

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Education and Children's Services
DATE	26 th January 2017
DIRECTOR	Gayle Gorman
TITLE OF REPORT	Education and Children's Services 2012-2016 Key Outcomes Report
REPORT NUMBER	ECS/17/010
CHECKLIST RECEIVED:	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

Provide Elected Members with a summary report of the Directorate's key outcomes against core strategic delivery and performance priorities, linking to the City's 2016-2026 Local Outcome Improvement Plan, over the course of 2012-16.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended that the Committee note the work of the Directorate and provide comment on the Education and Children's Services Directorate 2012-2016 Key Progress Report (attached at Appendix A) and overview of achievements, awards and recognition attained through the Directorate across the period, attached at Appendix B.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Legal

Local Authorities are required to act as set out in the Local Government Act 1992, and as defined within the Direction provided by the Accounts Commission, in respect of their Public Reporting obligations and;

4.2 Property, Equipment, Employee and Health and Safety Implications

There may be other property, equipment, employee or health and safety implications linked to the Directorate-wide health and safety performance measures. Any related implications under this heading are managed by the Directorate as a matter of course in accordance with best practice.

4.3 The report is designed for information purposes only and no Equalities and Human Rights implications are involved either in its preparation or the recommendations contained within the body of the Report.

5. BACKGROUND/MAIN ISSUES

5.1 The main content of this Report, reflected in Appendix A, provides a narrative against the key projects and outcomes, delivered by the Education and Children's Services Directorate over the course of 2012-16, which, going forwards, link directly to the City's 2016-2016 Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) partnership and strategic themes:

- Prosperous Economy
- Prosperous People
- Prosperous
- Enabling Technology

These also relate to the over-arching focus placed on the 'the child at the centre' as reflected in the GIRFEC (Getting It Right For every Child) approach which, in combination with legislative and statutory requirements, also act as significant drivers for the Directorate's integrated programme of work.

Additionally, the narrative captures the Directorate's effective use of change management over a period in which revision of the organisational structure, implementation of major national programmes such as the Curriculum for Excellence and introduction of a series of legislative policy obligations, such as those defined by the Children's Act 2014, have been delivered.

5.2 The detail contained within this Report, at Appendix B, captures a summary suite of qualitative and award outcomes related to the Directorate's delivery of service over the course of 2012-2016.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience

Analysis and publication of performance data and, in particular, the use of benchmark and trend information, offers the Directorate the opportunity to critically evaluate the extent to which it is currently meeting customer needs and, as required, re-align delivery methodologies to ensure that, in particular, children's experiences and outcomes are continuously improving.

Improving Staff Experience

Transparency of performance reporting, in terms of outputs and outcomes, offers staff with the opportunity to gain insight into areas of good practice within the Directorate, in particular those where improvement might be required. Importantly, it also helps employees to recognise where their contributions are materially influencing and driving the work of their Service.

Improving our use of Resources

This Report aligns with the principles of Best Value whereby local authorities are required to evidence and evaluate the extent to which resources are used effectively and efficiently in the delivery of services to stakeholders.

Corporate

Reporting to Committee is an essential governance requirement of the Directorate and Council's performance management arrangements, by which Elected Members may seek assurance that performance improvement activity is evidenced and robust.

The measures and narrative contained in this report align directly to the City's 2016-2026 Local Outcome Improvement Plan covering:

Prosperous Economy – Investment in Infrastructure

Prosperous People – Respected, Included, Achieving
Safe and Responsible

Prosperous Place – People Friendly City

Enabling Technology - Digital Connectivity
Skills and Education

Public

The report is designed for information purposes only and no specific Equalities and Human Rights implications are involved either in its preparation or the recommendations contained within the body of the Report.

Transparency in our performance reporting is a key component of our Public Performance Reporting requirement, which is subject to annual review by Audit Scotland.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

The nature of this report is not such that a risk assessment of options is necessary as the content is for information only.

However, the regular reporting of performance is itself mitigation against the risk that the Council's Public Performance Reporting might be regarded as insufficient for the purposes of meeting the obligations placed upon it.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A: E&CS Directorate 2012-16 Key Outcomes Report

Appendix B: E&CS Directorate 2012-16 Key Achievements & Awards Report

Aberdeen City 2016 Insight Briefing, Education and Children's Services Committee, 17th November 2016

2015-16 Annual Performance (Statutory Performance Indicators) Report, Education and Children's Services Committee, 17th November 2016

Aberdeen City 2016-2026 Local Outcome Improvement Plan

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Co-ordinated by:

Alex Paterson, Development Officer, (Performance Improvement),

☎ 01224 522137

✉ apaterson@aberdeencity.gov.uk