

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 24 MAY 2005

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2005 - 2006

Report by Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1** To inform Members of the arrangements for Improvement Planning within the Education Service.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1** Members will recall that at its meeting of 01 February 2005 the Education Committee approved the education authority's annual statement of educational improvement objectives. This statement is now firmly established in the life of the Department as "Priority to Improvement".
- 2.2** The next stage in the improvement planning process is the development of a Service Improvement Plan, which is a key strategic document in the life of the Authority.

3. PRODUCING AND IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

- 3.1** Consultation has taken place with key officers across the Department. This builds on the extensive consultation which has already taken place to produce the plan. As a result an implementation document has now been produced as the Service Improvement Plan 2005 – 06. A copy of this plan is available in the Member's Information Point.
- 3.2** The plan takes each of the objectives identified in Priority to Improvement 2005 and attaches to them a strategy for implementation, target outcomes, the staff responsible for implementation, the timescale, and the arrangements for monitoring and evaluation. The financial resources available to support each area of improvement together with the source of that funding is also identified.
- 3.3** The plan is organised on the same structure as "Priority to Improvement 2005". It therefore includes supplementary information on the Authority's Vision and Statement of Commitment. Of critical significance, is the inclusion of an "Impact" statement which summarises the improvements made under the previous year's plan. In summary therefore this document contains all of the critical information about improvements in educational provision, both past and anticipated at the time of issue of the plan.

3.4 "Priority to Improvement - 2005" has already been distributed very widely to establishments, and is already strongly in evidence. The Service Improvement Plan has been thoroughly considered by senior staff and the Quality Improvement Team. The Plan has also been discussed at the regular meetings of heads of establishment. Copies have been distributed to schools in both hard copy and electronic form. It will be upto each Head of Service to devise an action plan related to their allocated areas of responsibility within the plan and to implement the plan. The progress of implementation will be monitored through the Quality Forum which will issues quarterly reports to the Heads of Service.

3.5 A progress report will be compiled for Committee scrutiny at the mid-point of session 2005 – 2006.

4. POLICY/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS Nil

5. COMMUNITY PLANNING IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Each objective within the Service Improvement Plan has been cross referenced to the Community Plan. The document therefore represents a comprehensive statement of the implementation of the Community Plan within the educational context.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The plan identifies the necessary finance for its implementation.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 It is recommended that Members :

- (i) note the arrangements for improvement planning in 2005-06;
- (ii) ask the Executive Director to provide a report at a suitable point in the future on the progress made under the plan; and
- (iii) otherwise note the contents of this report

John Mulgrew
Executive Director of Educational and Social Services

GRS/MG
3 May 2005

Members requiring further information should contact Graham Short, Head of Service: Quality Improvement, (01563-576089).

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Priority to Improvement, Education Committee 01 February 2005.

Implementation Officer: Graham Short