

EDUCATION & LIFELONG LEARNING DIRECTORATE:
QUARTER FOUR 2014/15 PERFORMANCE

Reason for the Report

1. To present the Corporate and Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate's performance report for Quarters 4 of 2014/15 prior to its consideration by the Cabinet on 28 May 2015. The Performance report for Quarter 4 is attached at **Appendix A**.

Performance Reports

2. The Committee has re-structured its approach to the scrutiny of Education performance through scheduling throughout the year the examination of particular aspects of performance, in addition to an overview of Annual Performance in January. This schedule includes:
 - Quarterly corporate performance reports
 - Performance of the Youth Service and the level of young people in employment, education or training (June 2015)
 - Youth Guarantee (July 2015)
 - Provisional School Results (September 2015)
 - Numeracy and Literacy – National Test (October 2015)
 - Schools Causing Concern & Outcome of Inspections (December 2015)
 - Attendance and Exclusions (March 2016)
 - Performance of pupils, Free School Meals /Non Free School Meals and Other Groups (April 2016).

Quarterly Performance

3. Quarter 4 Education Performance report, attached at **Appendix A**, provides the Committee with information about the context that the Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate is operating in, performance information and the

management actions that are being taken to address performance issues. The report also provides an explanation of the progress being made in addressing the challenges identified in each quarter.

4. The Council's Performance Management Framework includes the regular reporting of Quarterly Performance by Directorate. The Quarterly Report covers:
 - Progress against Corporate Plan commitments
 - Progress against Key performance indicators
 - Progress on challenges previously identified
 - Financial performance
 - Service delivery issues
 - Corporate risks.

5. Financial information has not been included in the Quarter Four Corporate Performance Report as the accounts for the end of year are to be finalised in time for their deadline of the end of May.

6. This performance monitoring report will enable Committee to review, assess and challenge the implementation of all actions and thereby the delivery of high quality education and improved outcomes for children and young people in Cardiff's Schools. Members may also wish to pass any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member and / or Director of Education and Lifelong Learning. At this meeting Committee can review and question:
 - (i) the progress being made in addressing the identified Corporate Risks;
 - (ii) Actions being identified to assess the impact of the emerging risks identified in Quarter 4;
 - (iii) the resources available to deliver these commitments;
 - (iv) the quality and analysis of the performance information presented to Committee.

Way Forward

7. Councillor Julia Magill (Cabinet Member for Education and Skills) and Nick Batchelar (Director of Education and Lifelong Learning), will make a presentation on the quarterly performance report.

Legal Implications

8. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

9. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to:

- a. Consider the contents of the report, appendix and evidence presented at the meeting;
- b. Report any comments, observations or recommendations to the Cabinet and the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning.

NICK BATCHELAR
Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

MARIE ROSENTHAL
County Clerk and
Monitoring Officer

30th April 2015