

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE : 5 FEBRUARY 2001

DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

Report by Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To describe to Members the recent trends in the destinations of school leavers.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Each year the Scottish Executive produces information on the destinations of school leavers as part of their National Statistics Publications. This information details the immediate destinations of young people leaving all Scottish Schools. A copy of the full report is available in the Members' Library.
- 2.2 It is a feature of the statistics on Leaver Destinations that they are more challenging to interpret than other educational data as they can reflect local and national social and economic factors as well as educational ones.

3. DESTINATION OF LEAVERS 2000-2001

- 3.1 The 2000-2001 data is based on information available on 19 October 2001 and is provided to the Scottish Executive by the careers services.
- 3.2 The relevant National and East Ayrshire data is shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1 DESTINATION OF SCHOOL LEAVERS

	PERCENTAGE OF SCHOOL LEAVERS						
	SCOTLAND				EAST AYRSHIRE		
	98-99	99-00	00-01		98-99	99-00	00-01
Full Time Higher Education	31	31	32		29	33	31
Full Time Further Education	18	19	20		13	19	20
Training	8	7	6		16	11	12
Employment	26	26	24		21	20	18
Other Destinations	14	13	14		17	16	16
Unknown	3	3	4		3	2	2

- 3.3 The main points arising from the table are:

- Full time Higher Education remains comparable with the national picture and has remained at or around the 30% mark for several years.

- The significant increase in the numbers attending full-time Further Education seen in 1999-2000 has been maintained and now stands at 20%.
- Taken together the percentage of young people entering Higher or Further Education has remained at over 50%. This mirrors the national position and maintains the level set in 1999-2000 when 50% was exceeded for the first time.

This position is a result of the continuing good work which has encouraged strong links between the colleges, schools and the Authority.

- It is encouraging to note that the downward trend in the training figures has been maintained
- Taken with the employment figures it can be seen that the Authority reflects the national percentage, but East Ayrshire have a greater percentage entering training as against employment.

The training data is predominantly leavers who have entered a training course where an allowance or grant will be paid, e.g. skillseekers, but who are not in direct employment.

(it should be noted that a considerable proportion of leavers entering employment, may also be participants in training through programmes such as skillseekers).

- Increasingly young people nationally are taking a “year out” before continuing their education or entering employment. Such pupils are entered into the “others” category unless they have gained a deferred unconditional place in Higher Education.

4. LEGAL/ FINANCIAL/POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 It is recommended that Members

- i) note the contents of this report

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services

DM/MR
9 January 2002

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- i) Destinations of Leavers from Scottish Schools : 2000-01 (A Scottish Executive National Statistics Publication)

Members wishing further information should contact Graham Short, Head of Schools, Tel: (01563) 576192

IMPLEMENTATION OFFICER : GRAHAM SHORT

AGENDA