

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – 19 SEPTEMBER 2000

NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Report by Director of Educational and Social Services

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To seek approval for a response to the national consultation on national priorities for improvement.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act, 2000 makes provision for the Scottish Ministers to identify national priorities for improvement in schools. In anticipation of the legislation, the Scottish Executive launched a consultation on areas for improvement before the close of the academic session 1999/2000.

3. THE RESPONSE

- 3.1 A response to the consultation has been prepared by the Quality Development Team in association with schools and other interested groups. This is presented at Annex A.
- 3.2 In summary, the response is broadly supportive of what is proposed. However, in terms of the detail, existing good practice should be recognised and the scale of the proposed improvements should be viewed beside the practicalities of implementation.
- 3.3 The closing date for responses was 31 August 2000. In accordance with standard practice however, the Scottish Executive have agreed to accept any changes determined by the Education Committee.

4. POLICY/LEGAL/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Nil

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members :

- (i) approve the response at Annex A as being the submission of East Ayrshire's Department of Educational and Social Services to the consultation on national priorities for improvement; and
- (ii) otherwise note the contents of this report.

John Mulgrew
Director of Educational and Social Services

GRS/GRS
23 August 2000

Members requiring further information should contact Graham Short, Head of Schools (01563-576089) or Kenneth McKinlay, Principal Quality Development (01563-55650)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Nil

Implementation Officer: Graham Short

AGENDA