

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE : 7 NOVEMBER 2006

PRIORITY TO IMPROVEMENT 2006-07 SERVICE PLAN

Report by Executive Director (Educational and Social Services)

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise elected members of the Improvement Plan for school-based education services related to the five National Priorities for Education and the Authority Special Objectives set out in Priority to Improvement 2006-07.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Section 5 of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 sets out a requirement on education authorities to publish annually a statement of education improvement objectives and to report on progress in meeting the objectives set out in the service improvement plan.
- 2.2 The department consults widely in preparing the annual statement of education improvement objectives. This is translated into a detailed service improvement plan identified as Priority to Improvement 2006-07. The plan is available in the Members' Information Point.
- 2.3 As part of the Department's public performance reporting an education section is included in what is a widely acclaimed Standards and Quality Report for the Department of Educational and Social Service. This report will be published and available to elected members in due course by early 2007.

3. GENERAL COMMENTS

- 3.1 The plan clearly sets out the vision, values, aims and commitment of the department in relation to school-based services. It reports in detail the impact on:
- children, young people and learners
 - staff
 - community
- of the previous years improvement objectives.

The contribution of the Education Service to the East Ayrshire Community Plan is mapped to the six key themes of the Community Plan. Thereafter the action planning and implementation section of the plan sets out:

- the range of education objectives
- how these will be implemented
- the expected outcomes
- timescales and responsibilities
- how the plan will be monitored and evaluated
- financial annexes.

4. CONCLUSION

Priority to Improvement Service Plan 2006 is an operational working document which sets out the improvement objectives of school-based education for session 2006-07 and how these objectives will be overtaken.

5. POLICY AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

All costings are within the Education budgeting structure

7. COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The Education Service Plan contributes significantly to Improving Opportunities, Promoting Commitment and Lifelong Learning, Improving Health and the Environment.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is requested that Elected Members

- i) note the extent to which Priority to Improvement Service Plan 2006-07 addresses the five National Priorities for Education and how it fulfils the aims of the Community Plan
- ii) invited the Executive Director to report in due course through the Standards and Quality Report 2006
- iii) otherwise note the contents of the report.

Graham Short
Executive Director (Educational and Social Services)

KMcK/MR
13/10/06

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- i) Priority to Improvement 2006

Members wishing further information should contact Kenneth McKinlay, Principal Quality Improvement (Tel: 01563 555650)

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : GRAHAM SHORT