreed. The initial meeting between the Supplier, Pearson, and the MIS Strategic Group has

Works to upgrade the Libraries MIS to Talis Alto 5 is complete.

# Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money 08.02 - Encourage and maximise use of online resources for all

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.02a	Enable public internet access in council facilities within communities	31 Mar 2013	Complete - On schedule	103%	Neil Bruce

# 23 Dec 2010 WiFi Network in Libraries - Library members can now use their laptops, PDAs and mobile phones to gain free, fast broadband connections to the internet at Central Library, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Airyhall Library, Cove Library, Dyce Library, Kincorth Customer Access Point, Mastrick Library, Tillydrone Library and Learning Centre and Torry Library Progress Overview

Action		Due	Progress	S	Managed By
ECS-SP Promote the 08.02b	Promote the benefits of single source access to Council information	29 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	<b>%</b> 0	Lesley Kirk

### Progress Overview

17 May 2011 Instead of focussing on internal directorate information, Education, Culture & Sport is represented on the Council's website through sinte navigation and the A-Z list. The commitment to ongoing improvements to the website, they are currently working with EC&S representatives to 'clear out' unnecessary content and focus on action oriented content. navigation is being re-developed to be more in line with best practice, which will ensure information is found even more easily. As part of Service Design and Development's (SDD)

accompanied by documentary evidence to support the application which is often done in person. The e-government team have recently implemented the new E-Forms package on the website which allows customers to fill out and submit applications online. It is hoped that with some further development work that e-forms can be made more widely available across EC&S Maintenance Allowance application forms, and School Placing Request forms. It is not possible however for these forms to be completed and submitted online as they require to be Previous work done with colleagues in SDD has resulted in a number of forms being made available online for downloading, for example the School Clothing Grant and Educational service areas

In addition to the re-development of the EC&S pages on the website, there are separate websites for Art Galleries and Museums (hosted by and managed by ACC): www.aberdeenships.com/www.aberdeenquest.com/www.citymoves.wordpress.com/ www.aagm.co.uk The use of social media is an excellent means of connecting with hard-to-reach audiences such as young people and key stakeholders. The ACC Twitter account was set up in May 2010 and is used to communicate key messages for the Council and proves to be popular. There has been an increased use of 'blogs', for example: www.citymoves.wordpress.com/ which can provide information on the ACC website it is recognised that the use of social media could

be explored further in maximising channels of communication to our key stakeholders.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.02c	Enable customer self service	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	48%	Neil Bruce
)						

08 Mar 2011 Online booking system for Beach Ballroom ticket sales currently under review further update due in March 2011. Online registration for Library and Information Services implemented - 211 registrations processed to date. Design of new library card to be finalised and numbering convention to be agreed. Work with Accord and Legal colleagues to establish requirements for retention of registration as part of review and updating of Library Management Rules

### 08.03 - Demonstrate our commitment to continuous improvement Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03a	Engage with service users to determine if expectations are being fulfilled and improve customer satisfaction	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	41%	Sarah Gear

### **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 Stakeholder engagements have taken place throughout 2010 as part of our work to develop the Learning Strategy. Our pupils survey offers the opportunity for schools to engage the views of pupils to help inform their own self evaluation. Library and Information Service to consult with current and potential library users on service development and delivery systems and procedures in place to evaluate library taster sessions and events; Review customer comment procedures with a view to streamlining collation and publishing of outcomes

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03b	Demonstrate effective self evaluation	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	20%	Sarah Gear

### **Progress Overview**

10 Mar 2011 The Strategy Team are working to implement How Good is Our Culture and Sport on a shared basis with Aberdeenshire Council with a view to concluding in June 2011. Colleagues are currently engaged in multi-agency self evaluation as part of our child protection inspection preparations.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03c	Effective monitoring and reporting of performance against quantitative and qualitative measures	31 Mar 2013	<b>*</b>	Nork ongoing	34%	Sarah Gear

### Progress Overview

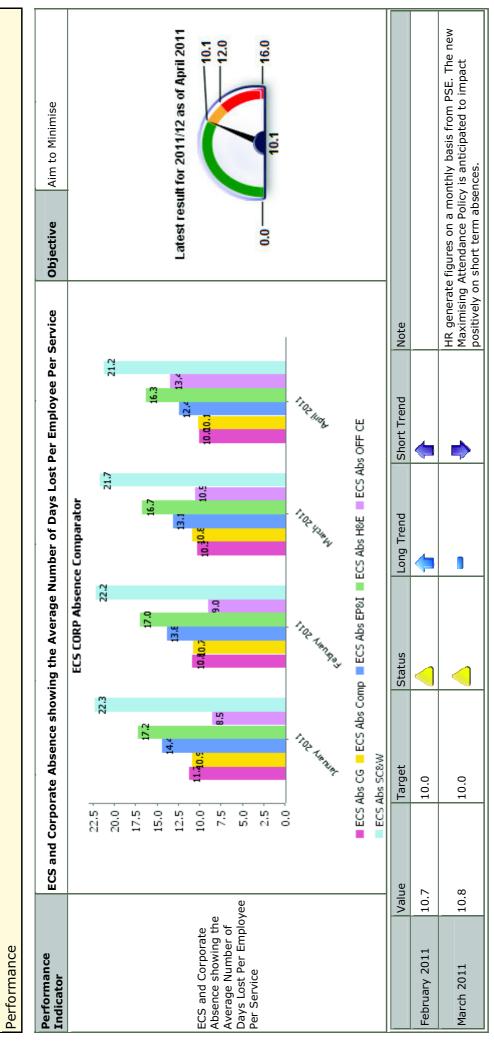
11 Apr 2011 Improvements to internal performance monitoring and reporting using the balanced scorecard approach have been implemented across the Education, Culture and Sport

Service. Public performance reporting using Covalent began in July 2010 and has developed throughout the year. The new style of performance reporting against Service Plan outcomes and measures was presented to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 20 January 2011. An online interactive learning course (OIL) was developed by the Service in partnership with the Employee Development Team within Corporate Governance. South Ayrshire Council, have expressed an interest in utilising the course for their training purposes. Aberdeen City Council and South Ayrshire Council are members of the e-learning Network Alliance which encourages the development of networking relationships and the sharing of best practice.

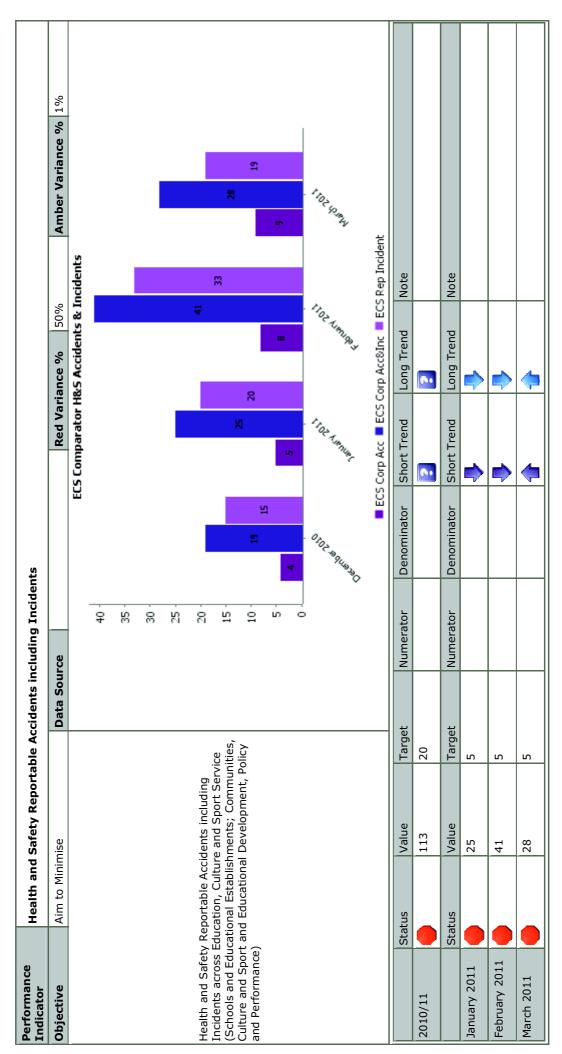
39 Covalent training sessions were offered over a 5 week period from January to March 2011 with 60 officers trained.

Work has commenced in terms of utilising Covalent for the robust monitoring and reporting of risk registers.

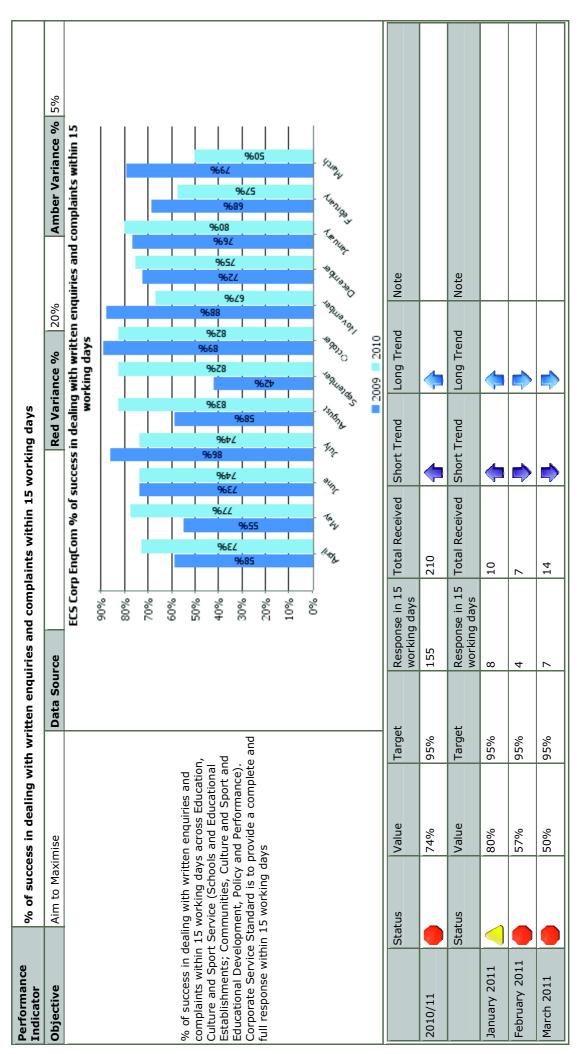
Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03d	Develop and implement a cross directional integrated approach to quality improvement, quality assurance and continuous improvement	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	34%	Sarah Gear
<b>Progress Overview</b>	Verview				
27 Jan 201. PLIQM visit schools, ser Our Culture developmen	27 Jan 2011 Quality improvement takes place in all aspects of the Education, Culture and Sport Service. 2010 saw MLA accreditation for our Museums and Galleries Service, a further PLIQM visit for our Library and Information Services, INEA2 follow-through for our Education service and Educational Psychology Services, HMIE and Care Commission inspections across schools, services, learning communities and pre-school partner providers and the beginnings of self evaluation in our Culture and Sports services following the introduction of How Good is Our Council and the Our Culture and Sport. Our plans for 2011 include a co-ordinated and systematic approach to self evaluation throughout the Service in preparation for How Good is Our Council and the development of more robust and evidence based quality assurance procedures that have positive impacts on all participants.	saw MLA accreitional Psychold in our Culture Iroughout the Sill participants.	ditation for our Museums and ogy Services, HMIE and Care and Sports services following service in preparation for Hov	Galleries Servi Commission ins the introductio v Good is Our C	ce, a further spections across in of How Good is council and the



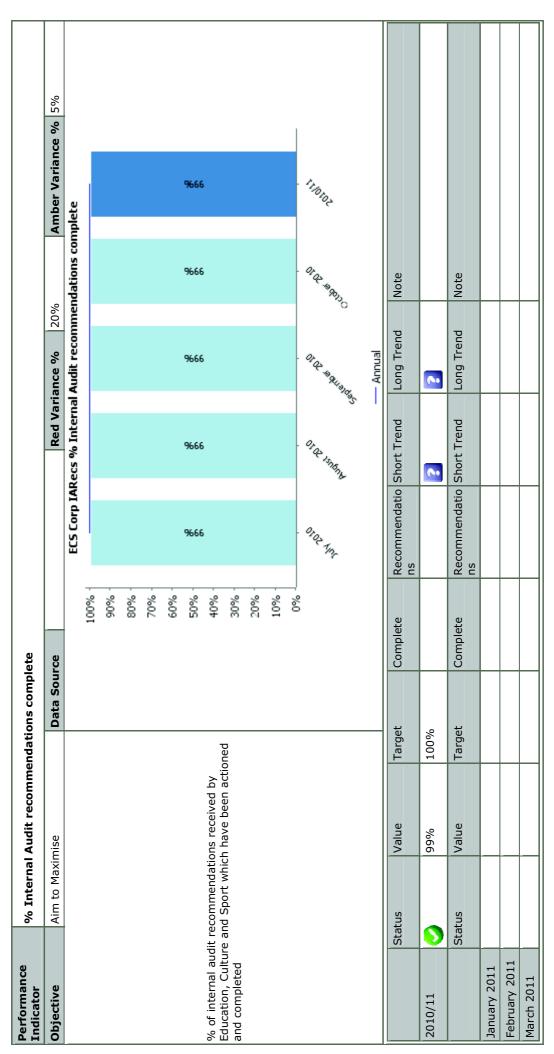
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# 09.01 - Skilled workforce with the knowledge, understanding and expertise required to carry out their duties Priority 09 - Skilled and Trained Staff

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 09.01b	Develop and deliver comprehensive, high quality professional development programmes	31 Mar 2013	On schedule	78%	Sarah Gear

#### **Progress Overview**

12 Apr 2011 The CPD programme for teachers and school staff for 2010/2011 is ongoing. Particularly successful elements of this programme have included a conference for 350 PSAs and an Improvement Conference looking at the clarification of GIRFEC roles and responsibilities. Work is now underway to plan for the 2011/2012 programme. Provided that planned recruitment to the CPD team over the coming 3 months is successful, this work will be expanded to ensure the needs of staff across the whole service are addressed through the 2011/2012 CPD programme.

	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
Pa	ECS-SP 09.01c	Develop an enabling culture throughout the workforce	31 Mar 2013	OO	On schedule	21%	Sarah Gear	
ae	<b>Progress Overview</b>	iverview						

12 Apr 2011 Proposals for new format in-service days have now been agreed and include Strategic Development days, school-based days and Learning Partnership-based days to ensure development needs are met at each of these levels. We are working closely with universities and other local authorities to consider the implications of the review of teacher education and will review our practices and procedures accordingly.

### 10.01 - Improve joint working between the Council and its Partners to provide an inclusive approach to service delivery for children, Priority 10 - Working Together families and communities

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 10.01c	Develop network of partnerships with the public, private and third sector – local, regional and national – and define shared visions, aims and goals	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	50%	Neil Bruce

# 10 Feb 2011 The Strategy Team is working to implement 'How Good is Our Culture and Sport' on a shared basis with Aberdeenshire Council in early 2011. They are working with external funding officers to consider joint EU funding options which support the work on the Open Space strategy and other environmental projects. The culture and leisure stakeholders working group met to consider its future role in the context of the priority based budgeting exercise in January 2011. Progress 20%

**Progress Overview** 

	Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
Е	ECS-SP	Develop Lifelong Learning, Culture and Active Aberdeen Forums to improve their impact and	31 Mar 2013	Undertaken	400%	Neil Bruce; Gail

Dog	ECS-SP 10.01d	Develop Lifelong Learning, Culture and Active Aberdeen Forums to improve their impact and capacity to improve outcomes	31 Mar 2013	•	Undertaken independently within Service Plan	103%	103% Neil Bruce; Ga Woodcock
_	Progress Overview	verview					
2	22 Dec 2010	22 Dec 2010 Review and development of Active Aberdeen Forum will be undertaken as part of the implementation of 'Fit for the Future' - Sports and Physical Activity Strategy.	tion of 'Fit for t	the Fut	ure' - Sports and Physic	al Activity Stra	tegy.

Review and development of Lifelong Learning Forum will be undertaken as part of ECS-SP 03.03c - Strengthen Lifelong Learning Forum through appropriate membership.

Review and development of the Culture Form will be undertaken as part of the implementation of 'Vibrant Aberdeen' - Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen.

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### 01.01 - Children and young people access positive learning environments and develop their skills, confidence and self esteem to the Priority 01 - Curriculum for Excellence fullest potential

Managed By	Liz Gillies
	%09
Progress	On schedule
	>
Due	29 Mar 2013
	Improve early years development, learning and care experiences via implementation of the Early Years Framework
Action	ECS-SP 01.01a

#### Progress Overview

01 Mar 2011 Following on from the very successful Planning day the Early Years Framework will be reviewed and updated by June 2011.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.01b	Implement Curriculum for Excellence as part of 3 year rolling programme with initial focus on 31 Mar 2013	31 Mar 2013	>	On schedule	37%	Derek Samson
<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview					
08 Mar 2011 Groups and and in Secor Numeracy, P is a Primary and Reportin will continue	08 Mar 2011 All Nurseries, Primary and Secondary Schools have been implementing Curriculum for Excellence since August, 2010. Schools are working on city-wide, Associated Schools Groups and individual priorities. Collaborative working with other professionals is taking place. Seconded Officers are supporting delivery of the new curriculum in Nurseries/Primary Schools and in Secondary Schools. Literacy is supported by another development officer and a previously seconded head teacher. Quality Improvement Officers manage curricular areas of Literacy, Numeracy, Health and Well-Being and Science. There is also a range of working groups at authority level which are striving to shape the strategic plans for Curriculum for Excellence. There is a Primary Implementation Group and a Strategic Group. Schools have a Literacy Coordinator, Numeracy Coordinator and a coordinator for Assessment and Reporting. A process of taking stock has been completed and this will inform a review of Education, Culture and Sport's priorities for session 2011-12. The process of implementation will continue after the initial three year rolling programme and implementation is currently on track.	since August,; ars are support ad teacher. Qua n are striving to Literacy Coordii e and Sport's p	2010. Sing deli ing deli ality Im shape shape shape, N	schools are working on very of the new curricu provement Officers ma the strategic plans for Numeracy Coordinator a s for session 2011-12.	city-wide, Asse lum in Nurseri nage curricula Curriculum fo and a coordina The process of	ociated Schools es/Primary Schools r areas of Literacy, r Excellence. There tor for Asessment implementation

Action		Due	P	rogress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.01c	Ensure the delivery of high quality learning experiences which meet the needs of the learner	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	going	37%	Liz Gillies

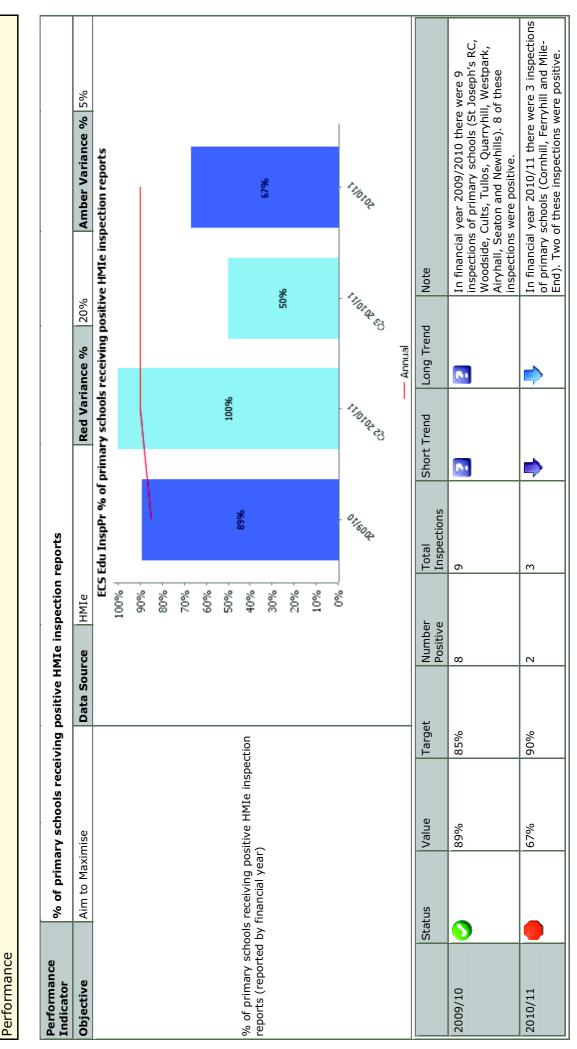
#### **Progress Overview**

20 Dec 2010 The ongoing self evaluation which staff in schools carry out on a regular basis is providing the starting point for all improvement. In addition all schools have produced a High Level Curriculum map which have informed the school improvement plans for session 2010-2011. All plans have been submitted and feedback given. The Quality Improvement Officers (QIOs) continue to monitor the standards in school through regular visits, continuous support and feedback. A more proportionate approach is being delivered to ensure that schools receive the necessary support and challenge according to need and current circumstances.

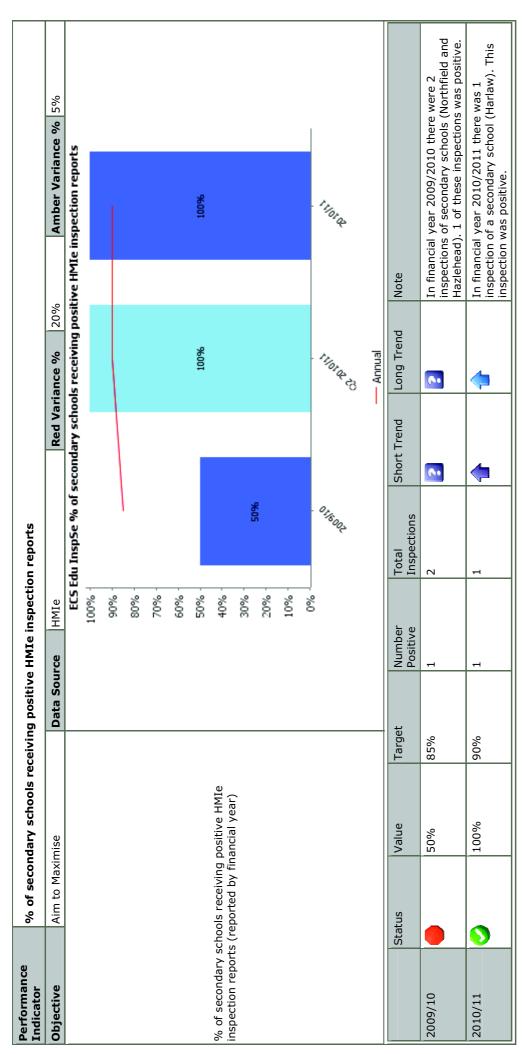
A new model of School Review is being developed which will involve a wider group of personnel including peer head teachers, experienced practitioners, parents and pupils. A group to plan for the new review model will meet in March with a view to piloting the new model in one Primary school and one secondary school in June 2011.

'What's the Story?' - a short story competition run by the Arts Education Teams of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council in conjunction with Word - University of Aberdeen Writer's Festival. Pupils from across the North East were invited to write a short story based on the theme of 'Something to Celebrate'. Eleven winners were selected from over 100 entries from Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire secondary pupils. Leafing the Green - A two year writer in residence programme as the main education initiative for The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative commenced in October 2010. Funding of £50,000 from Scottish Arts Council Lottery and £20,000 The Green Townscape Heritage Initiative. Northfield Reads - a project aimed at improving the literacy levels of some of the school's pupils by encouraging them to read for pleasure and develop reading as a habit. The project, which secured a £9,600 grant from Awards for All, included the design and installation of a new reading area in the school library, new reading materials, the installation of IT equipment for book reviews, author visits and training for teachers and librarians. The end result is a significant improvement in pupils' reading habits.

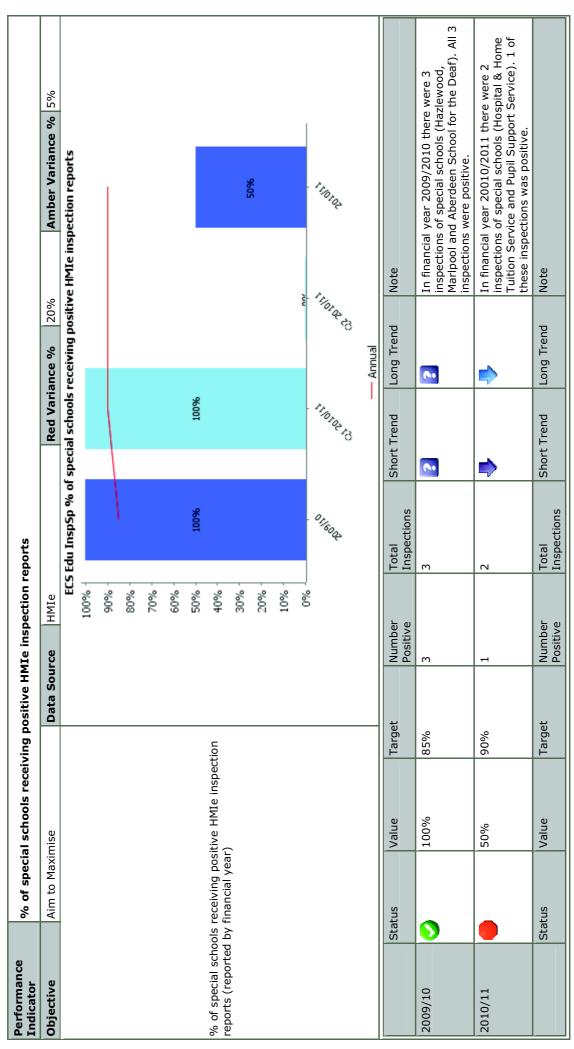
Citymoves promotion of dance in education - Increase opportunities for people to participate in dance and for young talent to be nurtured by providing a wide variety of creative and imaginative cross curricular workshops which are specifically devised to help deliver the arts infused approach to learning promoted in the Curriculum for Excellence.



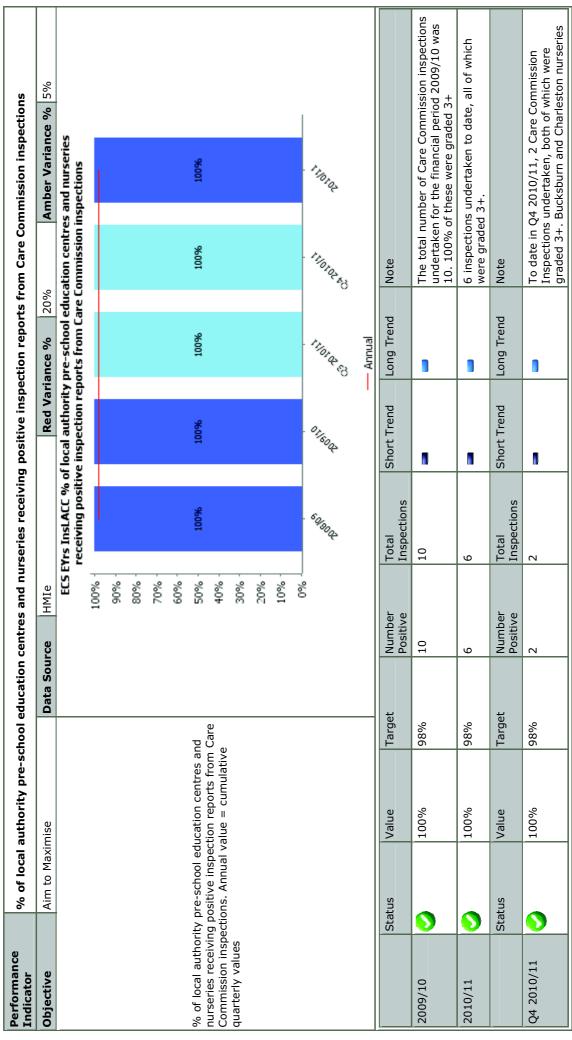
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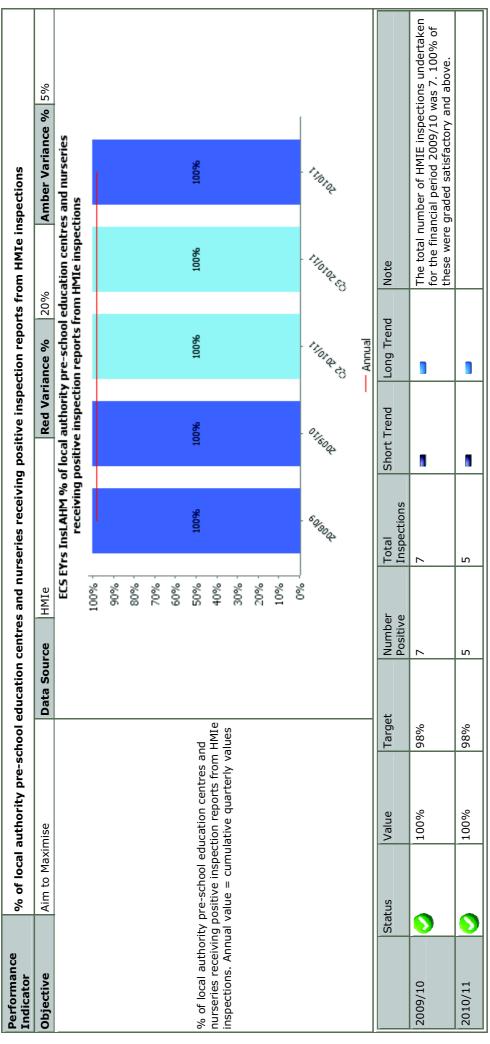
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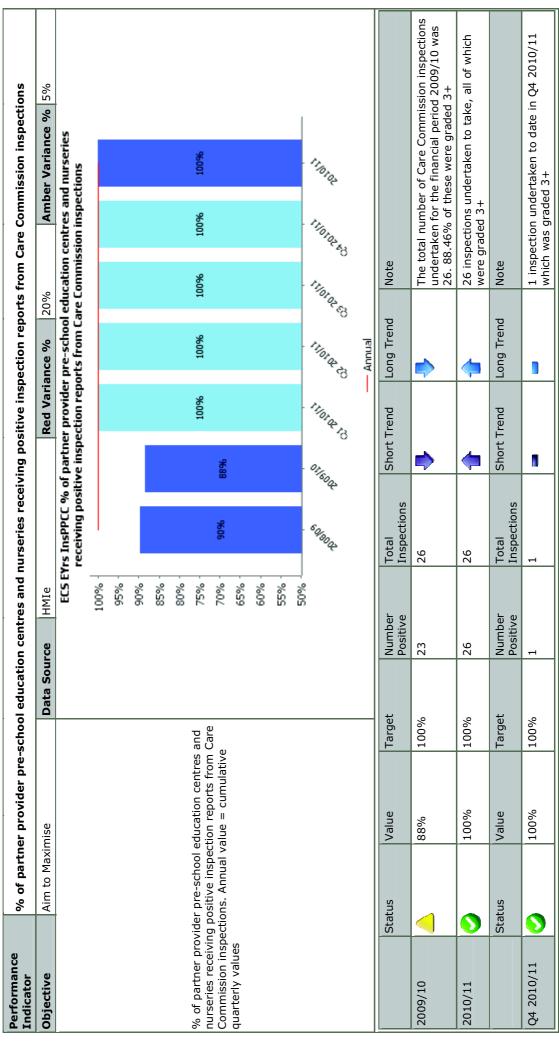
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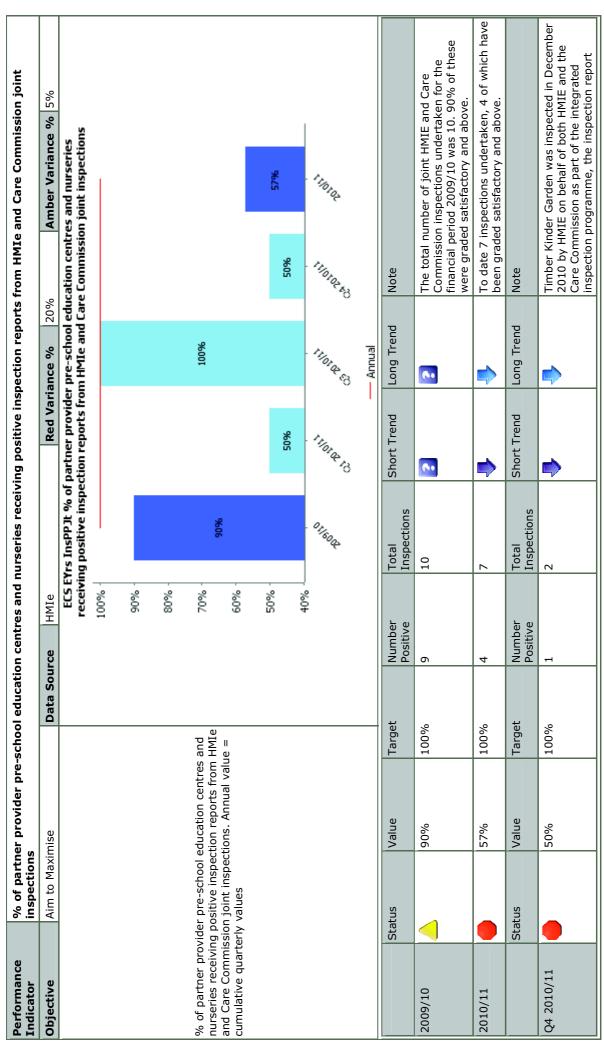
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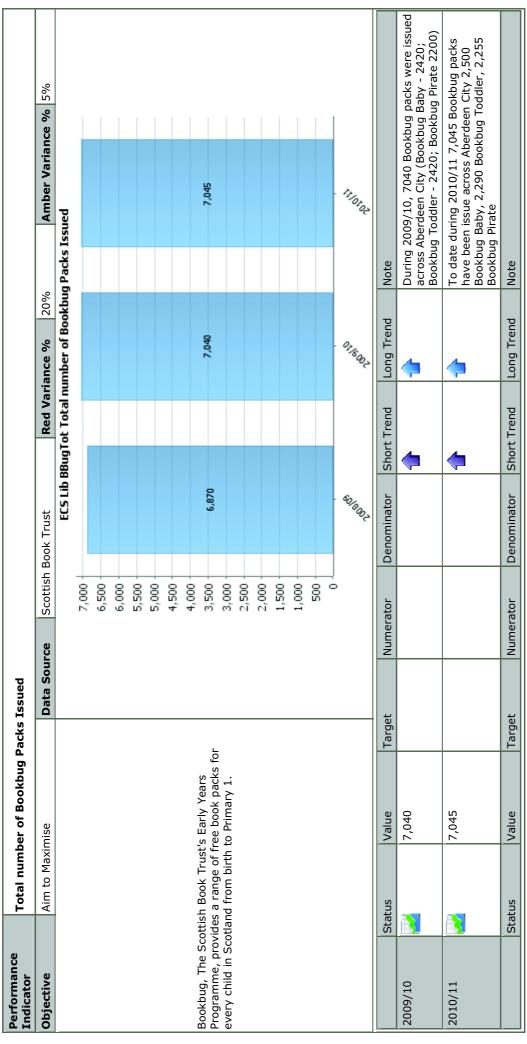


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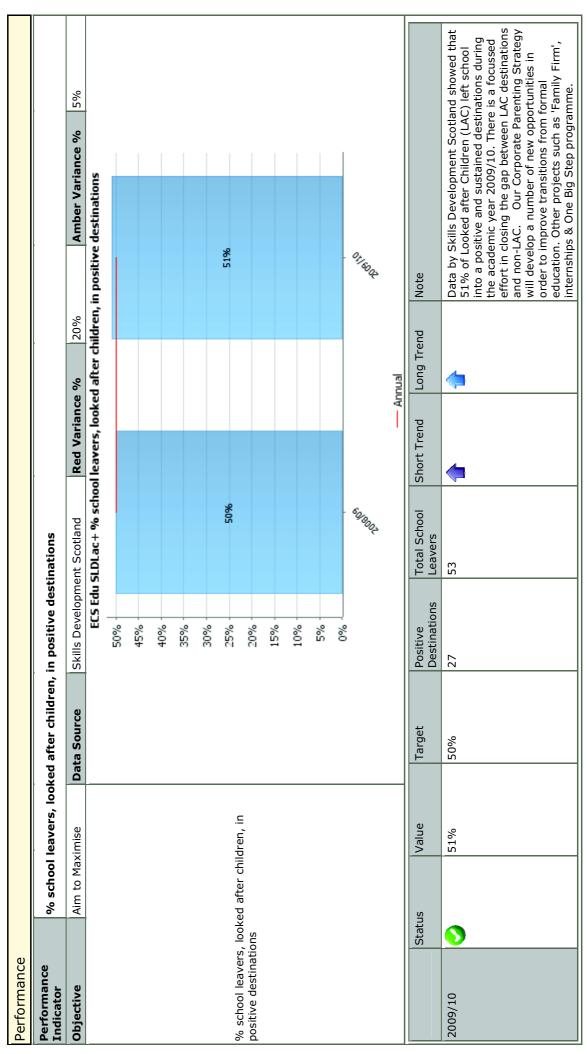
# Priority 01 - Curriculum for Excellence 01.02 - Improve the outcomes for all our children and young people

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 01.02a	Implement action plans to support young people under More Choices, More Chances Strategy and 16+ Learning Choices	31 Mar 2013	Complete	103%	Sheila Sansbury
Progress Overview	Verview				

	L
Progress	
Due	
ion	
Acti	L

11 Apr 2011 More choices More chances action 2011 on target. Accepted Scottish Government funding to implement Activity Agreements

Act	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS 01.0	ECS-SP 01.02b	Implement improved work experience opportunities	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	33%	Gail Woodcock
Pro	Progress Overview	verview					
1 90 L	May 201:	06 May 2011 The Work experience service are continuing to work with schools to place pupils with employers to gain experience. The following Academies will have pupil placements	gain experie	nce . Th	ne following Academies	s will have pupi	placements



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# 02.01 - Everyone will have access to high quality learning environments and facilities supporting them to achieve their full potential Priority 02 - Fit for Purpose Schools & Learning Centres

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01a	Complete delivery of 3Rs Schools Programme	30 Apr 2011	Complete	103%	David Wright

#### **Progress Overview**

one significantly refurbished primary schools and two new secondary schools, completed in under two years. These schools will be operated by an external facilities management company. 21 Apr 2011 The final school in the 3Rs Programme, Kaimhill School, opened on 20 April 2011. This brings to ten, the number of schools delivered under this programme, seven new and

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP	Develop and implement Learning Estate Strategy to ensure an affordable and sustainable learning estate which makes heet use of resources, ensuring focus on great of greatest need	31 Mar 2013	₩.	Work ongoing	%DE	David Wright

#### **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 Comprehensive engagement exercise undertaken and report presented in October 2010 to Education, Culture and Sport Committee on Secondary School Estate setting out short, medium and longer term options. Work progressing on the development of a new-build primary school, to replace Bucksburn and Newhills Schools. Currently undertaking statutory consultation on the closure of Raeden Nursery; Hazlewood and Woodlands Special Schools, and replacement with a purpose-built new facility on the Raeden

Currently developing possible approaches to reviewing the Primary School Estate, with a view to embarking on a comprehensive city-wide review during 2011.

Wherever possible, we are seeking to declare vacant or un-needed properties surplus to requirements as early as possible, in order to make best use resources.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01c	Establish effective learning communities - communities of schools, community education, libraries and other learning providers	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	103%	Gail Woodcock

#### **Progress Overview**

21 Apr 2011 Establishment of learning partnerships is complete and will include learning hubs. Work is ongoing to ensure effective continuation and development of the learning partnerships via monitoring and review. Review of delivery of Library and Information Services will be reported to Committee in September.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01d	Deliver regional aquatic centre (50m pool and diving pool) led by Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure Directorate	31 Jan 2012	>	On schedule	21%	Maggie Bochel;   Neil Bruce

#### **Progress Overview**

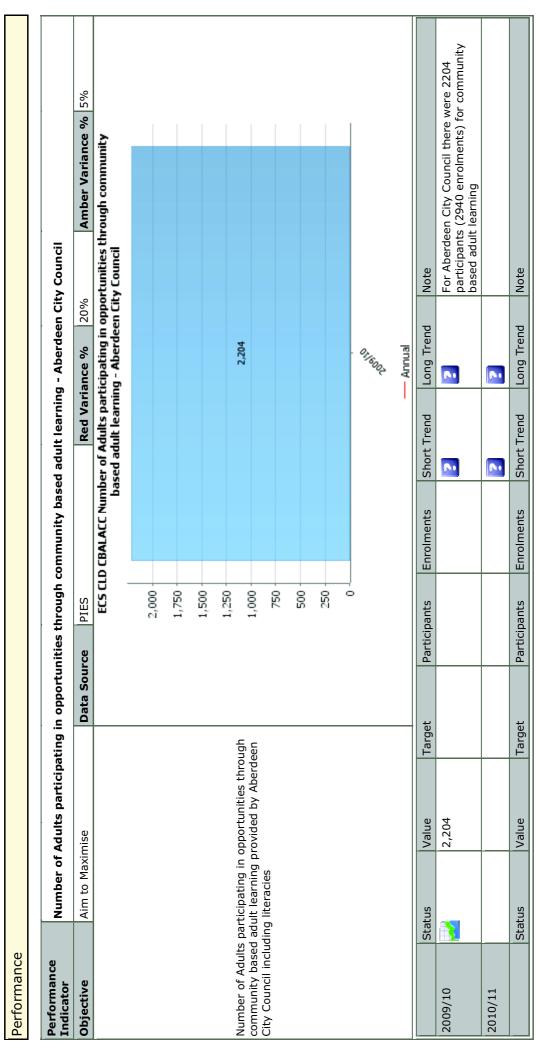
07 Apr 2011 Tenders were returned for the main contract works on 21st February 2011. All five contractors, who were selected from a list of twelve who were assessed following a PQQ submission in accordance with EU Procurement regulations, returned tenders. The Invitation to Tender Documents were issued on a cost quality basis. The tenders were issued on a twin

track basis specificatio	track basis with costs being obtained for both an eight and a ten lane option for the main 50 metre pool. The tenders have now been assessed for quality and compliance with the specification and ITT documents and the Project QS will have a completed tender report prepared by the 15th April 2011.	tenders have no April 2011.	w been assessed for quality	and compliance	with the
Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 02.01e	Redevelopment of Aberdeen Art Gallery and storage of the City's reserve collections	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	26%	Neil Bruce

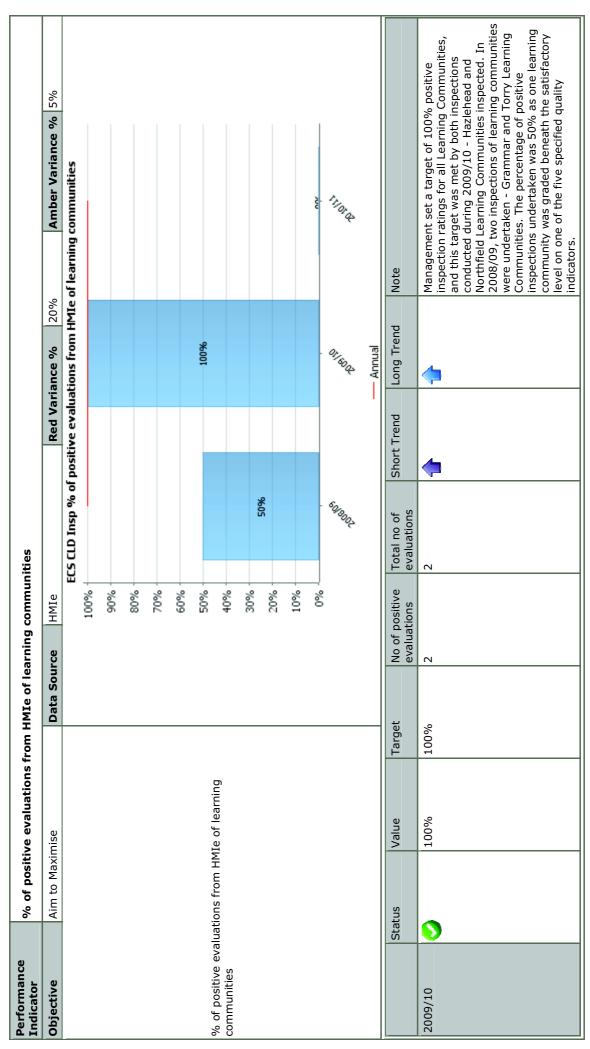
#### Progress Overview

25 Feb 2011 Redevelopment of the Art Gallery - work is ongoing to assess how best to develop a fundraising campaign.

Museums Collections Centre - A suitable storage site to move the collections held at Frederick Street has been identified. Remedial works required to make good as a museum collection facility will be undertaken by EP&I. This will be a solution for up to 2 years.

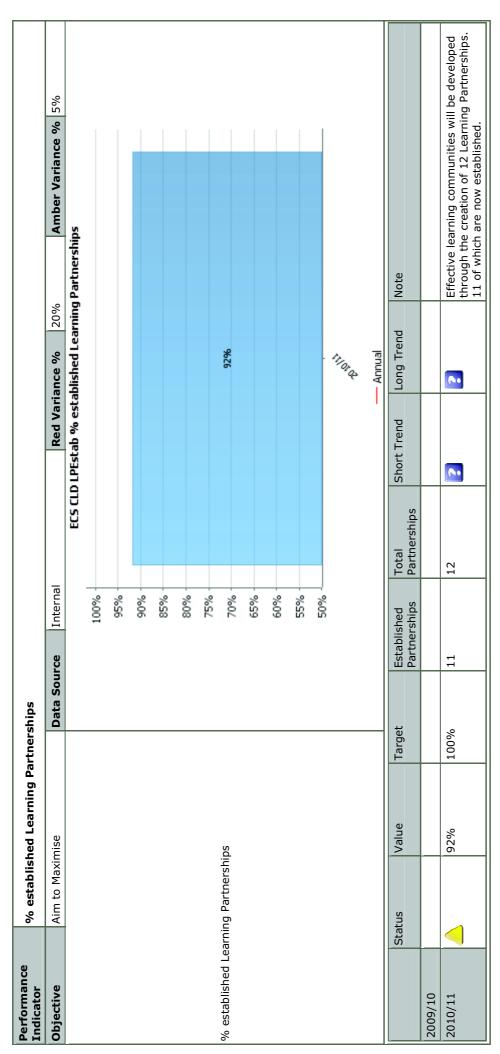


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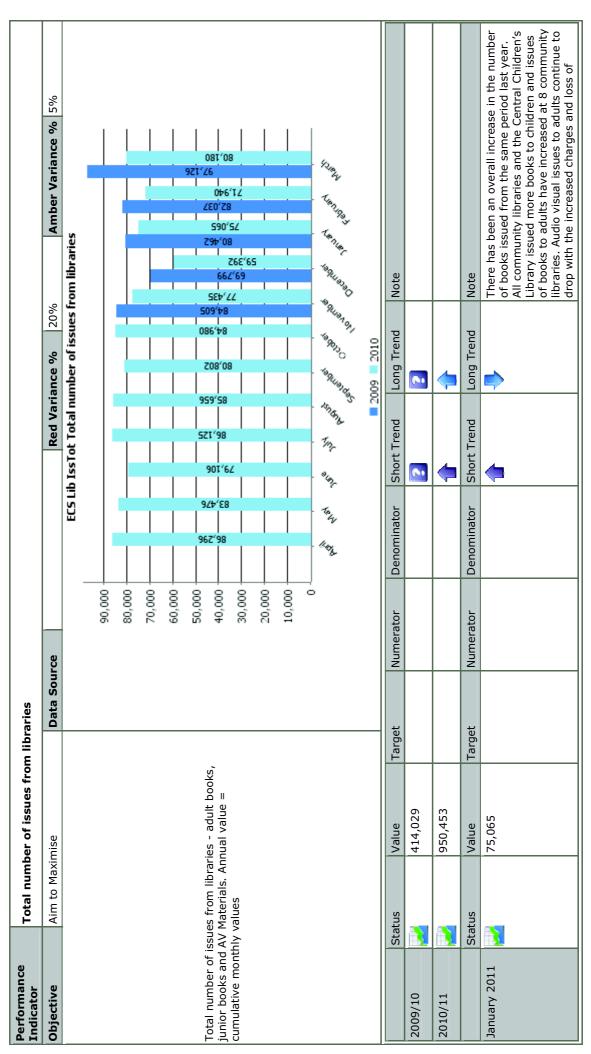


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2010/11	%0	100%	0	1	<b>➡</b>	<b>➡</b>	In financial year 2010/2011 there was one inspection of a learning community (Harlaw). The evaluation was graded beneath the satisfactory level on two of the five prescribed quality indicators.

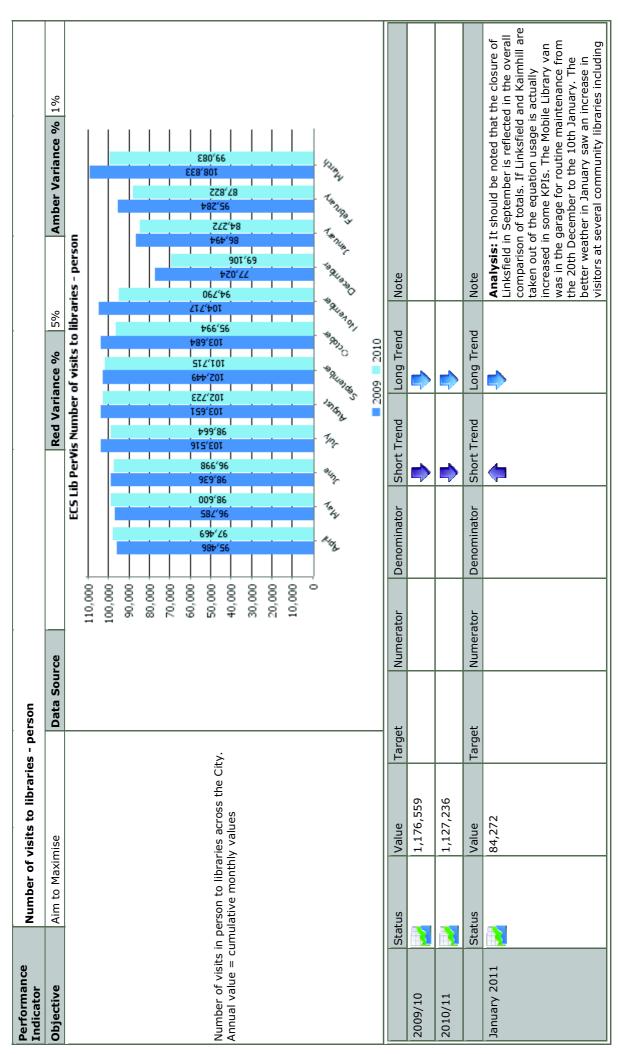


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					subscription with only the free loan of audio visual items to children under 12 showing an increase.
February 2011	71,940		<b>→</b>	<b>➡</b>	Overall issues are down on same period as last year due to ongoing closure of Kaimhill and the closure of Linksfield Library in September 2010. Issues of audio visual items continue to drop with the Media Centre showing a 57% decrease from last year this is mainly due to the move from annual subscription to increased pay-as-you-go charges.
March 2011	80,180		<b>4</b>	<b>➡</b>	Libraries were open 127 hours less this year compared with last March and issues are down overall. Children's issues have increased at 12 of our 18 service points continuing the general increase in borrowing by children. A/V issues to adults have again dropped while issues to children continue to increase.



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# 03.01 - Encourage people of all ages to play an active role in their learning in order to maximise their potential Priority 03 - Learning in the Wider Community

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01a	Develop and implement the Aberdeen Learning Strategy outlining key developments and improvements of city learning services	31 Mar 2013	₹	Work ongoing	75%	Sohail Faruqi

#### Progress Overview

08 Mar 2011 The Aberdeen Learning Strategy is currently being implemented as part of our Service Plan priorities.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01b	Implement the recommendations of the Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006	31 Dec 2010	Complete - On schedule	103%	Sheila Sansbury

#### **Progress Overview**

23 Dec 2010 Report presented to Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 18 November 2010, informing that the arrangements to establish an Aberdeen City Parent Forum had been implemented. The Forum complements the termly meetings structure for all Parent Councils and helps to enhance effective representation. It also enhances effective communication between parents and the Authority. The new Forum consists of up to twenty-four representatives, two drawn from each Associated Schools Group (ASG). To date the Forum has met on four occasions and is quickly beginning to establish itself. A Chair and other appropriate office bearers have been selected and Terms of Reference are being finalised.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01c	Facilitate high quality adult learning services with a particular focus on youth and adult literacy and numeracy	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	26%	Gail Woodcock

#### **Progress Overview**

21 Apr 2011 A series of 6 writing workshops were held by the Libraries Service as part of the city's 50+ Festival. 4 reading groups have been established by library staff, meeting monthly and supported by a developing multiple copy collection. Impact on Literacy and numeracy - figures to date: 130 new titles added to literacy collections. 3,150 items have been issued to 597 individual readers.

Good Practice Awards in Adult Learning were received by the Healthy Minds Team for engaging and working with learners with mental health issues and the South Adult Literacies Team wide collaborative project which resulted in a very successful conference for adult literacies learners organised and run by learners for learners.

Adult Learning was part of a Community Service group which was highly commended in the Community Service Awards held in Glasgow. Three learners carrying out Community Service Orders completed their John Muir Awards and SCQF4 Working with Others after taking part in a beach clean up at the Torry Battery.

Action		Due	Progress	Managed By
ECS-SP 03.01d	Every learner will have a personal learning plan developed following assessment of their skills, competencies and needs	31 Mar 2013	<u>%0</u>	 Gail Woodcock
Drograde	Dronrace Overview			

21 Apr 2011 Work towards this action will commence in 2011/12. Process to be developed to enable monitoring and reporting to assess achievement of outcomes.

#### 03.02 - Enable an economically active population Priority 03 - Learning in the Wider Community

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP A	Agree citywide strategies to close the opportunities gap	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	75%	Gail Woodcock

#### **Progress Overview**

06 May 2011 Course ceased currently as a result of the Integrated Communities team re structuring

	nt of all people in the learning process
Priority 03 - Learning in the Wider Community	of all people in the learning

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP E 03.03a a	Engage with 'hard to reach' communities and individuals working with front line services and agencies to identify and assess needs	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	%00	Gail Woodcock

#### **Progress Overview**

25 Feb 2011 Neighbourhood Planning is funding a Cash In Your Pocket information event in Seaton to promote local services.

Two "Steps to Work" pilot events being held during March in Seaton and Woodside to encourage the use of local services and begin the transition toward work.

Ongoing development work with the Woodside Community Planning and Regeneration Network to assist with expanding their membership and representation.

Hosting of Stockethill and Cornhill Celebration Weekend event in February to encourage participation in local learning activities at both Community centres and promote local services and businesses Large and small scale site based regeneration projects in greater Northfield and Mastrick engaging local residents and school pupils to develop and oversee improvements including activity based site events to attract/engage otherwise unengaged/hard to reach audience

#### CL&D organised -

· Northfield themed learning events series January-March 2011

Mastrick - themed celebration days with multi agency involvement

Neighbourhood Planning supported the re-establishment of Friends of Duthie Park in 2010, culminating in the first AGM and subsequent reforming of the committee. NP provided back office support e.g. paperwork, minutes, publicity. This support in ongoing - members come from throughout the city .

Neighbourhood Planning supported the Your Culter Day in October 2010 to encourage local residents to engage with services, voluntary groups and agencies operating in the neighbourhood. part funding from NP. Services included Fire and Rescue (who had over 100 referrals) ACC Home Safety Unit (who had approx 50 referrals), social work, libraries, city wardens, planning (who had approx 50 enquiries) sports, various local groups. Neighbourhood Planning will be working with the Kincorth Learning Partnership to encourage 16 - 19 year olds to engage with local employers at an event 22 March 2011 to support unemployed young people into work or training.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 03.03c	Strengthen Lifelong Learning Forum through appropriate membership	31 Mar 2013		%[	Gail Woodcock

#### **Progress Overview**

24 Feb 2011 Lifelong Learning Forum, membership and operation will be reviewed by Summer 2011.

## 04.01 - Encourage active and appropriate use of technology to widen learning opportunities **Priority 04 - Technology**

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01a	Embed the use of ICT to enhance learning and teaching	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	24%	David Wright

#### **Progress Overview**

teaching groups has been completed for those who replied in the first batch. There have been recent requests of which some have been possible and others are dubious because of timing and budget spending status. Plans have been agreed for work to be done in the next financial year. These plans involve some work for educational establishments, renewal of switches, internal wireless networking and learning, and also corporate items. 08 Mar 2011 Education Rolling Programme for ICT in Schools - The current financial year plan has been completed. The additional plans to increase capacity of ICT suites to allow larger

The Library & Information Service is working in partnership with Aberdeenshire Library and Information Services to implement e-book lending. Information literacy skills training packages are being developed by the Library Information Service. Outreach activities will include taster sessions and workshops on the use of online resources. Training is also being developed in Web 2.0 technology and social networking.

Action		Due	Prog	gress	Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01b	Develop a Technology Strategy for Education, Culture and Sport	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	% <u>(</u>	David Wright

#### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 Wireless Access in Schools - Every effort is being made to complete this project in the current financial year. With recent events this is looking less likely but the pressure to complete is still being maintained. Approval has been given to allow working over weekends to try to meet deadlines. This has implications for the budget. The health and safety issues have been completed but they will push the budget into an overspend. The work to be done by local technical teams has highlighted the need to change the telephone systems which will give overall benefit to the council by reducing telephone revenue costs but will also increase the demand on the budget. Schools have changed the order of work pushing the timeframe beyond the end of the financial year.

Glow - The ICT Education Team continues its support of schools in the new aspects of Glow: Glow Light, blogs, wikis and the new resources - many schools are using blogs for interesting projects, central staff are being supported in their usage. Support in ensuring pupils have their logins to Glow continues. Glow user names have been issued to all schools and all pupils should be able to access Glow before the planned timescale. The Glow National Team, with the support of the ICT Education team, continues to support four secondary schools with two projects. There is a review meeting planned for 7 March.

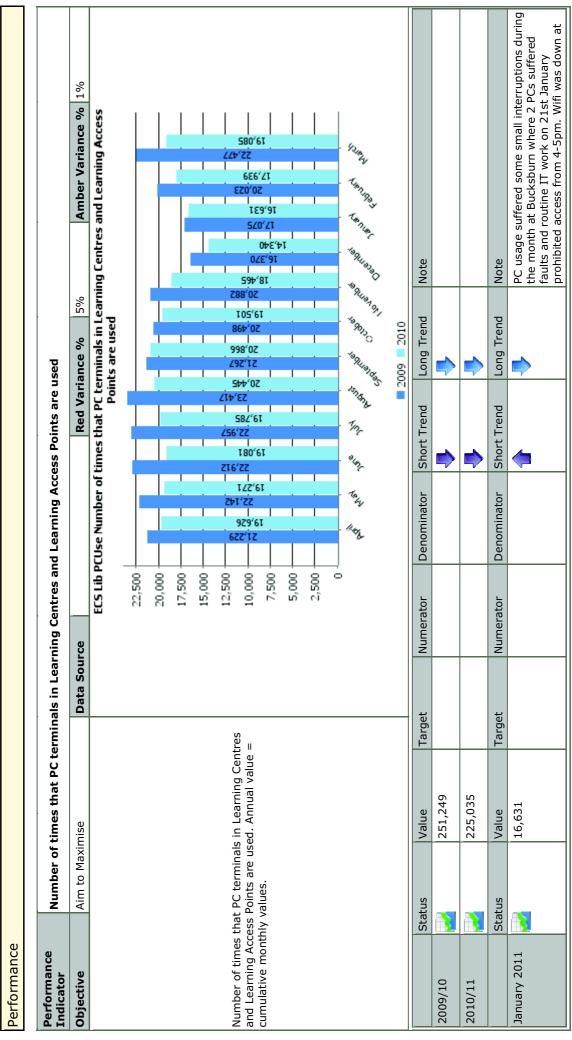
Interactive whiteboard training continues and there were additional days provided for schools for train the trainer and content creation.

ECS-SP Develop user friendly learning websites Develop user friendly learning websites DX Neil	Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
	ECS-SP 04.01c	>			%0	Neil Bruce

#### **Progress Overview**

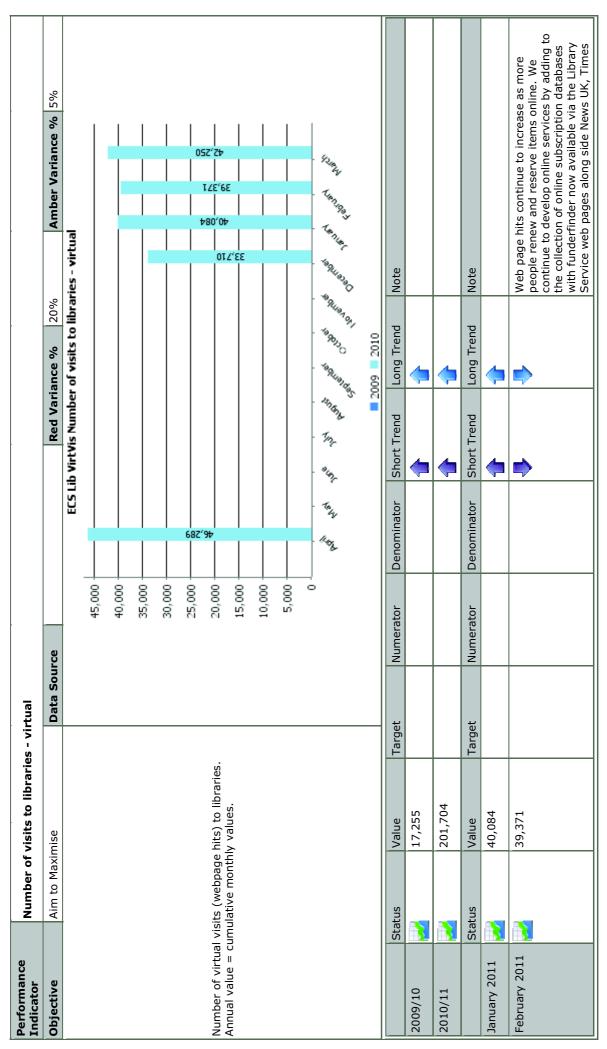
23 Dec 2010 Library web pages to be developed to allow for increased community information.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 04.01d	Further develop online learning within communities	31 Mar 2013 ≳	<i>(1)</i>	Work ongoing	33%	Neil Bruce
<b>Progress Overview</b>	iverview					
23 Dec 201 accessing ir	23 Dec 2010 People's Network - Online Services from Public Libraries - the PC replacement rollout programme for 2010/11 is complete maintaining access for all to PCs adequate for accessing internet and learning packages.	e for 2010/11 is	comple	te maintaining access	for all to PCs a	dequate for



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						all Community Libraries due switches being changed on 22/1/11and a PC in Central Lending was out of operation from 27 Jan 14:40pm - 31 Jan 11:15am.
February 2011	<b>1</b>	17,939		<b>_</b>	<b>➡</b>	While PC usage shows a drop overall form this time last year there has been an increase in usage at Airyhall, Brdige of Don, Torry and Woodside community libraries. Wifi usage continues to rise across the city.
March 2011		19,085		<b>4</b>	<b>_</b>	Major work involving the relocation of servers to Atos along with problems with networks and in particular the Education network in the Bucksburn area have affected PC access resulting in a downturn in usage. Overall figures are affected by the loss of Linksfield Library and the reduced number of hours open this March.



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		_			
March 2011	42,250		<b>—</b>	<b></b>	Online access to library services continues to rise despite several disruptions during March including the relocation of servers to Atos and some network issues. In particular family history resource Ancestry has seen a large rise as a result of our programme of taster sessions and new course on family history currently being piloted at Dyce Community Centre and Dyce Library.

	ivities, leisure pursuits and a wide variety of sports maximising the social,	
Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing	05.01 - Encourage people to get involved in recreational activitie	educational, health and economic health benefits

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.01a	Complete creation of Sport Aberdeen to deliver efficient and effective provision of sports and leisure activities to the City	31 Mar 2013	>	Complete	103%	Neil Bruce
Progress Overview	Overview					

14 Jul 2010 The transfer of Aberdeen City Council's sports facilities to Sport Aberdeen took place on 9 July 2010. Sport Aberdeen has established workable financial arrangements which will

enable it to operate and develop the services in an efficient manner helping to achieve the Council's strategic and financial objectives.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP Impl	mplement 'Fit for the Future' – Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for the City	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	35%	Neil Bruce

# **Progress Overview**

10 Feb 2011 Fit for the Future, Aberdeen City's Sport and Physical Activity Strategy was launched on 31 August 2009. It defines the strategic direction for sport and physical activity in

Aberdeen until 2015.

The Active Aberdeen Forum will convene next in March 2011 to consider the priority based budgeting process and sporting priorities. Sport is considered within the learning strategy as a key means by which health and well being can be improved, and this will be further evidenced in the HGIOCS self evaluation where commissioned services will be evaluated. The team are concluding the planning the benefits to the Sheddocksley pitches agreed as part of the planning gain from the sale of the Oakbank school site. An ongoing review of the funding agreements with local and national sports bodies will form part of the root and branch review of culture and sports organisations. Staff continue to support Sports governing bodies and as part of PBB will review all funding agreements. The process for agreeing community sports hubs will be concluded in March, and the partnership agreement with sportscotland renewed to continue

Active Schools.

Managed By	
Progress	
Due	
Actio	

~

ECS-SP	Increase the number of activities for all children to get engaged in physical activities and sport	ar 2011	Work ongoing	%06	Neil Bruce
05.01d	through Active Schools	<u> </u>	,		

### **Progress Overview**

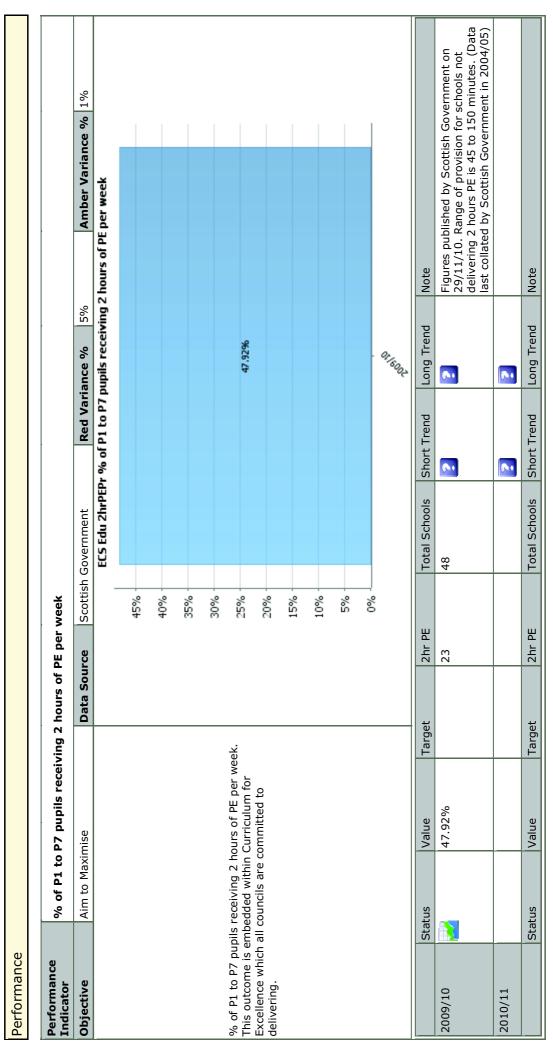
11 Apr 2011 Scottish Schools Gymnastics - 10 Teams from Aberdeen travelled to Perth on 20th March to compete in the Scottish Schools Gymnastics National Competition. With top teams from all over Scotland taking part the competition was fierce. 4 Teams managed to stamp their mark on the competition walking away with medals. Walker Road Pre-Level 1 - Bronze Medal winners, Dyce & Culter Level 2 - Joint Silver Medal Winners, & Dyce Level 3 - Bronze Medal Winners. Overall a fantastic result for the schools in Aberdeen.

Active Schools gain funding to support student coach education - Active Schools received a funding grant from 2014 communities to help support Students through Coach Education. The main aim of the program is to offer all students in Aberdeen the opportunity to undertake a wide variety of coaching qualifications and to gain invaluable coaching experience following completion of the course. The 2014 Communities fund is about building a legacy of well-being before and beyond the Commonwealth Games. The programme aims to encourage more people to take part or volunteer in sport or physical activity as well as encourage greater community cohesion in the run up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Harlaw & Hazlehead Academies debut teams in Badminton Crombie Cup - Two teams from Harlaw & Hazlehead Academies recently made their debut in the Crombie League, a badminton team competition for youth and school players which was held at the Beach Leisure Centre over dates in Jan, Feb and March. The next block of activity takes place during May 2011. St Machar ASG - Sports teams from many of the St Machar ASG primaries have been very active this term and putting into practice all they have learnt during training by participating in a and St Machar Academy were recently involved in the launch of the new SFL Communities Cup. The young people were invited to help launch the sponsorship of the new cup with the First have been attending regular Active Schools football tournaments at Sheddocksley Sports Centre. St Peters Athletics team entered the St Machar ASG/ Grammar ASG Sportshall Athletics Kittybrewster, St Peters and Woodside will play in the St Machar ASG Basketball Festival at Aberdeen Sports Village next week. Pupils from Kittybrewster and Sunnybank Primary School wide variety of Active Schools festivals. Woodside Lacrosse Team entered the Active Schools Lacrosse Tournament and played extremely well. The girls football team from Kittybrewster Minister, Alex Salmond and AFC Manager, Craig Brown. All the children really enjoyed themselves and it was a great opportunity for them to participate in football at the sports village Event and came 2nd. Woodside Wildcats Rugby team have attended the Touch Rugby tournaments organised by Active Schools at Sheddocksley. Finally, basketball teams from

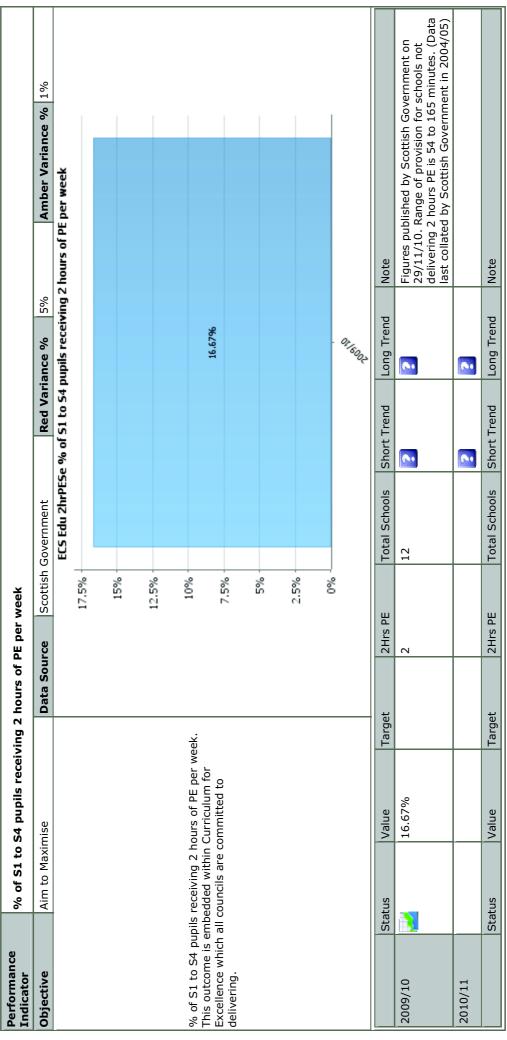
Aberdeen Grammar School - Aberdeen Grammar School has been the venue for a number of successful Active Schools primary festivals this term: Netball, Lacrosse and Athletics. Teams from Ashley Road, Mile End, St Joseph's, St Peter's, Cults and Woodside took part in the festivals which provide an opportunity for children from across the City to have some friendly competition. Dyce ASG - Almost 50 children from Dyce Primary & Dyce Academy have been enjoying hip hop lessons this term on Wednesday afternoons after school. The sessions run for P1 - 3's, P4 5 & P6 - S3's. The clubs are open to both boys and girls and are thoroughly enjoyed by all who attend. Some of the children were selected to take part in the dance element of a fashion show at Union Sq in the coming months.

Kincorth & Torry ASG - As the Active Schools Fun Run series is about to get underway in the summer term, a pilot 4 week series was set up in Torry for P5-7 children. With the assistance of school staff the races have proved successful and we have had over 60 children register. Also keeping in with the running theme, the termly Cove inter-schools race went ahead on Tuesday 22nd March with another 60 children taking part at the event held this time at Loirston Primary, with Charleston regaining the girls trophies and Loirston keeping the boys trophies. Well done to all who have taken part and helped in both sessions

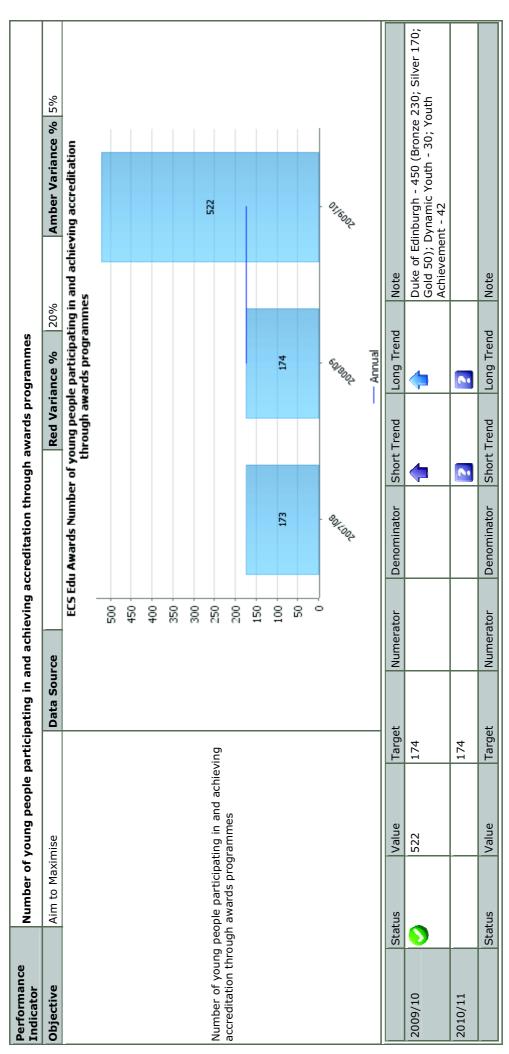
within the sessions helps build on the children's coordination and the music allows them to express themselves with the music. Woodlands School have been keeping active this term with ASN Update - Throughout this term pupils Hazlewood school have been participating in Exercise to music sessions. These sessions have been extremely successful. The exercise content Athletics and Boccia sessions. The athletics sessions are taking place within Aberdeen Sports Village, where the pupils can participate in different events such as hurdles and throwing techniques. This is building their coordination and movement skills.



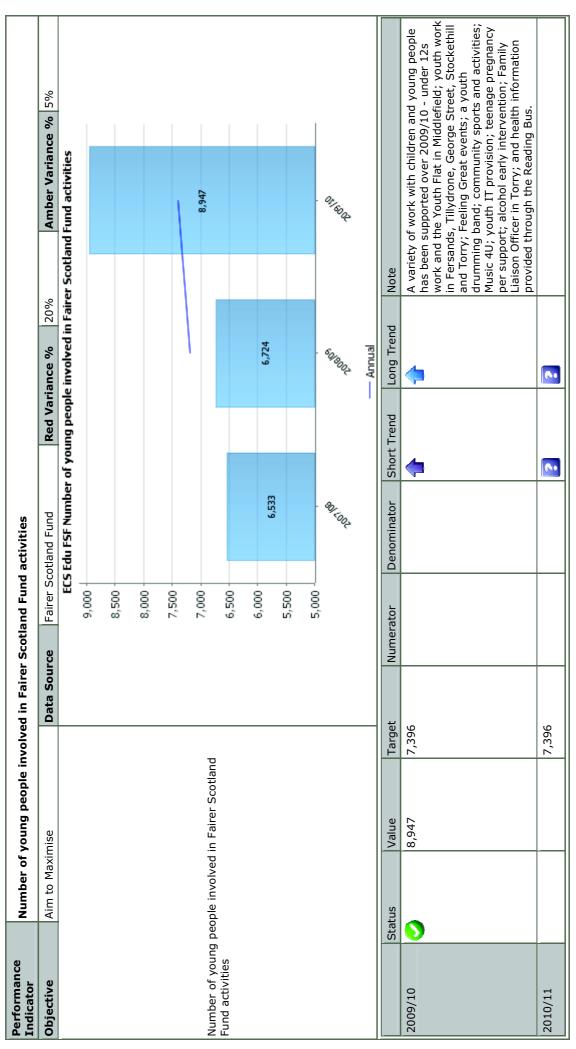
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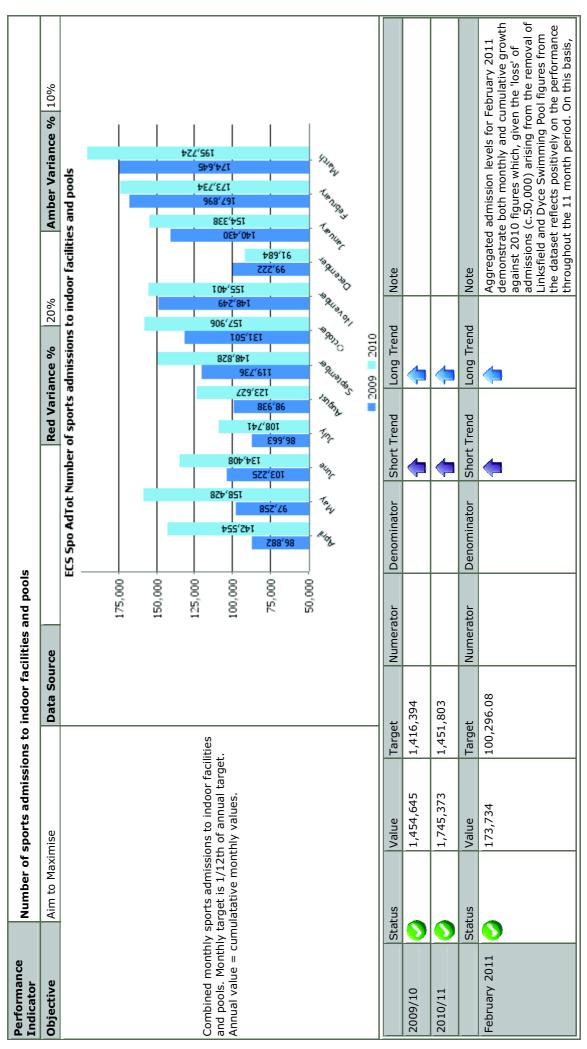
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and whilst a proportion of the cumulative increase has been influenced by the compensatory reinstatement and/or inclusion of additional facilities (i.e. Linx Ice Arena/Beacon Sports Centre) the year-end figures, based on the current cumulative position, are likely to demonstrate year-on-year growth of around 22-24%. Although achievement of similar levels of growth would not be expected in 2011/12 as facility development and comparative data will, effectively, settle down into a more sustainable pattern, admission levels will, in all likelihood, continue at levels in advance of the present targets which may necessitate further adjustment of the baseline figures.	Aggregated admission levels for March 2011 demonstrate both monthly and cumulative growth against 2009/2010 figures which, given the 'loss' of admissions (c.40,000) arising from the removal of Linksfield and Dyce Swimming Pool figures from the dataset and even when counter-balanced by around 80,000 'new' admissions arising from the re-instatement of both the Linx Ice Arena and Beacon Centres, reflects positively on the City's performance throughout the 12 month period. Although falling slightly short of the mid-year predictions for year end outcomes, an increase of 19.1% has to considered to be a significant advance on previous figures and is reflective of the level of investment that the Council and major partners (e.g. University of Aberdeen, sportscotland, NYOP and others) have committed to over the previous 12-24 months. Although achievement of similar levels of growth would not be expected in 2011/12 as facility development and comparative data will, effectively, settle down into a more sustainable pattern, admission levels will, in all likelihood, continue at levels in advance of the present targets which may necessitate further adjustment of the 2011-15 targets to provide for Continuous Improvement factoring
	<b>_</b>
	<b>_</b>
	100,296.08
	195,724
	<b>S</b>
	March 2011

Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing

# 05.02 - Encourage people to making positive choices about their diets and lifestyles

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02a	Improve the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff via continued development of the Health Promoting Schools initiative	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	33%	Derek Samson

### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 63 schools in the City achieved commitment level during academic year 09/10 (equating to all but one who have not), 59 schools achieved commended and 7 schools achieved excellence, including the first special school, Hazlewood and secondary school St Machar to gain excellence in Grampian. Aberdeen City has also developed a new model of Health promoting School of Excellence Award which will continue to use the same criteria for excellence but will be a self evaluation model.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02b	Increase the number of health promoting establishments	31 Mar 2013	*	ork ongoing	%88	Derek Samson

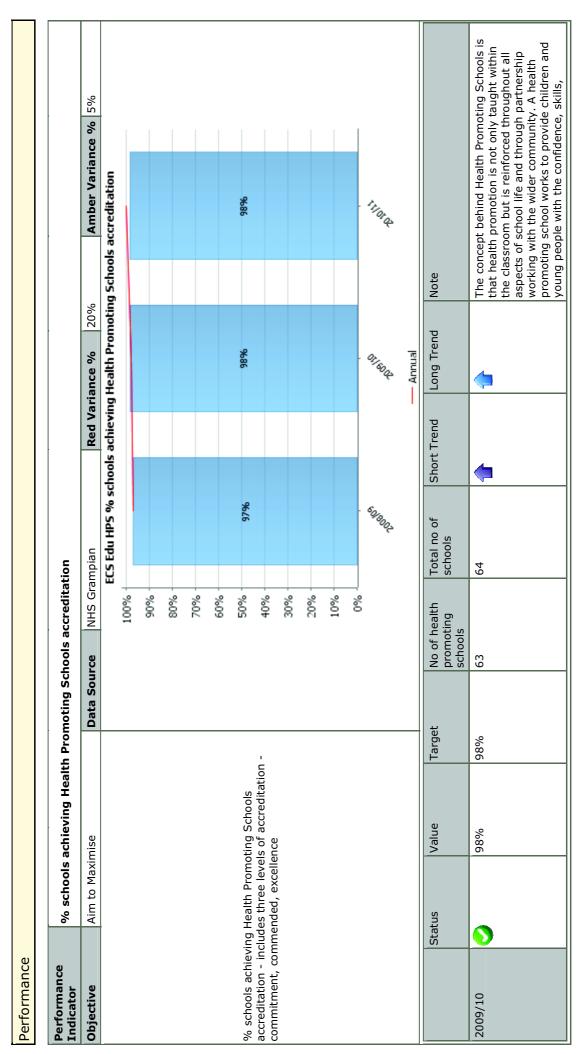
### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 Currently on the City Schools Health Focus Group there are representatives from NHS, Sport Aberdeen, Community Learning and Development, school catering services and Grampian Police. Promotion of healthy living also takes place via libraries. Consultation with community partners on local library service and potential for joint working being undertaken via Learning Partnerships

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.02c	Implement the requirements of Schools (Scotland) Health Promotion and Nutrition Act 2007	31 Mar 2013		33%	Derek Samson

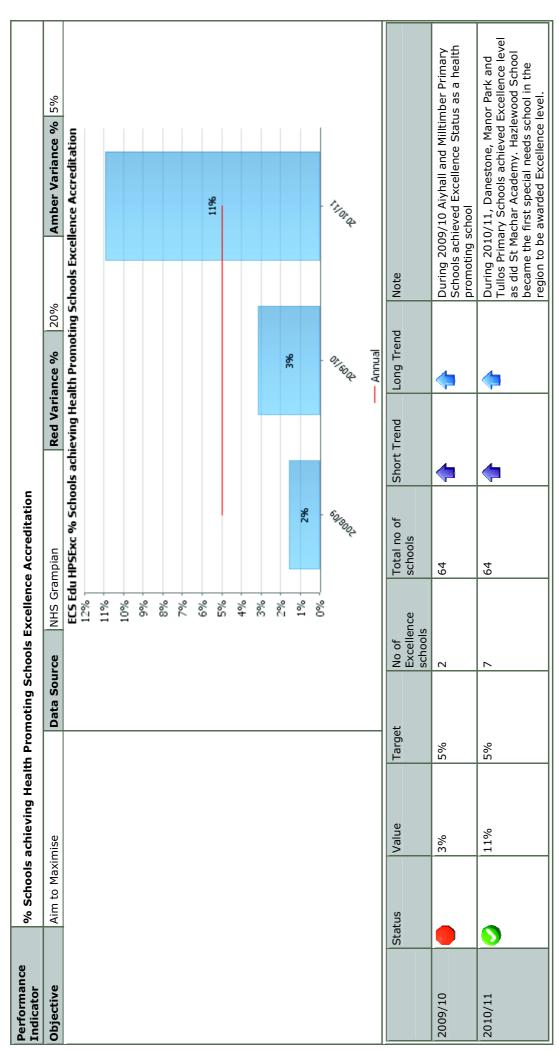
### **Progress Overview**

08 Mar 2011 The Aberdeen City Policy for Schools (Health Promotion and Nutrition)(Scotland) Act 2007 was passed by Education Culture and Sport committee on the 20 January 2011. This policy has since been issued to all schools and will help schools to further establish good practise in their own community. Schools catering services continue to monitor all school meals using the nutmeg analysis tool to ensure that all food service in city schools fulfil the nutritional requirements of the Act.

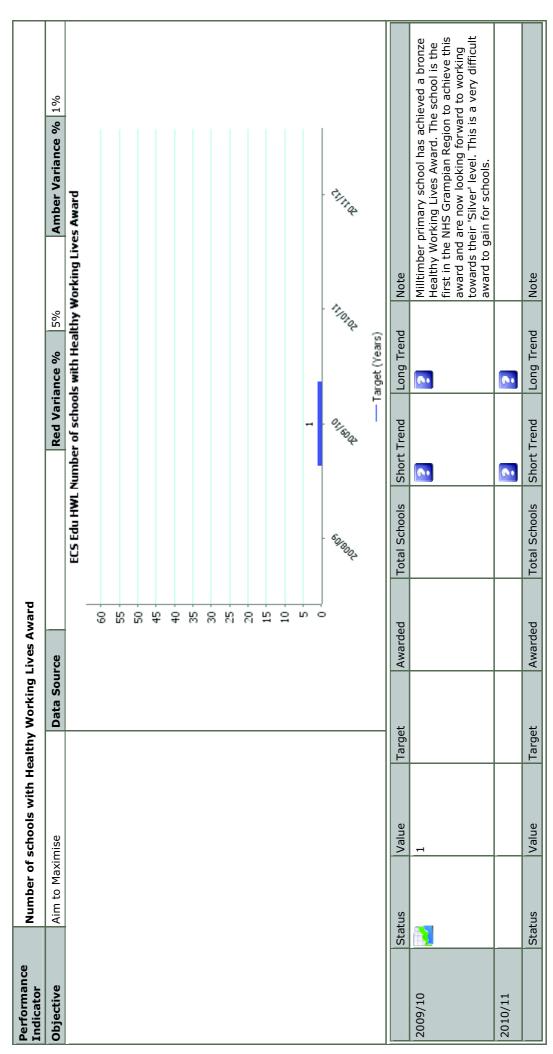


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2010/11	•	%86	100%	63	64	1	<b>-</b>	63 out of 64 schools are registered in the Health Promoting Schools Initiative. All registered schools have achieved Commitment status; 59 have achieved Commended status and 7 Excellence status.



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## Priority 05 - Health and Wellbeing 05.03 - Environmental sustainability

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.03b	Promote healthy travel options	31 Mar 2013	60	9%	Charlie Penman

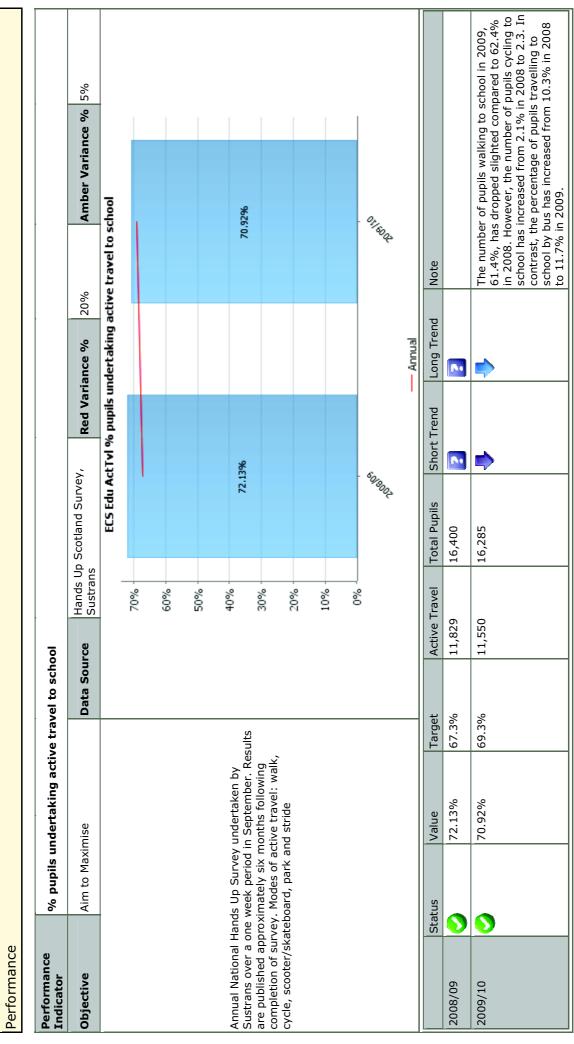
# 08 Mar 2011 18 teams of 5 from Education, Culture and Sport have entered the 'Walk at Work Step Count Challenge' co-ordinated by Aberdeen City Council in association with Scottish Charity 'Paths for All'. A total of 44 teams from services across the Council have risen to the Challenge. The Challenge commenced on 14 February and continues for a period of 12 weeks during which team members will record their daily step count via pedometer. Weekly team step count totals are submitted to 'Paths for All' for recording.

**Progress Overview** 

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 05.03c	Increase the number of Eco-Schools within the city	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	103%	Derek Samson

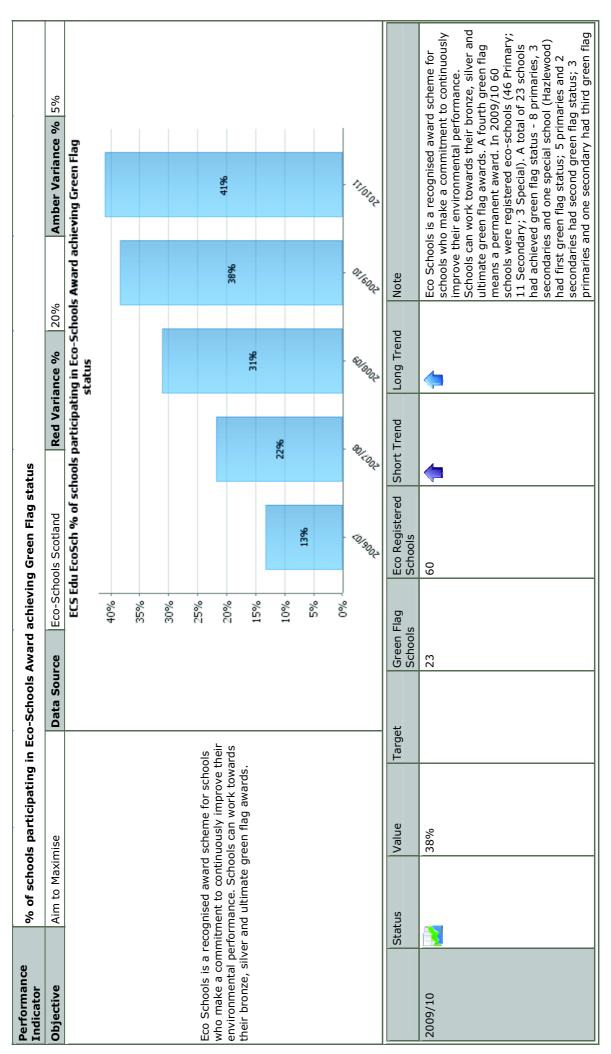
## Progress Overview

11 Apr 2011 As of March 2011, 61 out of 64 schools are registered eco-schools (47 Primary; 11 Secondary; 3 Special). A total of 26 green flags have been awarded - 9 primaries, 3 secondaries and 2 secondaries had second green flag status - Ashley Road and Scotstown primaries achieved their second green flag during 2010/11; 3 primaries and one secondary had third green flag status.



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						http://www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/Safe%20 Routes/publications/scotland/SRS_Handsup_Scotl and_Survey2009.pdf
2010/11		71.3%		Č	<b>.</b>	Awaiting publication of 2010/11 results.



Page 264

	2010/11		41%	25	6.1	<b>_</b>	<u> </u>	As of March 2011, 61 out of 64 schools are registered eco-schools (47 Primary; 11 Secondary; 3 Special). A total of 26 green flags have been awarded - 9 primaries, 3 secondaries and one special school had first green flag status Culter Primary achieved their first green flag during 2010/11; 7 primaries and 2 secondaries had second green flag status - Ashley Road and Scotstown primaries achieved their second green flag during 2010/11; 3 primaries and one secondary had third green flag status.
Status Value Target Green Flag Eco Registered Short Trend Long Trend Note Schools		Status	Value	Green Flag Schools	Eco Registered Schools		Long Trend	Note

## 06.01 - Increase the opportunities for all residents and visitors to engage in arts, culture and heritage activities Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

2	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
65	ECS-SP 06.01a	Develop and implement 'Vibrant Aberdeen' – A Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen	31 Mar 2013	<i>₹</i>	Work ongoing	%99	Neil Bruce	
	<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview						
	10 Eah 2011	10 Eab 2011 The etrategov was launched in Abardeen University during a cultural conference hosted by InterCult on Eriday the 20th of April 2010. The Strategy developed by the Cultural	on Eriday the	30th of	April 2010 The Strat	Janolavab voa	hy the Cultural	

10 Feb 2011 The strategy was launched in Aberdeen University during a cultural conference hosted by InterCult on Friday the 30th of April 2010. The Strategy, developed by the Cultural Forum for Aberdeen, aims to provide the strategic framework to drive culture in the city towards achieving a shared vision and meeting the identified objectives which lie behind this. Within The Strategy Team is working with external funding officers to maximise future initiatives in terms of EU funding, in particular those which relate to public space and EU City of Culture. The SOA targets will be reviewed in accordance with the next corporate SOA review by the Strategist representing the sector on the lead officers group. The Lively Cities bid allows for a level of continuing professional development which will increase capacity and knowledge. The public art strategy, currently a work in progress, will provide a framework for achieving planning gain this, the strategy presents the challenges Aberdeen faces in developing culture and the opportunities which must be taken in order to achieve this vision.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.01b	Demonstrate and evidence the key role culture can play in all aspects of life including city regeneration	31 Mar 2013	<u>س</u>	Work ongoing	75%	Neil Bruce
<b>Progress Overview</b>	iverview					

and community benefits opportunities. Progress 15%

22 Dec 2010 Arts Development have developed a WordPress site and Flicker site - http://artsdevelopment.wordpress.com/ - through which to promote case studies and publicise the services they provide

_		חתב	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP Engage with hard to reach groups - brit  06.01c	ingage with hard to reach groups – bring cultural activities to each community	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	50%	Neil Bruce

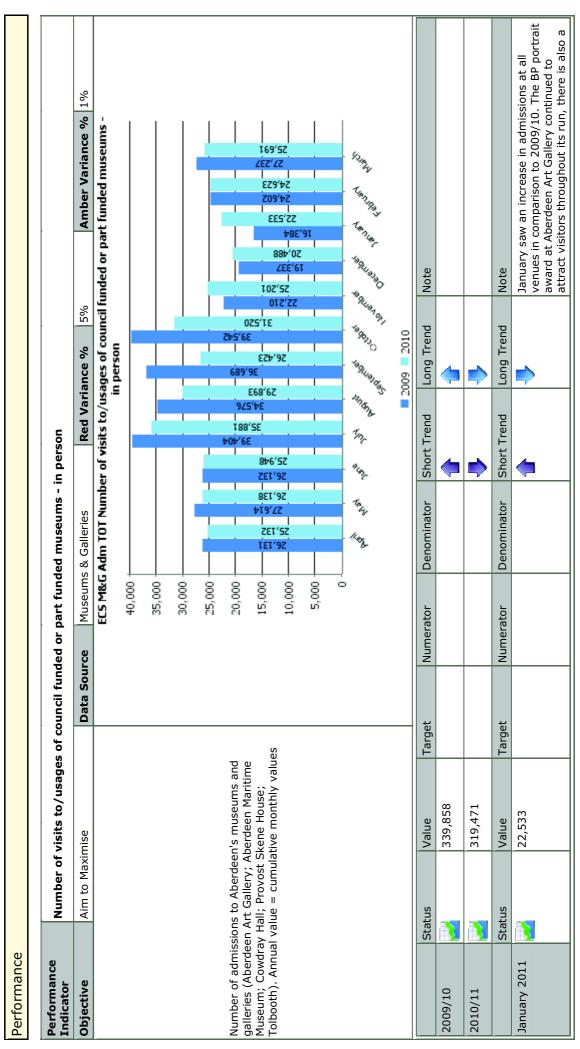
## **Progress Overview**

25 Feb 2011 National Galleries Scotland project - work is continuing on this partnership, Silver City Soul. An exhibition devised in collaboration with representatives of Aberdeen's communities will take place in Aberdeen Art Gallery from 11.2.12 - 24.3.12. The exhibition will be developed through a series of public consultations - the first meeting takes place on 2/3/2011.

	Due	Progress		Managed By
Implement a co-ordinated programme of school visits to cultural establishments linked to learning programmes	31 Mar 2013	Complete	100%	Neil Bruce
25 Feb 2011 The pilot of Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums Resource Pack for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluati	n will take place	in April 2011 with a report	on outcomes du	e May 2011
deen Art Gallery & Museums Resource Pack	for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluatio	for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluation will take place	for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluation will take place in April 2011 with a report	for Teachers is ongoing. An evaluation will take place in April 2011 with a report on outcomes due May 2011

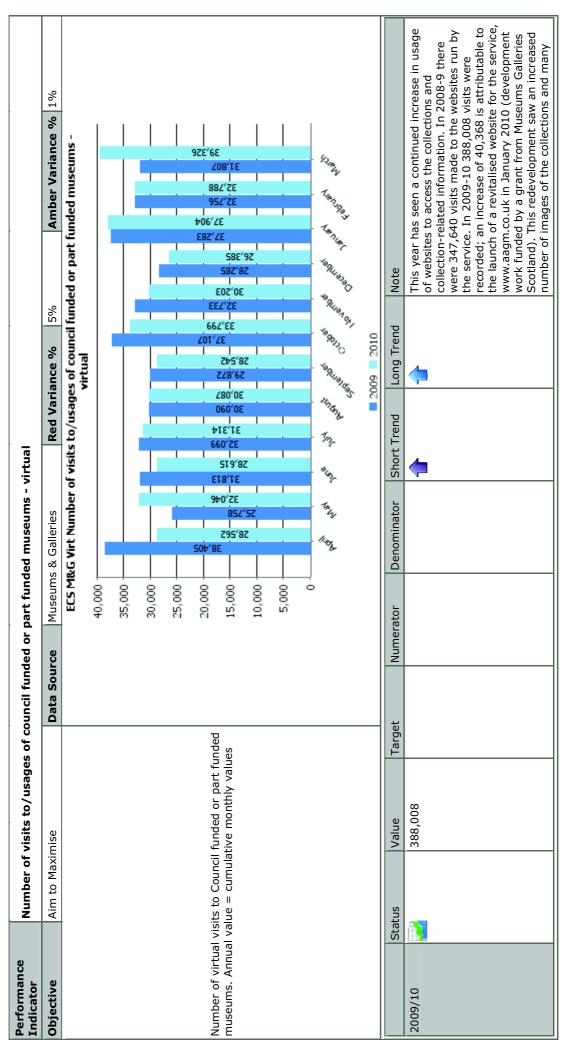
Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.01e	Develop virtual resources for virtual online visitors	31 Mar 2013	(L)	Work ongoing	31%	Neil Bruce
<b>Progress Overview</b>	Verview					

## 04 Mar 2011 A Facebook page for Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums has been launched and small internal working group set up to develop it further in line with a proceedure for use of the site. The Facebook site will be used to communicate with new audiences and promote the service's activities. A number of staff will attend a podcasting training course on 28/2/2011 after which a new series of podcasts will be launched. The Library Service are developing a presence on social networking sites.



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					new installation – Nasty Piece of Stuff by Jordan Baseman at the gallery. Aberdeen Maritime Museum has photographs on display by Keith Allardyce 'The Caring Profession and Life on the Rocks'.
February 2011		24,623		<b></b>	Slight decrease in number of visitors to Aberdeen Art Gallery compared to 2010. Artist Rooms Diane Arbus exhibition opened 5th February. Back court closed for re-display. Two Lunchtime Talks within the venue. Increase in number of visitors to Aberdeen Maritime Museum compared to 2009 and 2010. Exhibition spaces closed for re-display. Seamarking and What Might Have Been exhibitions opened. One Lunchtime Talk within the venue. Increase in number of visitors to Cowdray Hall compared to both 2009 and 2010. Three hires from external organisation throughout the month. Four Lunchbreak Concerts given as part of our own Lunchbreak Programme. Slight decrease in number of visitors to Provost Skene's House compared to 2009 and 2010. Top Floor of the Museum remains closed. Costume Gallery changeover - Aberdeen's Designer Wardrobe exhibition opened. Increase in number of visitors to Tolbooth Museum compared to both 2009 and 2010. Venue closed for season and only opened for pre-arranged visits.  Feedback from Visitor Attractions (The Moffat Centre) states that attractions pertaining to the Aberdeen and Grampian region demonstrate a decrease of -12.9% in visits compared to Galleries have bucked this trend though and are showing a slight increase in visits compared with the same period in 2010. Overall visits to Scottish when comparing February 2011 with February 2010.
March 2011	<b>N</b>	25,691		<b>_</b>	



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								new features including curator blogs and improved publicity and promotion pages. Anecdotal evidence indicates that visitors are increasingly using the website to access information about the service, although these general enquiries / hits are not counted for the SPI return. The Aberdeenquest website, which is aimed at young people and families, continues to be popular with schools and maintains a good level of usage during vacation periods suggesting a much wider use beyond schools.
2010/11		379,571				<b>➡</b>	<b>—</b>	
	Status	Value	Target	Numerator	Denominator	Short Trend	Long Trend	Note
January 2011		37,904				<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	
February 2011	N.	32,788					<b>—</b>	
March 2011	<b>1</b>	39,326				<b>_</b>	<b>-</b>	

## 06.02 - Improve the quality and impact of arts, culture and heritage provision across the City Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.02a	Attract major exhibitions to the City	31 Dec 2013	(I)	Work ongoing	18%	Neil Bruce
<b>Progress Overview</b>	Verview					

25 Feb 2011 The exhibition Diane Arbus: Artist Rooms opened at Aberdeen Art Gallery on 5/2/2011. The exhibition is a partnership project with the Art Fund, the Scottish Government and ARTISTS ROOMS which is jointly owned by Tate and National Galleries Scotland. This exhibition of photographs by one of the great figures of American photography is promoted across the JK, attracting visitors to the city

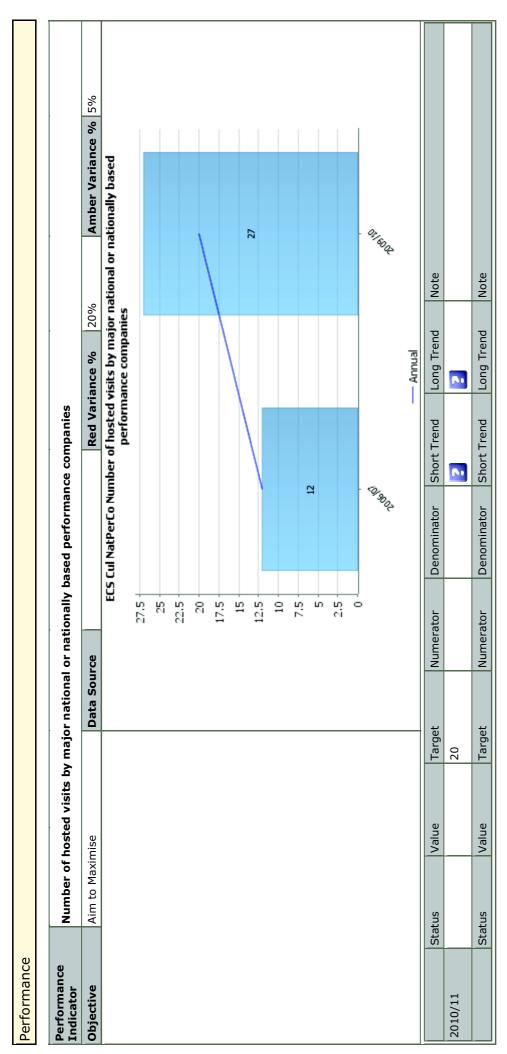
agreed with a date in October 2011 for siting in Castlegate. Work on Community Sports Hubs as part of the Games Legacy is due for completion in March 2011 and work is ongoing on a The Strategy Team has worked with Arts Development and the External funding officers to gain £250,00 in funding from the EU Lively Cities Programme (NB – this is subject to some confirmations). The recent Scotland/Samoa and Scotland/Faroes internationals were supported in kind and financially by Aberdeen City Council. The Gordon Highlanders commission is Public art strategy which it is expected will attract future funding and community benefits.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.02b	Ensure new and existing venues are fit for purpose and have the capacity for development of cultural activities	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	24%	Neil Bruce

## Progress Overview

08 Mar 2011 Media Centre Cafe at Central Library - Delays in progression of tender however several social enterprises have noted an interest.

Refurbishment of Adult Learning Floors - Awaiting confirmation of contractors. Legal work completed for contract for self issue machines.



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## 06.03 - Development of meaningful and successful partnerships that increase opportunities available to engage in culture, arts and Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage heritage activities

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.03a	Develop partnership networks and links with both cultural and non cultural bodies e.g. tourism 31 Dec 2013	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing	%99	Neil Bruce

### **Progress Overview**

23 Dec 2010 The Arts Education Team are the lead partner working with Aberdeenshire Council and approximately 60 local music providers to develop an overarching strategic music partnership and vision for music for children and young people in the North East of Scotland. Funding: £180,000 Scottish Arts Council, £12,000 Aberdeenshire Council and £12,000 Aberdeen City Council.

successful in attracting the maximum amount which can be awarded, and the money will be used to develop new and existing creative learning networks, and to champion the arts, culture The Arts Education Team had been awarded £10,000 from the Scottish Arts Council and Children in Scotland to establish a creative learning network in the city. The team has been and creativity in schools and communities within the context of the Curriculum for Excellence.

Two members of staff were part of the Lord Provosts' Delegation that went to Regensburg to celebrate 50 years of the twinning agreement between Regensburg and Aberdeen. As part of the celebration, photographic artwork by the group from Aberdeen was exhibited in the City highlighting partnership working between Arts Development, Aberdeen and Regensburg.

Three members from Aberdeen Potters group went on an exchange to Regensburg Social Initiatives Christmas Market. They travelled to Regensburg in December and sold items on the market. The 'Common Thread' twinning project was a 6 month long project involving 18 young people aged 14-18 year from Aberdeen, Stavanger, and Regensburg. The aim of the project was to create a contemporary piece of youth theatre to be performed at Aberdeen International Youth Festival.

In 2010 the Museums and Galleries Service worked in partnership with National Galleries Scotland, National Museums Scotland, British Museum, The Royal Collection, National Portrait Gallery, University of Aberdeen, Robert Gordon University, schools and community groups, Arts Education and Arts Development, the Ranger Service, Aberdeen Philatelic Society, the Association of North Sea Cities, Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS), artists, private collectors and individuals to deliver the exhibitions programme.

Action		Due	Progress	S	Managed By
ECS-SP 06.03b	Recruitment, development and retention of volunteers to support delivery of cultural, arts and heritage type activities	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	<b>%</b> 0	Neil Bruce
ļ					

22 Dec 2010 Within Arts Development, Community Volunteer sessions have been developed as part of 'Our Story' project; Arts Graduate volunteers have been offered opportunities throughout the year and unqualified volunteers have been supported to offer sessions to community groups.

Library Volunteer Policy group established and developing policy/volunteers handbook

## 06.04 - Enable creative opportunities for practitioners and artists to retain creative individuals within the City Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	_
ECS-SP 06.04b	Encourage and support artists to produce new and innovative work	31 Mar 2013	(F)	Work ongoing	34%	Neil Bruce	
<b>Progress Overview</b>	)verview						_
23 Dec 201 Strategy cle Cultural Gre developmer	23 Dec 2010 The research and consultation work undertaken as part of Aberdeen's 'City of Culture' Feasibility Study in 2009 and the development of the 'Vibrant Aberdeen' Cultural Strategy clearly highlighted the requirement to establish a structure which supports the development of contemporary public art in the city. With support from Aberdeen City Council's Cultural Grant scheme a new public art project, 'Art Engagement', has been developed. This project will use various innovative methods to actively consult and involve communities in the development of commissioned public art pieces. This process of community engagement will form the basis for the development of a public art tool-kit and policy which is reflective of the wants and needs of the city and its residents.	Study in 2009 and porary public ricious innovative the developments.	and the art in th e methc ent of a	development of the 'v le city. With support fi ods to actively consult public art tool-kit and	fibrant Aberdee rom Aberdeen ( and involve co policy which is	n' Cultural City Council's mmunities in the reflective of the	

Major arts participation project with National Theatre of Scotland and Transition Extreme Sports Ltd using the experience of extreme sports as the inspiration to create new artistic work. Focussing on three schools and their communities, the project culminated in a festival of events during March 2011 at Linksfield Academy.

Action		Due	Progress	St	Managed By
ECS-SP 06.04c	Ensure culture and the arts becomes an attractive and viable career choice in the City	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	360	Neil Bruce

## Progress Overview

23 Dec 2010 Provide routes into further training to develop a career in dance. Ensure dance artists have access to professional level training. Provide access to vocational training in dance

## 06.05 - Create and celebrate a cultural identity which is recognised locally, nationally and internationally Priority 06 - Community Engagement in Arts, Culture and Heritage

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 06.05a	Develop a cultural programme reflecting the uniqueness of the area exploiting our unique assets	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	360	Neil Bruce

### **Progress Overview**

25 Feb 2011 Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums published a free leaflet providing further information on how granite is used to create Aberdeen Art Gallery, one of the city's finest and most distintive granite buildings.

Working with a panel of experts drawn from the granite industry and related industries, Museums and Galleries has devised a programme of learning activities and events, including walks and talks, which will explore our unique granite heritage throughout the month of May. The programme was launched formally in March.

## 07.01 - Support children and young people through an integrated children's service with single points of access Priority 07 - Helping those with different needs

	Action		Dne		Progress		Managed By	
Pag	ECS-SP 07.01a	Develop, implement and deliver Integrated Children's Service Plan 2010-13	30 Jun 2011	>	On schedule	96%	36% Sheila Sansbury	
jе	<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview						
2	11 Apr 2011	$oldsymbol{N}$ 11 Apr 2011 ICS Plan now will cover 11-15 to align with the ACC corporate five year business plan						_

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.01b	Raise awareness and provide support to help children, young people, their families and carers 31 Mar 2013 access services to meet their individual needs within the requirements of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC)	31 Mar 2013	₹ <u></u>	Work ongoing	103%	100% Sheila Sansbury
Progress	Progress Overview					

11 Apr 2011 Family Information Service now sits

# Priority 07 - Helping those with different needs 07.02 - Support vulnerable children to achieve their full potential

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.02a	Early identification and provision of support to families to help them meet their children's needs	31 Mar 2013	~	Work ongoing	73%	Sheila Sansbury
<b>Progress Overview</b>	verview					

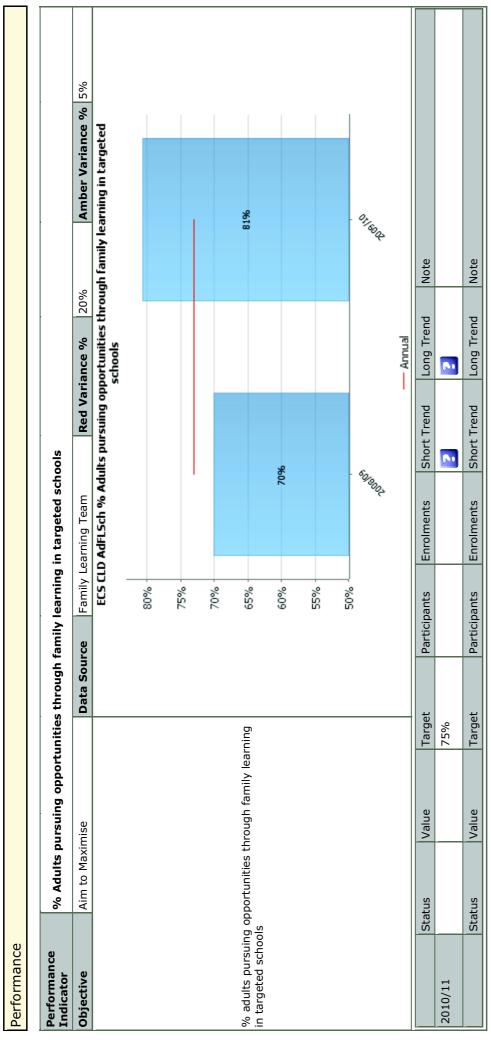
11 Apr 2011 Family Information Service realigned with Integrated Children's Services providing information to parents about all services to children and young people

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.02b	Improve the engagement, involvement and achievement of the City's looked after children as 31 Dec 2010	31 Dec 2010	<i>₹</i> 2	Work ongoing	360	Sheila Sansbury
Progress	Progress Overview					

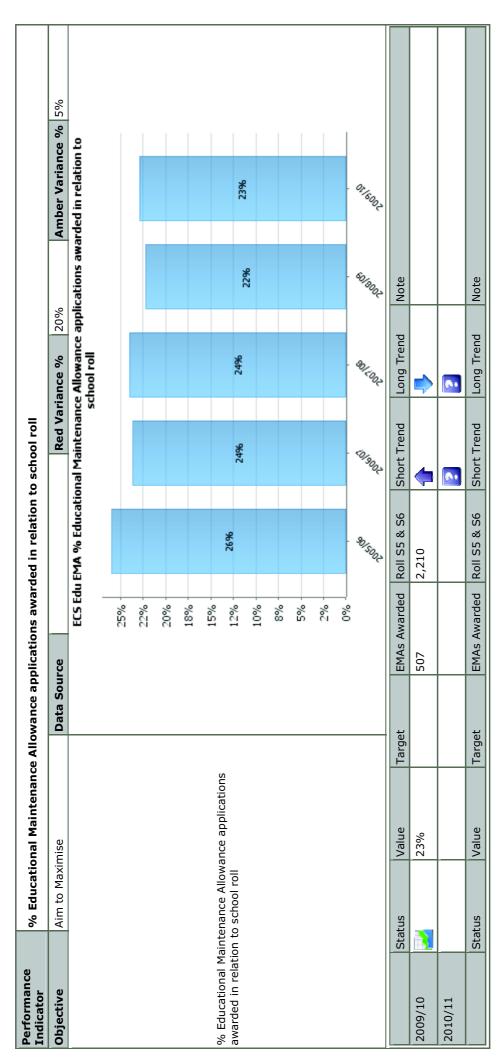
20 Dec 2010 Piloting Family Firm approach with Directors and Marriot Group. Established 16+ Black Group for positive destinations.

ge	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
e 27	ECS-SP 07.02c	Identification and support of young carers	31 Mar 2013	Work	ongoing	50%	Gail Woodcock	
<b>'</b> (								-

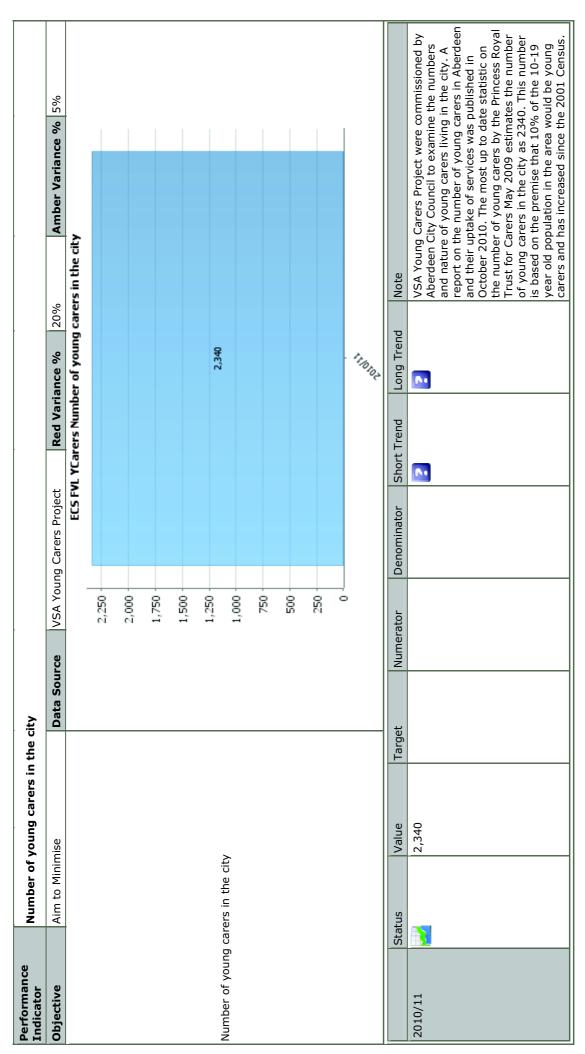
## 11 Apr 2011 Young Carers work is supported by VSA in partnership with CLD Services **Progress Overview**



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## Priority 07 - Helping those with different needs 07.03 - Ensure our services and facilities are accessible to all

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.03a	Apply Council's strategy on disability access to services and properties	31 Mar 2013		20%	David Wright

### **Progress Overview**

16 Dec 2010 Given limitations of resources, disability access improvements are generally implemented as and when specific needs are identified. Wherever facilities are replaced or redeveloped, these are designed and built to fully meet DDA standards, and whenever possible engagement takes place with relevant disability and access stakeholders.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 07.03b	Promote equalities to support the inclusion of minority or disadvantaged groups	31 Mar 2013		20%	Sarah Gear

## Progress Overview

Equalities Action Plan in place and actions being monitored,

_	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
280	ECS-SP 07.03c	Provide affordable, quality childcare places	31 Mar 2013	<i>₹</i>	Work ongoing	20%	Liz Gillies	
۱ ٔ	<b>Progress Overview</b>	rerview						

01 Mar 2011 18 new childminders have completed their training opening up over 30 new childminding places. Partner providers continue to provide good quality childcare. A number of after school clubs are experiencing a drop in numbers due to the financial climate. This is being monitored by the Early Years Manager and Child Care development officers and information is being fed back to the Integrated Childrens Service Management Board.

## 08.01 - Simplify and standardise service provision targeting resources to the right areas and helping to balance budgets Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money

ECS-SP Explore shared services delivery and joint contracts to reduce procurement costs 31 Mar 2013 😢 Work ongoing Charlie Penman 08.01a	Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
	ECS-SP 08.01a	urement	31 Mar 2013		20%	Charlie Penman

## Progress Overview

09 May 2011 Business case has been prepared. Initial scoping underway with Moray, Aberdeenshire and Shetland. Case Study research underway begining April 2011. Meeting is being arranged with Stirling Council to discuss their experience of shared service delivery in June.

Action		Due	Progr	rogress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01b	Maximise available resources to the 'front line' and reduce central service costs	31 Dec 2013	Work ongoing		20%	David Wright

### Progress Overview

16 Dec 2010 The service continues to extend the devolvement of areas of responsibility to schools and community learning and development establishments. Work is ongoing to devolve the following budgets to establishments in the course of 2011: Schools - pupil support assistants, technicians, school support employees and nursery nurses; Community Learning & Development - full time professional workers and support employees.

Additionally and to allow establishments to better manage resources there has been significant investment in providing them with access to the corporate e-Financials, PECOS and Collaborative Planning systems.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01c	Service implementation of corporate robust financial systems – PECOS, E-Financials, Collaborative Planning	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	30%	Lesley Kirk

### **Progress Overview**

February 2011 covering use of Collaborative Planning, e-financials and Infosmart systems. In this time, 206 key staff in respect of the use of financial systems have attended 30 sessions, each session lasting 3 hours. 111 establishments were targeted with 98 establishments having been represented. Feedback has been extremely positive and, in the main, staff felt they had 17 May 2011 To address the requirements for additional support required in schools and community centres a series of "hands on" sessions have been running since mid November 2010 to benefited from the sessions.

In addition to these organised sessions, the drop-in centre has also been available for any member of staff wishing to book a slot - assistance is at hand to guide them through the financial systems. Education, Culture and Sport support staff have been supporting the schools and community centres in the use of financial systems both by phone, and by undertaking regular visits to establishments. One to one support is given when needed, primarily in the use of e-financials and Infosmart.

To facilitate improved budget monitoring, all budget holders who manage budgets totalling £250,000 have been having regular face to face meetings with a nominated Services Accounting contact. These meetings, which have been taking place since December 2010, have also provided both parties with a better understanding of the operating position and challenges being faced. The SLA target is for each budget holder over the £250k threshold to have nine face to face meetings each year with their Service Accountant.

A programme of training is being planned for August 2011. Corporate Governance colleagues will provide budget holders with training on the use of Collaborative Planning to enable scrutiny and monitoring of individual budgets and will also detail what their financial and budgetary responsibilities are under Standing Orders.

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01d	Implement priority based budget approach to developing proposals for 2011-12 budget	31 Mar 2013	On schedule	%99	Charlie Penman

## Progress Overview

09 May 2011 A progress update paper will be tabled at E C and S committee in June 2011 which will outline progress towards implementation of transformation options. A further report on the other service options will be tabled at a future committee cycle once the academic arrangements for 2011 are finalised.

Action		Due	Progress	SS	Managed By
ECS-SP 08.01e	Implementation of integrated management information systems for Education, Culture and Sport	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	50%	David Wright

### **Progress Overview**

occurred. This was followed by Local Authority training, presentations to secondary Head Teachers, primary Head Teachers and Local Authority staff. Phase 1 schools have been identified and training has occurred for the phase 1 primary schools. The review of Phase 1 Primary is on 17th March. Phase 1 secondary commences on 16th March. Subgroups will decide on issues highlighted, policies and procedures which require to be updated and developing areas for Aberdeen City in partnership with Pearson. 04 Mar 2011 The Implementation Plan for the MIS for educational establishments has been agreed. The initial meeting between the Supplier, Pearson, and the MIS Strategic Group has

Works to upgrade the Libraries MIS to Talis Alto 5 is complete.

## Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money 08.02 - Encourage and maximise use of online resources for all

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.02a	Enable public internet access in council facilities within communities	31 Mar 2013	>	Complete - On schedule	%CO1	Neil Bruce

# **Progress Overview**

23 Dec 2010 WiFi Network in Libraries - Library members can now use their laptops, PDAs and mobile phones to gain free, fast broadband connections to the internet at Central Library, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Airyhall Library, Cove Library, Dyce Library, Kincorth Customer Access Point, Mastrick Library, Tillydrone Library and Learning Centre and Torry Library

Action		Due	Pro	rogress	Managed By
ECS-SP 08.02b	Promote the benefits of single source access to Council information	29 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	ming pw	Lesley Kirk

## Progress Overview

17 May 2011 Instead of focussing on internal directorate information, Education, Culture & Sport is represented on the Council's website through sinte navigation and the A-Z list. The commitment to ongoing improvements to the website, they are currently working with EC&S representatives to 'clear out' unnecessary content and focus on action oriented content. navigation is being re-developed to be more in line with best practice, which will ensure information is found even more easily. As part of Service Design and Development's (SDD)

accompanied by documentary evidence to support the application which is often done in person. The e-government team have recently implemented the new E-Forms package on the website which allows customers to fill out and submit applications online. It is hoped that with some further development work that e-forms can be made more widely available across EC&S Maintenance Allowance application forms, and School Placing Request forms. It is not possible however for these forms to be completed and submitted online as they require to be Previous work done with colleagues in SDD has resulted in a number of forms being made available online for downloading, for example the School Clothing Grant and Educational service areas

In addition to the re-development of the EC&S pages on the website, there are separate websites for Art Galleries and Museums (hosted by and managed by ACC): www.aberdeenships.com/www.aberdeenquest.com/www.citymoves.wordpress.com/ www.aagm.co.uk The use of social media is an excellent means of connecting with hard-to-reach audiences such as young people and key stakeholders. The ACC Twitter account was set up in May 2010 and is used to communicate key messages for the Council and proves to be popular. There has been an increased use of 'blogs', for example: www.citymoves.wordpress.com/ which can provide information on the ACC website it is recognised that the use of social media could be explored further in maximising channels of communication to our key stakeholders.

	Due	Progr	SS	Managed By
31	1		48%	Neil Bruce
-				
		013	Work or	Work ongoing

08 Mar 2011 Online booking system for Beach Ballroom ticket sales currently under review further update due in March 2011.

Online registration for Library and Information Services implemented - 211 registrations processed to date. Design of new library card to be finalised and numbering convention to be agreed. Work with Accord and Legal colleagues to establish requirements for retention of registration as part of review and updating of Library Management Rules

## Priority 08 - Better Performing/Value for Money 08.03 - Demonstrate our commitment to continuous improvement

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03a	Engage with service users to determine if expectations are being fulfilled and improve customer satisfaction	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	41%	Sarah Gear

## Progress Overview

16 Dec 2010 Stakeholder engagements have taken place throughout 2010 as part of our work to develop the Learning Strategy. Our pupils survey offers the opportunity for schools to engage the views of pupils to help inform their own self evaluation. Library and Information Service to consult with current and potential library users on service development and delivery systems and procedures in place to evaluate library taster sessions and events; Review customer comment procedures with a view to streamlining collation and publishing of outcomes

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03b	Demonstrate effective self evaluation	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	20%	Sarah Gear

### **Progress Overview**

10 Mar 2011 The Strategy Team are working to implement How Good is Our Culture and Sport on a shared basis with Aberdeenshire Council with a view to concluding in June 2011. Colleagues are currently engaged in multi-agency self evaluation as part of our child protection inspection preparations.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 08.03c	Effective monitoring and reporting of performance against quantitative and qualitative measures	31 Mar 2013	Work ongo	ongoing	34%	Sarah Gear

### **Progress Overview**

11 Apr 2011 Improvements to internal performance monitoring and reporting using the balanced scorecard approach have been implemented across the Education, Culture and Sport

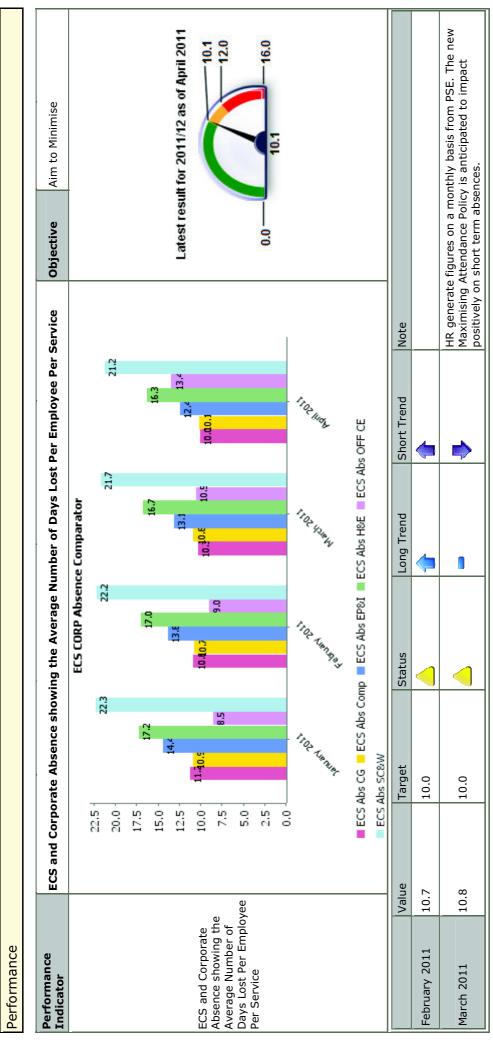
Service. Public performance reporting using Covalent began in July 2010 and has developed throughout the year. The new style of performance reporting against Service Plan outcomes and measures was presented to the Education, Culture and Sport Committee on 20 January 2011. An online interactive learning course (OIL) was developed by the Service in partnership with the Employee Development Team within Corporate Governance. South Ayrshire Council, have expressed an interest in utilising the course for their training purposes. Aberdeen City Council and South Ayrshire Council are members of the e-learning Network Alliance which encourages the development of networking relationships and the sharing of best practice.

39 Covalent training sessions were offered over a 5 week period from January to March 2011 with 60 officers trained.

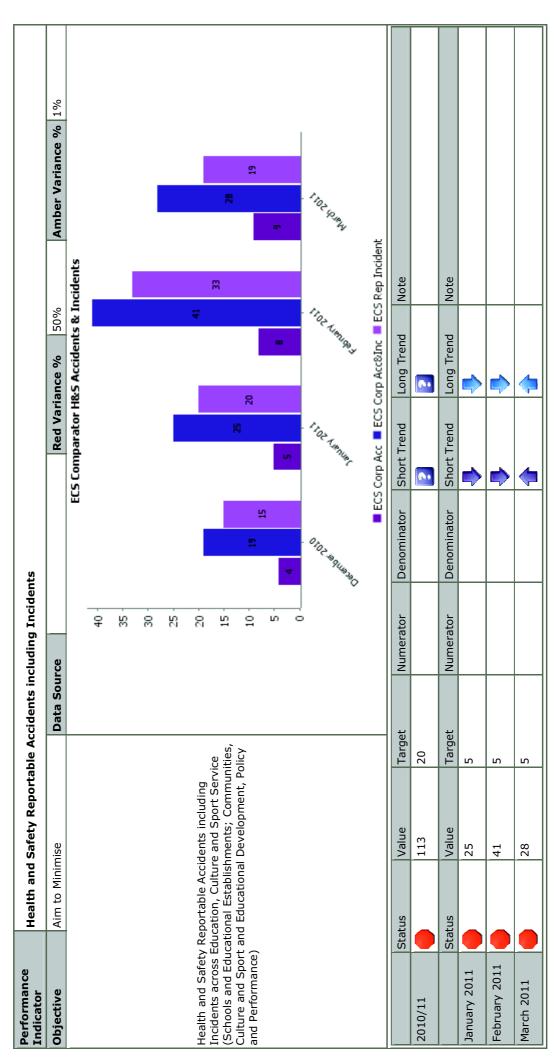
Work has commenced in terms of utilising Covalent for the robust monitoring and reporting of risk registers.

Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
ECS-SP 08.03d	Develop and implement a cross directional integrated approach to quality improvement, quality assurance and continuous improvement	31 Mar 2013		Work ongoing	34%	Sarah Gear	
<b>Progress Overview</b>	Overview						
27 Jan 2011 PLIQM visit schools, ser	27 Jan 2011 Quality improvement takes place in all aspects of the Education, Culture and Sport Service. 2010 saw MLA accreditation for our Museums and Galleries Service, a further PLIQM visit for our Library and Information Services, INEA2 follow-through for our Education service and Educational Psychology Services, HMIE and Care Commission inspections across schools, services, learning communities and pre-school partner providers and the beginnings of self evaluation in our Culture and Sports services following the introduction of How Good is	saw MLA accreational Psychological In our Culture	ditation fo ogy Servic and Sport	r our Museums and es, HMIE and Care of services following	Galleries Servio Commission ins the introductio	se, a further pections across of How Good is	

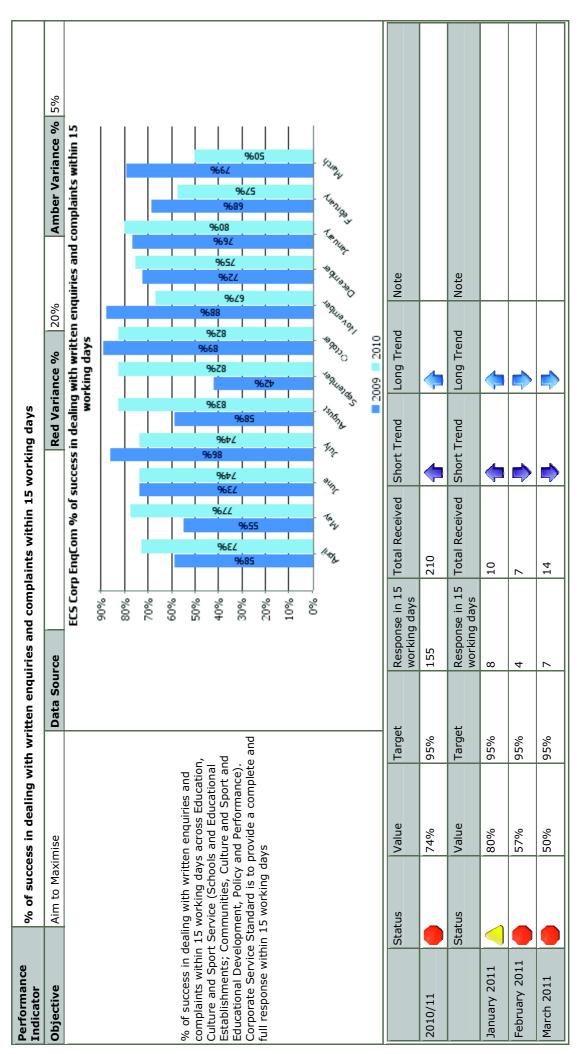
Our Culture and Sport. Our plans for 2011 include a co-ordinated and systematic approach to self evaluation throughout the Service in preparation for How Good is Our Council and the development of more robust and evidence based quality assurance procedures that have positive impacts on all participants.

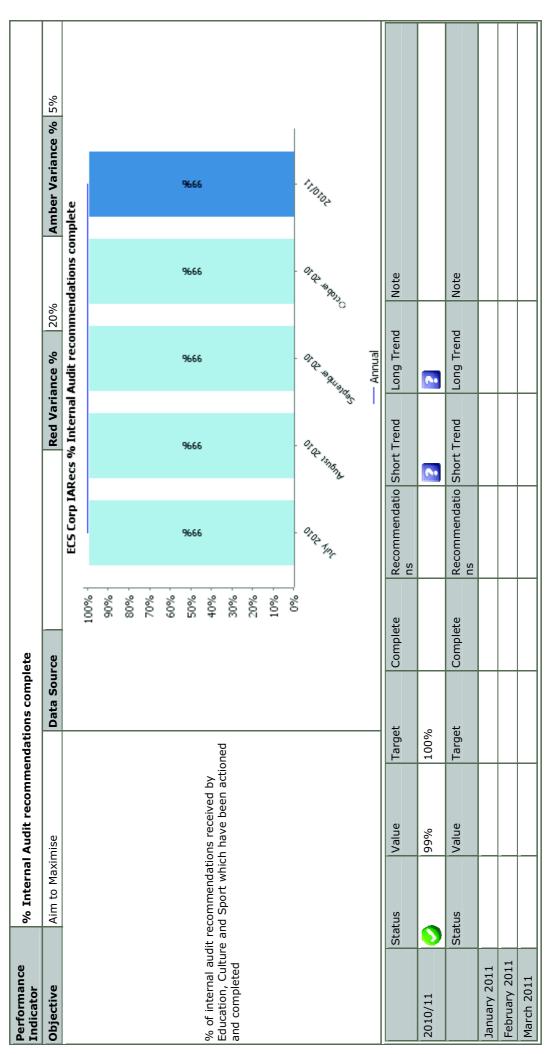


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## 09.01 - Skilled workforce with the knowledge, understanding and expertise required to carry out their duties Priority 09 - Skilled and Trained Staff

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP 09.01b	Develop and deliver comprehensive, high quality professional development programmes	31 Mar 2013	On schedule	28%	Sarah Gear

### Progress Overview

12 Apr 2011 The CPD programme for teachers and school staff for 2010/2011 is ongoing. Particularly successful elements of this programme have included a conference for 350 PSAs and an Improvement Conference looking at the clarification of GIRFEC roles and responsibilities. Work is now underway to plan for the 2011/2012 programme. Provided that planned recruitment to the CPD team over the coming 3 months is successful, this work will be expanded to ensure the needs of staff across the whole service are addressed through the 2011/2012 CPD programme.

	Action		Due		Progress		Managed By	
Pa	ECS-SP 09.01c	Develop an enabling culture throughout the workforce	31 Mar 2013	<u> </u>	On schedule	57%	Sarah Gear	
<u> </u>	Progress Overview	verview						
29	12 Apr 2011 developmen	12 Apr 2011 Proposals for new format in-service days have now been agreed and include Strategic Development days, school-based days and Learning Partnership-based days to ensure development needs are met at each of these levels. We are working closely with universities and other local authorities to consider the implications of the review of teacher education and	nt days, school-l chorities to cons	based o	days and Learning Par e implications of the r	tnership-based eview of teach	days to ensure er education and	

will review our practices and procedures accordingly.

## 10.01 - Improve joint working between the Council and its Partners to provide an inclusive approach to service delivery for children, Priority 10 - Working Together families and communities

Action		Due	Progress	Si	Managed By
ECS-SP 10.01c	Develop network of partnerships with the public, private and third sector – local, regional and national – and define shared visions, aims and goals	31 Mar 2013	Work ongoing	20%	Neil Bruce

# 10 Feb 2011 The Strategy Team is working to implement 'How Good is Our Culture and Sport' on a shared basis with Aberdeenshire Council in early 2011. They are working with external funding officers to consider joint EU funding options which support the work on the Open Space strategy and other environmental projects. The culture and leisure stakeholders working group met to consider its future role in the context of the priority based budgeting exercise in January 2011. Progress 20% **Progress Overview**

Action		Due	Progress		Managed By
ECS-SP	Develop Lifelong Learning, Culture and Active Aberdeen Forums to improve their impact and	31 Mar 2013	Undertaken	103%	Neil Bruce; Gail

### Woodcock 22 Dec 2010 Review and development of Active Aberdeen Forum will be undertaken as part of the implementation of 'Fit for the Future' - Sports and Physical Activity Strategy. independently within Service Plan capacity to improve outcomes **Progress Overview** 10.01d

Review and development of Lifelong Learning Forum will be undertaken as part of ECS-SP 03.03c - Strengthen Lifelong Learning Forum through appropriate membership.

Review and development of the Culture Form will be undertaken as part of the implementation of 'Vibrant Aberdeen' - Cultural Strategy for Aberdeen.

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### **Scottish Library & Information Council**







### Aberdeen City Council self evaluation 2010

**Public Library Quality Improvement Matrix (PLQIM)** 

### Summary

In March 2010 Aberdeen City Library and Information Service's' staff used the Public Library Quality Improvement Matrix (PLQIM) to review its provision across Quality Indicator 1 Access to information. The outcomes overall were good, however, the Service made a swift response to the recommendations, inviting the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) to review progress after a six month period.

The SLIC team recognised that good progress had been made and welcomed the energy and enthusiasm with which staff had addressed the recommendations. At the time of the initial visits two long-standing vacancies important to the development and delivery of information services had recently been filled. Key improvements included the development of a draft information strategy now with staff for consultation, a programme of staff training, new resources for children and young people, upgrade of a quarter of the public computers, extension of wi-fi access and the new e-resource guides for the public. From detailed discussions with staff, the public and a wide range of stakeholders; visits to libraries; and a review of the evidence, it is clear that the Libraries' staff are strongly committed to developing a range of services which are valued in communities. The objective is to create an *information culture*.

Key strengths of the service include the provision of broadband internet access on regularly refreshed machines, wi-fi, and online enquiry services including 24/7 Enquire and Ask Scotland, better links to Curriculum for Excellence, use of Glow and support for information literacy skills. A number of working groups have been established to take forward issues and the involvement and support of the wider team is already having a positive impact.

Other important strengths include range of online resources, regularly updated web pages, use of social networking tools and a good programme for staff skills development. There are a number of areas for improvement: these include the need to implement and monitor the information strategy to shape and improve information service provision, to ensure that the staff training results in improved use of online resources in libraries and in IT taster sessions with the public and to analyse the customer information enquiries to tailor services appropriately.

As a result of the progress made, the SLIC team re-assessed the outcome and increased the effectiveness of practice in the first strand from good to very good. The impact of the developments in the third strand will be seen over time but the staff training needs time to embed and be evidenced in practice.

Quality Indicator 1 Access to Information	
Sufficiency, range and suitability of	Very good
Arrangements for access	Very good
Staff interaction and support	Good

### Levels

This report uses a six level scale, as follows:

excellent – outstanding, sector leading very good – major strengths good – important strengths with areas for improvement satisfactory – strengths just outweigh weaknesses weak – important weaknesses unsatisfactory – major weaknesses

### Introduction

Sited in all types of communities and with extensive mobile library service provision, libraries remain one of the free universal services for communities where the population can visit as individuals or in groups to pursue reading for pleasure, learning or hobbies. Libraries can support the business

community, individual and community information needs and are inclusive of all age and social groups, nationalities, genders and religious beliefs. The delivery of high quality information and library services to individuals and communities helps people to develop their skills, realise their aspirations and contribute to the economic growth and well-being of the country. Libraries encourage the use of digital technologies by communities and individuals providing access to information, learning and culture.

The first public library legislation in Scotland was passed in 1853 and the base legislation is the 1887 Public Libraries Consolidation (Scotland) Act, so local authorities have a statutory duty to secure the provision of adequate library services for all persons resident in their area. Library services make a significant contribution to delivering the Scottish Government's five strategic priorities, as well as local council and community planning objectives.

### Local Authority Background

Aberdeen City has a population of around 210,404 and is a prosperous port in the North-east of Scotland. The local authority covers an area of 188.46 square kilometres and is built between two rivers, the Dee and the Don. Traditionally the local industries were based on farming and fishing but its modern economy is based on the oil industry and its epithet from the 1970s has been the 'Oil Capital of Europe'. Unemployment rates are under 2% and the City contributes 28% of UK corporation tax, more than the City of London, to the UK economy. Aberdeen is a major retail, leisure and cultural centre for the North East of Scotland. As well as an estimated 5390 migrant workers Aberdeen has a large number of international students attending the two universities and college of further education. Over 65s account for 15.3% of the population whilst 15.7% are under the age of 15.

The City faces significant challenges financially and has the lowest total revenue support per head of population amongst all 32 Scottish authorities currently £1,720 compared to the average £2,051. There is considerable affluence; but there are also areas of deprivation with 15% of the population living in areas in the Scottish Index of Multiple deprivation.

The Library Service has been in existence since 1884 when the libraries Act was adopted at a public meeting in March by 891 votes to 134. It currently comprises a city centre Central Library, 16 Community Libraries, a Mobile Library and a Home Service. The Central Library is the main service point serving the city and acts as the headquarters. It houses the Information Centre, Adult Lending Library, Media Centre and Children's Library.

Since 2007 budget decisions have seen the number of staff have decrease by 12.5% and opening hours by over 700 per month. Ongoing budget constraints continue to present a challenging environment for libraries to operate and develop within the city.

In 2009/10 26.5% of the population were recorded as library members, with nearly 1.2million visitors, over 1 million issues, over ½ million webpage hits and 112.393 enquiries.

### **Process**

Building on success: a public library quality improvement matrix self evaluation toolkit, prepared by the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC) provides the framework for the process. Library Staff chose to look at Quality Indicator 1 Access to information. Staff worked together to identify and evaluate evidence about the impact and outcomes and their findings were presented to SLIC.

Working with the assistance of two external verifiers, Robert Ruthven, Library and Archives Service Manager, Stirling Council and Christopher Phillips, SLIC Company Secretary and former Lifelong Learning Manager The Highland Council, SLIC reviewed the evidence and carried out discussions with members of staff, a wide variety of partners, the public and the management team on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2010. Visits were made to the Information Centre, Children's Library and Media Centre in the Central Library and to Bucksburn Community Library and Mastrick Library.

SLIC would also like to thank all those who participated. Time was spent talking to members of the

public and the wide range of partners about the service they receive. These arrangements helped SLIC to come to a balanced view on the outcome of the self-evaluation.

### **Quality Indicator 1 Access to information**

### Strengths

- Very good connectivity
- Effective links with corporate IT
- Wi-fi
- 24/7 services including enquiry services and subscription databases
- Use of social networking tools

### **Progress**

- Draft information strategy
- Inclusion of key priorities for development of services in service and team plans
- Information newsletter
- Information roadshows
- e-resources user guides
- New webpages and programme for regular updating
- New resources for children and young people
- Strategic review of local studies and action plan for development of digital resources

### Sufficiency, range and suitability of resources

The Information Services Manager had carried out a review of information services in the light of the March 2010 visit and the recommendations of the report. A draft information strategy has been developed to address areas for improvement. The objective of creating an information culture, particularly in Community Libraries was established. The Information Services Manager has worked hard to bring about the progress and, with her two new colleagues and the support of other staff, the team demonstrated energy and enthusiasm in their task of improving services. This draft will now go forward for staff consultation and it will be implemented and monitored once this process has been completed. Some of the proposals in the information strategy have already been included in the service and team plans for 2010/11. A programme of staff training on the online resources has been developed and the first in a series of information newsletters to highlight new resources has been published. Information roadshows promoting the range of information services to the public has been developed for the autumn 2010. The content is targeted and includes business information, careers, the Third Sector and European information as well as general reference tools. The public user guides for e-resources have been completely revised by the Database Promotions Group and are now available from the Library website. The Aberdeen Library and Information Service webpages have also been revised and a programme for weekly updating has been developed and implemented.

Aberdeen Library and Information Service is continuing to take an active part in the Ask Scotland enquiry service and Enquire, with a very good quality of response and support. These services seek to respond quickly to public enquiries by sharing the workload on a rota system across a number of local authorities. Participation in these shared services and offering a 24/7 response, in the case of Enquire through a network in the United States, are considered very good practice.

The Information Centre is located in the Central Library and acts as an information hub in providing support to community libraries. Since the last visit there has been a reorganization of the resources and layout which helps customers to find information more easily. The removal of an enquiry desk and sets of Yellow Pages improves lines of sight for customers and the overall appearance of the Information Centre. Exhibition space and resources to create exhibitions are limited and this is an area where some improvement could be made with the use of digital technology, for example.

There are good community heritage and local and family history collections. The new local studies librarian has assessed his stock and service and has an action plan with short, medium and long term goals. There are plans for collection development which will lead to digitisation and exploitation of local materials to the global market, as well as preservation and conservation work and the creation of a single database of resources. Plans to work collaboratively with communities to hold family history fairs, hold workshops and tutorials and continue to develop a joint Aberdeen Local History project are in place. There is potential to work with schools using local studies to deliver Curriculum for Excellence outcomes.

Information services for children and young people have developed quickly since the appointment of a Children's Services Manager. This post includes responsibility for children's services and the development of school library services. New developments include joint CPD sessions at the Curriculum Resources Information Centre for teaching staff with Information Services team, further develop and deliver an information literacy skills programme based on a skills package prepared for primary 6/7 pupils which is available from the website and library pages on Glow. Partnership working with Dialogue Youth has helped inform a review of Dialogue Youth Information Points. The Children's Services Manager has established a Children's Services Working Group which is helping support her with ideas and practical implementation. The driving objective is widening access to resources and support and making clear links to Curriculum for Excellence.

Staff are using web 2.0 technologies and have found survey monkey really helpful. There is a commitment to the use of social networking tools but some corporate decisions have yet to be agreed so progress is limited within this context. The staff are fully aware of the value of the tools within the business environment where perceptions of library services as traditional may need to be changed and use of twitter, facebook and linked in can help.

At the time of the first visit, the team concluded that the community library staff lacked clarity about their role in information work. In order to find out more about the use of information resources and enquiry work at community library level, a new method of recording enquiries has been developed. This identifies the enquiry, the sources used to answer it and the broad categories of information.

### Arrangement for access

### **Progress**

- Refresh of one quarter of public computers
- Extension of wi-fi access
- Programme to promote access to information resources
- Improved support for access to information resources

Arrangements for access were assessed as being very good and additional investment has been made to sustain this level of provision. The Library Service's rolling programme of refreshment of public access computers has replaced one quarter of the computers. Provision of wi-fi access has also been extended.

A visit was made to Bucksburn Community Library which was holding an Open Day to encourage uptake of library services. The Library is co-located on a school campus, adjacent to leisure facilities. A class from the school was taking part in activities using the library computers and searching the online databases for quiz answers, another group of pupils were using the wii for health and fitness, and other groups included three reminiscence groups, drop in help for family history and psychology class for the public. The plans to work more closely with the community library staff to exploit local and family history resources and support learning 24/7 through the use of online resources are good but will take time to implement. At Mastrick Library the new wi-fi service had recently been introduced.

The National Entitlement Card has been in use as the Accord card for some time and sQuid, the electronic purse element has recently been added. Libraries plan to be partners in *loading system* for

the sQuid cards, so that the public link topping up their sQuid cards at the libraries with usage in library environment, thus improving uptake.

Uptake of online services through the Library Websites, pages views, enquiries and online transactions are good and increasing. This is monitored by Google Analytics.

### Staff interaction and support

### **Progress**

- Staff training programme
- Training programme on web 2.0 technologies
- Programme to promote access to information resources
- Improved support for access to information resources

The Training Working Group has developed a programme of refresher training on the online resources and this has been has been carried out. This helps to build staff familiarity with the valuable tools so that they can be used in enquiry work and to promote use of the databases to the public. This is a great initiative but it is too early to measure evidence of its impact. There is an increase in use of online services and this is being monitored. The Database Promotions Working Group have revised all the e-resources guides which are available on the website. In addition a regular newsletter promoting new resources and highlighting existing ones has been launched.

A programme of staff training in Bookbug sessions has been developed and a web 2.0 training programme initiative with Surrey, Suffolk and Portsmouth library services called 23 Things is planned. This will underpin the web 2.0 plans as staff skills need to be developed to support its successful introduction. Training has also taken place on the use of sQuid on the Accord Cardand completing online membership.

Staff are trained to support the development of skills in others, whether a school or other group visits, delivering in-service training for education staff or through presentations at conferences and events. PC Taster sessions are carried out in some community libraries but the need to standardise this has been recognised. The partnership with Aberdeen College, who run a range of IT courses in the Learning Centres, is valued however the Library Service needs to ensure that they provide a less formal service which is of a uniformly high quality. The plans to develop Community Learning Hubs are still in progress so establishing quality and consistency will be welcomed in the context of widening the service.

### Areas for improvement

- Continue to finalise, implement and monitor the information strategy
- Continue to monitor the information enquiries and use of online resources
- Continue to develop information literacy support
- Continue to enable staff from across the service to contribute to the development of information services
- Monitor and evaluate the impact and deployment of recent staff training
- Work closely with community libraries to develop community-led exhibitions
- Link the development of appropriate services with Dialogue Youth partnership and the National Youth Information Framework
- Continue to develop IT training and support
- Continue to seek new ways of promoting use of information services to the public
- Continue to develop local studies content

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### **Streetwork Team Report**

The Central Streetwork Project is part of the city wide Streetwork initiative. Future reports will cover the north and south areas of the city.

The Central Streetwork Project Youth Workers engage with young people in public places to offer information, advice and support on a range of issues including alcohol, employment, drugs, sexual health and education. They focus on building up positive relationships with young people(mainly within the 13 to 19 age group. When appropriate they challenge anti-social behaviour and work alongside SACRO to enable mediation between young people and other groups/residents to take place to resolve any issues.

The Streetwork team were out for 51 evenings this quarter and had contact with 1955 young people. 1315 of these contacts were the young people we met at the ice rink on Friday evenings. The figures for the same period last year was 392.

The Streetwork team have continued to concentrate on the hotspot areas which are: City Centre, Rosemount, Woodside, Tillydrone and Seaton. The Streetwork team have built up relationships with the young people in these areas. The young people are approaching the Streetwork team, asking them for advice on several topics e.g. alcohol, relationships, sexual health and drugs, employment and education. The Streetwork team have been taking out equipment on these issues from Dialogue Youth which has been very popular with the young people and sparking good conversations. Projects which have had positive impact this quarter include: **Street Pastors**, Northsound Under 16's Disco, Employment Support, Linx ice Arena and Young Scot at Union Square 26<sup>th</sup> February.

The table below shows the number of contacts. Discussions held with children and young people by topic

	total	January	February	March
Alcohol	30	8	11	11
Crime	30	8	10	12
Drugs	29	8	9	12
Education	48	12	15	21
<b>Employment</b>	34	13	11	10
Health	37	12	10	15
Leisure	48	14	15	19
Other	0			
Personal	39	11	13	15
Safety				
Police	37	8	13	16
Relationships	43	11	14	18
Youth Work	59	16	18	25

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### Agenda Item 11.1

Exempt information as described in paragraph(s) 8 of Schedule 7A of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

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