

## Education Scrutiny Committee

Committee Room 2 (FHM05.002), 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes



Tuesday, 17 September 2024 - 10.00 a.m.

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### AGENDA

Page Nos.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
2. **CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP** – committee to note that Councillor Caffrey replaces Councillor Dillon and Councillor Ford replaces Councillor Neal as members of this committee.
3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – In terms of Section 5 of the Code of Conduct, members of the Committee are asked to declare any interest in particular items on the agenda and the nature of the interest(s) at this stage.
4. **MINUTE** – Minute of Meeting of the Education Scrutiny Committee of 7 May 2024. 3 – 6
5. **EDUCATION DIRECTORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE FOR 2024/25 AND ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24** – Report by the Executive Director, Education. 7 – 10
6. **SWIMMING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE** – Report by the Executive Director, Education. 11 – 18
7. **CHILDCARE SERVICES - EARLY ADOPTER COMMUNITY WORK** – Report by the Executive Director, Education. 19 – 32
8. **EDUCATION DIRECTORATE : REVENUE BUDGET 2023-24 PROVISIONAL OUTTURN** – Joint Report by the Executive Director Education and the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services. 33 – 38
9. **EDUCATION DIRECTORATE : CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2023-24 PROVISIONAL OUTTURN** – Joint Report by the Executive Director Education and the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services. 39 – 44
10. **EDUCATION DIRECTORATE : REVENUE BUDGET 2024-25 PROJECTED OUTTURN** – Joint Report by the Executive Director Education and the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services. 45 – 49
11. **EDUCATION DIRECTORATE : CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2024-25 PROGRESS REPORT** – Joint Report by the Executive Director Education and the Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services. 50 – 54
12. **EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN** – Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services. 55 – 59

**Members are reminded that should they have queries on the detail of a report they should, where possible, contact the report authors in advance of the meeting to seek clarification.**

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10 September 2024

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### **BLENDING MEETING NOTICE**

This is a formal meeting of the Committee and the required standards of behaviour and discussion are the same as in a face to face meeting. Unless otherwise agreed, Standing Orders will apply to the proceedings and the terms of the Councillors' Code of Conduct will apply in the normal way

For those members who have joined the meeting remotely, if they need to leave the meeting for any reason, they should use the Meeting Chat to advise of this. If a member loses their connection during the meeting, they should make every effort to rejoin the meeting but, if this is not possible, the Committee Officer will note their absence for the remainder of the meeting. If a member must leave the meeting due to a declaration of interest, they should remain out of the meeting until invited back in by the Committee Officer.

If a member wishes to ask a question, speak on any item or move a motion or amendment, they should indicate this by raising their hand at the appropriate time and will then be invited to speak. Those joining remotely should use the "Raise hand" function in Teams.

All decisions taken during this meeting, will be done so by means of a Roll Call vote.

Where items are for noting or where there has been no dissent or contrary view expressed during any debate, either verbally or by the member indicating they wish to speak, the Convener will assume the matter has been agreed.

There will be a short break in proceedings after approximately 90 minutes.

Members joining remotely are reminded to have cameras switched on during meetings and mute microphones when not speaking. During any breaks or adjournments please switch cameras off.

**THE FIFE COUNCIL - EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – BLENDED MEETING**

**Committee Room 2 (FHM05.002), 5th Floor, Fife House, North Street, Glenrothes**

**7 May 2024**

**10.00 am – 12.55 pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors Kathleen Leslie (Convener), Lynn Ballantyne-Wardlaw, Aude Boubaker-Calder, Ian Cameron, Eugene Clarke, Altany Craik, Colin Davidson, Sean Dillon, Linda Erskine, Alycia Hayes, James Leslie, Ann Verner (substituting for Councillor Louise Kennedy-Dalby), Lynn Mowatt, Sarah Neal, Alistair Suttie, Daniel Wilson and Mary Caldwell, Religious Interest Representative.

**ATTENDING:** Maria Lloyd, Head of Education Services - Secondary Schools and Specialist Support, Angela Logue, Head of Education - Primary Schools and Improvement Support, Jennifer Wilson, Headteacher and Vicky Cromar, Principal Teacher, Supporting Learners Service; Karen Lees, Education Manager, Stuart Booker, Quality Improvement Officer, Andrew Booth, Depute Headteacher, Balwearie High School, Sarah Else, Education Manager, Gavin Waterston, Quality Improvement Officer (Health, Wellbeing and Child Protection), Education Services; and Diane Barnet, Committee Officer, Legal and Democratic Services.

**APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE:** Councillor Louise Kennedy-Dalby.

**85. CHANGE OF MEMBERSHIP**

The committee noted that Councillor Altany Craik had replaced Councillor Patrick Browne as a member of this committee and welcomed him to his first meeting.

**86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were submitted in terms of Standing Order No. 22.

**87. MINUTE**

The committee considered the minute of meeting of the Education Scrutiny Committee of 5 March 2024.

**Decision**

The committee agreed to approve the minute.

**88. REPORT ON SUPPORTING REFUGEE, ASYLUM SEEKING AND DISPLACED YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Education Services (Secondary Schools and Specialist Support) providing an update on the current support provided to refugee, asylum seeking and displaced children and young people with English as an Additional Language (EAL) in education, and the establishments, schools and provisions that they attended.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the information provided in the report; and
- (2) requested a further progress report in March 2025.

**89. DESTINATIONS OF SCHOOL LEAVERS**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Education Services (Secondary Schools and Specialist Support) providing an update on the destinations of leavers from Fife schools for session 2022/23.

The report also provided an overview of the range of strategies used to support the Service's key priority to improve the rates of positive and sustained destinations.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) scrutinised, reviewed and commented on the progress made over the last 12 months and the work of various groups in supporting this;
- (2) noted the next steps of this education area;
- (3) agreed to encourage ward members to engage with their secondary schools about their positive destinations and related work; and
- (4) delegated to officers to link with better performing, social, economically and geographically similar Scottish Local Authorities to enquire about what is working in their area which may be relevant for Fife and to arrange for committee members to visit any initiatives, as appropriate.

*The committee adjourned at 12.45 pm and reconvened at 1.00 pm.*

*Councillor Craik re-entered the meeting and Councillor Erskine left the meeting during consideration of the following item.*

**90. STRATEGIC EQUITY FUND – SESSION 2023/24 PROGRESS REPORT**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Education Services (Primary Schools and Improvement Support), providing an overview of the progress made in the delivery of the Strategic Equity Fund Plan 2023/24 to support the closing of the poverty-related attainment gap within Fife educational settings.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) scrutinised the progress made in the Strategic Equity Fund 2023/24 plan;
- (2) noted areas of success and progress, as well as the actions taken to ensure continued improvement;
- (3) delegated to officers to arrange a member workshop relating to home schooling; and
- (4) delegated to officers to engage with North Lanarkshire Council relating to their provision and development of virtual classrooms, arranging a visit for committee members, as appropriate.

**91. ATTENDANCE UPDATE REPORT APRIL 2024**

The committee considered a report by the Head of Education Services (Primary Schools and Improvement Support) providing an update on the progress of attendance of children and young people in schools across Fife as requested by this committee at its meeting of 22 August 2023.

The report included a comparison to the national attendance data provided by the Scottish Government in March 2024.

The report also outlined the ongoing work being carried out centrally and by all Fife schools to keep this as a focus in line with its key Priority 2 - 'Improving Attendance and Engagement' as detailed in the Education and Children's Services Directorate Improvement Plan 2023-26.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) scrutinised the attendance data and information provided in the report;
- (2) supported the ongoing work both centrally and by schools in improving attendance; and
- (3) acknowledged that a further progress report would be available for its consideration in March 2025 and not August/September 2024 as indicated in the report – said report to include information relating to the Fife Literary Review research currently being carried out and due to conclude by February 2025.

**92. EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PLAN**

The committee considered a report by the Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services supporting the committee's consideration of the workplan for future meetings of the committee.

**Decision**

The committee:-

- (1) noted the workplan and suggestions were invited from members of the committee for future areas of scrutiny; and
- (2) agreed that the following reports be added to the workplan for the meeting on 18 March 2025:
  - as outlined at Para. No. 88 (2) – ‘Supporting Refugee, Asylum Seeking and displaced young people with English as an Additional Language in Education’; and
  - as outlined at Para. No. 91 (3) – ‘Attendance Update’.

17 September 2024

Agenda Item No. 5

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## Education Directorate Improvement Plan update for 2024/25 and Annual Report 2023/24

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Report by: Angela Logue, Head of Service, Education

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Wards Affected: All

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to present – for scrutiny and comment – the Education Directorate Improvement Plan update for 2024/25, and the Directorate Annual Report 2023/24.

### Recommendation(s)

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The Education Scrutiny Committee is invited to scrutinise, review and comment on the Directorate Improvement Plan update for 2024/25 and the Directorate Annual Report 2023/24.

### Resource Implications

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The paper outlines the Directorate's approach to improvement to ensure that outcomes for children and young people in Fife improve as the Directorate works within its current budget.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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The Directorate Improvement Plan and Annual Report meet a range of statutory requirements for public reporting on school improvement.

### Impact Assessment

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The Directorate Improvement Plan provides an updated view of the improvement actions within the 2023-26 strategic plan approved by Cabinet Committee on 5 October 2023. An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as no change or revision to existing policy is proposed.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The Education Directorate is subject to a range of legislative requirements to prepare and publish strategic plans and reports. In particular, the Directorate is required to:
- Prepare and publish an **annual plan** setting out actions proposed for the coming school year to reduce educational inequality and to support delivery of the National Improvement Framework (under section 3F of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000);
  - Prepare and publish an **annual report** setting out actions that have been undertaken during the previous school year to reduce educational inequality and to support delivery of the National Improvement Framework (under section 3H of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000);
  - From time to time, publish a **Standards and Quality Report** reviewing the performance of schools within the local authority area (under section 7 of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000).
- 1.2 In order to meet the statutory requirements relating to planning, the Directorate develops – and updates annually – a three-year strategic improvement plan. This is aligned with development and delivery of a statutory, three-year plan for children's services partnership working (required under the terms of the Children and Young People Scotland Act 2014). This approach recognises the importance of wider partnership working for addressing some of the key challenges facing schools, including wellbeing, attendance and engagement.
- 1.3 In order to meet the requirements relating to annual reporting, the Directorate undertakes an annual review of improvement actions and school outcomes. This forms the basis for the Education Directorate Annual Report and informs the update of the Directorate Improvement Plan.

## 2.0 The Education Directorate Annual Report 2023/24

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- 2.1 The [Education Directorate Annual Report 2023/24](#) (appendix 1) provides an overview of the work undertaken in delivering the Directorate Improvement Plan during the year September 2023 to August 2024.
- 2.2 The report has been informed by a review of improvement activity undertaken during the school year 2023/24. It has been completed by officers and groups from the Education Directorate with a strategic lead role for each of the improvement priorities within the current Directorate Improvement Plan. The current improvement priorities are:
- Improving **health and wellbeing**;
  - Improving **attendance and engagement**;
  - Improving **achievement**;
  - Improving **positive destinations**.



Work across each of these priorities is supported by improvement activity relating to a cross-cutting theme of **equity and equality**.

- 2.3 For each improvement priority, the report includes:
- Key messages regarding the current outcomes and experiences of children and young people.
  - An account of progress in delivering the strategic actions in the Directorate Improvement Plan during 2023/24.
- 2.4 The report also outlines work that is currently being undertaken to strengthen our approach to improvement, in order to achieve a greater impact at a strategic and system level (see page 45 of the Annual Report).

### 3.0 The Education Directorate Improvement Plan update for 2024/25

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- 3.1 The Education Directorate Improvement Plan 2023-26 (appendix 2) has been [updated for the start of the 2024/25 school year](#), based on the review of progress and outcomes summarised within the Annual Report.
- 3.2 Action plans have been updated to reflect progress made in delivering the improvement actions for each priority.
- 3.3 As the Annual Report shows, there has been significant progress in re-establishing approaches and outcomes for the key skills of literacy and numeracy in the senior phase. Outcomes compare favourably against national standards and outcomes in similar areas of Scotland.
- 3.4 However, there remains a significant challenge with outcomes for wider attainment (in particular, the achievement of multiple awards at SCQF level 5 by the end of S4 and at SCQF level 6 by the end of S5). The scorecard measures for wider attainment have been revised to reflect the increased prominence that will now be given to this aspect of attainment, during the next phase of improvement work. They will now be:
- 3 or more awards at SCQF level 5 by the end of S4 **and** 1 SCQF level 6 award by the end of stage S5.
  - 5 National 5 passes by the end of stage S4 **and** 3 Higher passes by the end of stage S5.

These two sets of measures reflect alternative pathways through the senior phase into positive and sustained post-school destinations. They reflect a parity of esteem that is fundamental to the Fife approach.

### 4.0 Conclusions

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- 4.1 The Education Directorate Improvement Plan plays a key role in supporting improvement across Fife schools. The Annual Report provides an overview of progress made in delivering the current plan.

- 4.2 The Education Scrutiny Committee is invited to scrutinise, review and comment on the Directorate Improvement Plan update for 2024/25 and the Directorate Annual Report 2023/24.

## List of Appendices

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1. Education Directorate Annual Report 2023/24 (available at: [https://www.fife.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0033/618936/ED-Annual-Report-2023-24.pdf](https://www.fife.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0033/618936/ED-Annual-Report-2023-24.pdf) )
2. Education Directorate Improvement Plan updated for 2024/25 (available at: [https://www.fife.gov.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0032/618935/Ed-Directorate-IP-2024-update.pdf](https://www.fife.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0032/618935/Ed-Directorate-IP-2024-update.pdf) )

## Background Papers

The following paper was relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:

- [National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan 2024 \(Scottish Government, December 2023\)](#)
- [Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act 2000: Statutory Guidance \(Scottish Government, revised May 2024\)](#)

## Report Contacts

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## Swimming for Children & Young People

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**Report by:** Shelagh McLean, Head of Education Services

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**Wards Affected:** All

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### Purpose

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This report details the current position and future options for supporting swimming for children and young people across Fife, including school swimming lessons and consideration of Scottish Government funding, responding to a Motion agreed on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at a meeting of Fife Council

### Recommendation(s)

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Members are invited to:

- (1) examine the current swimming offer for children and young people in Fife;
- (2) review the national pilot approaches to school swimming lessons, including funding;
- (3) consider the detailed breakdown of school pupil numbers and associated costs for the provision of swimming lessons across a specific (one) year group over a period of one academic session and comparative costs for the same provision across three year groups over a shorter period of time. This breakdown includes:
  - time cost (impact on learning time)
  - centre availability/hire
  - funds available for swimming equipment
- (4) consider the next steps outlined in the report and provide feedback.

### Resource Implications

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The Education Service currently has no budget to provide swimming lessons for primary age children.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no direct legal/risk implications arising from the report.

### Impact Assessment

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An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary because this report does not propose introduction of a policy or a change to existing policy.

In March 2023, as part of the Young People's Health and Wellbeing Survey, the following questions were asked of those who participated (across P5-S6):

- Can you swim unaided (without floats or armbands)?
- Have you attended or are you attending swimming lessons?

From the respondents who chose to answer this question 86.5% said they could swim unaided, while 72.4% stated they had or are currently attending lessons. P5 had the lowest percentage attending lessons.

There were no differences between male and female responses, but data showed a difference (of over 10%) for areas of higher deprivation. Cluster areas with the lowest percentage of young people reporting they can swim unaided included Glenwood; Levenmouth; Lochgelly and Viewforth.

In June 2024, as part of a survey carried out by Active Schools, the following information was gathered:

<b>FIFE WIDE</b>	P4	P5	P6	P7
Total Pupils	4090	4315	4439	4654
Non swimmers	1630	1568	1514	1391
Percentage	39.8	36.3	34.1	28.8

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 In Scotland, there is no legislative requirement for provision of swimming within the school curriculum.
- 1.2 Scotland's curriculum – Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) – helps our children and young people gain the knowledge, skills and attributes needed for life in the 21st century. The purpose of the curriculum is encapsulated in the four capacities - to enable each child or young person to be a successful learner, a confident individual, a responsible citizen and an effective contributor. The curriculum aims to ensure that all children and young people in Scotland develop the knowledge, skills and attributes they will need if they are to flourish in life, learning and work, now and in the future, and to appreciate their place in the world
- 1.3 Overall there are eight curriculum areas within Curriculum for Excellence. Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Wellbeing are recognised as being particularly important. However, the remaining areas are Languages, Expressive Arts, Religious and Moral Education (RME), Sciences, Social Studies and Technologies.
- 1.4 Experiences and outcomes (often called Es&Os) are the set of clear and concise statements about children's learning and progression in each curriculum area. They are used to help plan learning and to assess progress. The experiences and outcomes are a

set of statements which describe the expectations for learning and progression for each of the eight curriculum areas.

1.5 The Health and Wellbeing experiences and outcomes include the following:

### **Physical education**

Physical education provides learners with a platform from which they can build physical competences, improve aspects of fitness, and develop personal and interpersonal skills and attributes. It enables learners to develop the concepts and skills necessary for participation in a wide range of physical activity, sport, dance and outdoor learning, and enhances their physical wellbeing in preparation for leading a fulfilling, active and healthy lifestyle.

They encounter a variety of practical learning experiences, including working on their own, with a partner and in small and large groups, and using small and large equipment and apparatus, both outdoors and indoors.

Learning in, through and about physical education is enhanced by participating on a regular basis in a wide range of purposeful, challenging, progressive and enjoyable physical activities with choice built in for all learners. The Scottish Government expects schools to continue to work towards the provision of at least two hours of good quality physical education for every child, every week.

1.6 At the Fife Council meeting of 16 March 2023, a motion for including swimming lessons as an integrated part of physical education courses in Primary Schools was considered.

1.7 Fife Council noted that:

- Swimming is a life (saving) skill for everybody;
- Schools in England have swimming integrated in their PE curriculum in primary schools;
- Pupils in some countries in Europe are required to be able to swim 25 metres by the end of primary school;
- Swimming is a complete sport which is known to be good for both for physical and mental health.

1.8 Fife Council also noted that curriculum of excellence includes ensuring that children and young people develop the knowledge and understanding, skills, capabilities and attributes which they need for mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in the future.

1.9 Fife Council called for a report on the current position and future options for supporting swimming for children and young people, including school swimming lessons and consideration of Scottish Government funding, to be submitted to the Education Scrutiny Committee for consideration and recommendations

1.10 At the Education Scrutiny Committee meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 members agreed, as an additional recommendation, to request a further report for its consideration at its meeting on 17 September, providing a detailed breakdown of school numbers and associated costs, including: time cost (impact on learning time); centre availability/hire; and funds available for swimming equipment – for the provision of swimming lessons for all across a specific (one) year group over a period of a year and comparative costs for the same provision across three year groups over a shorter period of time.

1.11 This analysis is detailed in the Background Report.

## 2.0 Current Swimming Provision for School Age Children in Fife

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### Introduction

- 2.1 The Education Directorate works in partnership with the Communities Directorate and Fife, Sport and Leisure Trust (FSLT) to support young people's access to swimming.
- 2.2 No universal, curricular, term time swimming offer is provided for primary aged children by the Education Directorate.
- 2.3 Community Swimming is provided in the following venues across Fife:

### FSLT

- 1. Michael Woods
- 2. Kirkcaldy
- 3. Carnegie
- 4. East Sands
- 5. Cowdenbeath
- 6. Cupar
- 7. Beacon
- 8. Bowhill
- 9. Leven

### Community Use Schools

- 10. Glenwood
- 11. Inverkeithing

### School Swimming – Targeted Provision

- 2.4 As there is no statutory, legislative requirement for provision of universal swimming, all current school swimming activities for primary age children are delivered through targeted interventions, informed by data and led by the Active Schools Team. Active Schools works with FSLT to identify pools with the capacity to deliver water confidence programmes (linked to their learn to swim programme) during holiday periods. Parent's/guardians have the opportunity to request swimming costumes, goggles, and floats, where equipment may be a barrier to swimming participation. More information was provided in the previous report - found [Education Scrutiny Committee \(5th March 2024\) | Fife Council](#) Pages 6-17
- 2.5 Young people attending two secondary schools have access to swimming through Physical Education, as part of a wider offering of activities used to deliver the Physical Education benchmarks. The types of activities offered in all schools are varied and used when appropriate.
- 2.6 A small number of schools utilise their PEF funding to access swimming provision during the school day, for their P6/7 classes, where they can access a pool and where there is swimming teacher availability. This also requires funding the cost of transport.

## **Learn to Swim**

- 2.7 FSLT is a national leader in engaging more young people to improve their aquatic skills. Since 2021, 8,200 learners have been maintained within the Learn to Swim programme at any one time.

## **Quid a Kid-Universal Holiday Provision**

- 2.8 Quid a Kid swimming has been available during previous school holiday periods, for juniors aged 17 and under, with young people paying £1 to swim in FSLT venues at the weekends.

## **Swimming Clubs**

- 2.9 From the Learn to Swim programme the progression pathway is established and implemented across all aquatic based clubs throughout Fife, so young people can transition and continue progressing.

## **Private Providers**

- 2.10 There is also the choice for some parents to encourage their child to learn to swim through a commercial provider

## **3.0 National Pilot –Learn to Swim**

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- 3.1 School swimming provision is not a statutory requirement in Scotland (unlike in England) and, as such, provision varies from one local authority area to another. While the benefits of being able to swim (and swimming as a physical activity) are well understood, not all local authorities in Scotland provide school swimming.
- 3.2 Scottish Swimming can support delivery partners at a local level to plan, organise, and prioritise how they are going to deliver school swimming through Water Safety and Basic Aquatic Skills. It is, however, important to recognise Scottish Swimming's acknowledgement that the recent and current challenging financial and operating environment in the public sector, may have implications for the future planning and delivery of school swimming in Scotland.
- 3.3 The School Swimming in Scotland (Phase 1) project was piloted in four local authorities between April and July 2023. These pilots took place in Dundee, East Lothian, North Lanarkshire and Scottish Borders and were to have a focus on closing the equalities in sport gap. The School Swimming pilots were part-funded by the Scottish Government, and the overall project was managed by sportscotland. Scottish Swimming supported implementation of the pilots at a local level. The previous report gave a more detailed insight into the findings but notably the report stated a one-size-fits-all approach may not be appropriate, and any school swimming provision needs to be tailored to an area's needs and circumstances.

## **National Primary School Swimming Framework**

- 3.4 The development of the National Primary School Swimming Framework in partnership with Scottish Water aims to support education authorities and schools to both fill in the gaps with School Swimming provision and enhance the existing School Swimming experience

- 3.5 The Framework, key principles and resources have been designed to be flexible and adaptable to meet the many different challenges and circumstances faced by local authorities and schools when delivering quality School Swimming provision across Scotland
- 3.6 The Framework has a clear focus on water safety and basic aquatic skills delivered through both water-based and classroom activities
- 3.7 The Framework has four levels: Stage 1, Stage 2, Stage 3 and Aquatics for Life. Each level of the School Swimming Framework has:
- An overall aim
  - Clearly defined objectives
  - Broadly defined swimming outcomes
  - Linked to Curriculum for Excellence Outcomes for Health and Wellbeing (HWB)
- 3.8 Scottish Swimming would recommend a minimum 7.5 hours of curriculum swimming delivery (for example, 10 x 45 minute sessions) complimented with classroom water safety education, as outlined by Water Safety Scotland.
- 3.9 Scottish Swimming believes the best age for School Swimming delivery is P4/5, as it's likely children have developed the physical literacy skills that can be transferred to the aquatic environment, and is before social stigma and other factors become a barrier to participation.
- 3.10 The framework outlines the approaches that could be taken to implement school swimming and these mirror the pilot approaches outlined previously within the report.
- 3.11 The Primary School Swimming Framework has a clear focus on water safety and should not be used as a replacement for the Community Learn to Swim Pathway. Following any block of School Swimming sessions, pupils should be signposted to the wider aquatics opportunities locally available to them, where they can continue their journey.

## 4.0 Key Considerations

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- 4.1 Fife has approximately 4000 pupils per primary stage (for example, current P5 = 4007 pupils) and Appendix A provides this breakdown in more detail. We know that within current survey methods an average of 35% at each stage are identified as non-swimmers. Fife partners continue to implement tools to ensure data is collected in the most appropriate way, to provide an accurate picture of non-swimmers within Primary Schools, to support a targeted approach to delivery of a swimming programme.
- 4.2 All children in Primary 4 and 5 could receive an 'assessment' of swimming ability, taking place during one academic school day of the year. This assessment approach could confirm non-swimmers, who could then receive a 10-week block of quality swimming provision as recommended by Scottish Swimming. The cost for all Primary 4 Children to attend one Swimming assessment session would be £32,194. This includes transport and assessment delivery costs, but does not include additional School Staffing and Administration Costs.
- 4.3 Water Safety Class lessons will be integrated into the Health and Wellbeing Curriculum both in Primary and at Secondary through PSE lessons. This will be done in partnership with Water Safety Scotland Resources and the Strategic Water Safety Group in Fife. These sessions would promote the importance of Water Safety and ensure consistent messaging across Fife.



- 4.4 Transport to pool venues would be by foot, bus or taxi. The minimum time out of schools that this would require, for schools to participate in one session per week, is 56 minutes (or 560 minutes for 10 weeks), and the maximum time a school would require is 118 minutes (or 1,180 minutes for 10 weeks).
- 4.5 The ratio for Swimming provision, as outlined by Scottish Swimming, is 1:12. Some venues can accommodate multiple lessons at the same time, but this has only been identified in 3 venues.
- 4.6 Clothing continues to be a barrier to participation and additional resource would need to be identified to enable young people to Swim.
- 4.7 Staffing – In some cases a whole class would be able to travel to a venue to participate, but in many cases small groups of young people would need to travel separately throughout the day, with multiple journeys, as identified within Appendix A. Teachers, in this case, would need to remain in class to deliver the curriculum to the remaining young people. Therefore, additional staffing would need to be resourced to transport the young people safely to and from the swimming venue.

School trip guidance would be implemented therefore for a class of 24 we would expect a ratio of at least 2 adults which would include a teacher and a PSA. In situations where classes are split due to pool ratios an additional 4 adults would need to be sought at a high cost.

- 4.8 The total cost for one year group (P4) to participate in 38 weeks of swimming is:

Delivery £186,998  
 Transport £1,070,080  
 Equipment Costs £10,000  
 Total without additional Staffing and Administration £1,267,078

- 4.9 The total cost for three year groups (P4-6) to participate in 10 weeks of swimming is:

Delivery £151,799  
 Transport £727,809  
 Equipment Costs £30,000  
 Total without additional Staffing and Administration £909,608

- 4.10 For FSLT to facilitate either option there would need to be additional resource over and above the costs provided in Appendix A to support the roll out of this programme. This would include:

Aquatic Manager - £49,881  
 Administration Costs - £29,033  
 Other Costs - £16,000

This does not include any additional pool hire costs which may be incurred.

## 5.0 Conclusion

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- 5.1 Since adopting data gathering processes, in Fife we have been able to determine the young people who identify as non-swimmers and who do not have access to the learn to swim provision.
- 5.2 By adopting a targeted approach, Fife can allocate resource to where there is greatest need. Currently within P4 we can identify 1630 as non-swimmers across 131 different Primaries and in P5 we have 1568 non-swimmers across 131 Primaries. This could be

confirmed through the assessment approach outlined. Spaces would then be provided for young people to access swimming provision in the most appropriate way.

- 5.3 From the data there are many schools where only one young person identifies as a non swimmer, the highest identified within one school is 41, therefore transport costs for curriculum provision remain high and additional staffing would be a major factor in facilitating this approach within curriculum time only.
- 5.4 Capacity within venues operated and those in partnership with FSLT would allow one or two Primary School Stages to participate within School Swimming during a school day for a 10 week programme only. Based on costs and time spent away from the classroom a targeted based approach would be more feasible, working with the young people to develop a nurturing programme and engaging young people at times most suitable including within the curriculum, extra curricular and holiday periods. A programme would also include an opportunity to engage older pupils in swimming qualifications. FSLT would be able to integrate all identified non swimmers into extra curricular provision within facilities, but this would influence other user time including club swimming.
- 5.5 The following outlines the delivery and equipment costs only to enable all non swimmers the opportunity to engage in a programme over a 10 week period. This approach does not include any transport costs.

Delivery/Equipment costs for 1630 P4 to engage in a 10 week programme £40,224

Delivery/Equipment costs for 1568 P5 to engage in a 10 week programme £38,930

Additional Administrative Costs £30,000

- 5.6 A combination of curricular, extra curricular and holiday period provision would be the most feasible solution to engaging non swimmers and can be done in a collaborative approach with partners across Education, Communities and FSLT. High costs for transport, the length of time spent away from school based learning and the need for additional staffing are evidenced within this paper suggesting that a targeted based approach would provide a more positive solution to addressing non swimmers.
- 5.7 Water Safety will be integrated into the H&WB curriculum for each P4 and P5 and again in at least 1 stage of Secondary, via PSE using the Scottish Swimming Framework, CPD and partnership work with FSLT.

## List of Appendices

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### Background Papers

Report from 5 March 2024 – [Education Scrutiny Committee \(5th March 2024\) | Fife Council](#)  
Pages 6-17

Breakdown of Costs/Time - [Swimming 2024 - Copy 1.xlsx](#)

Report Contacts:

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17 September 2024

Agenda Item No. 7

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## Childcare Services - Early Adopter Community Work

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**Report by:** Shelagh McLean, Head of Service, Education

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**Wards Affected:** All

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to update Elected Members on the work carried out within the Childcare Services Team as part of the Early Adopter Community work in the Levenmouth Area.

### Recommendation(s)

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The Education Scrutiny Committee is asked to

- (1) consider the information provided and the progress made to date
- (2) scrutinise the plans to expand the Early Adopter work to other communities in Fife

### Resource Implications

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There are no resource implications.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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None.

### Impact Assessment

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An EqIA is not required because the report does not propose a change or revision to existing policies and practices.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Fife Council currently provides over 50 school age childcare services across Fife. A full list, including a map, can be found at <https://osc.fife.scot/find-a-club>.
- 1.2 Since 2022, the Scottish Government has been working to redesign and build a system of School Age Childcare through four Early Adopter Communities, based in Clackmannanshire, Dundee, Glasgow and Inverclyde.
- 1.3 As part of the Programme for Government 2023-24, the Early Adopter Communities were expanded to include Fife and Shetland.
- 1.4 A breakdown of the funding awarded for 2024-26 is detailed in appendix 1.
- 1.5 In Fife this has required a focused attention on the Levenmouth Area, as it was identified as having the lowest employment rate (59.9%) and having the greatest lack of School Age Childcare.
- 1.6 Our initial funding bid and proposal focused on the recruitment of a dedicated Project Team to lead on the work. The remit was to understand the Levenmouth Community and what was required from a school age childcare offer to enable parents/carers to:
  - sustain their current employment, especially where childcare was a barrier
  - move into more sustainable work or take on additional hours with their current employer
  - enter the labour market for the first time
  - engage in a wide range of activities to support them into the labour market

## 2.0 Progress to date

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- 2.1 The Project Team has gathered key data/information from families, organisations and agencies working with families, to better understand their needs and what a functioning system of school age childcare would look like.
- 2.2 A mapping exercise of existing childcare provision and activities across Levenmouth was conducted in January and February 2024. This identified that there was only one registered Out of School Club operating in the Levenmouth Area. This is based in Kennoway and provided by Fife Council. Childminders were operating with minimal spaces available for school aged children. Activity providers could be seen as a useful source of childcare for some families; however, they were not considered reliable due to changing timetables each term, not offering enough hours to meet family's needs. Although they were low cost, families could not access any financial assistance to help pay for this type of provision. The closure of Poppyview Childcare Centre last summer has worsened the situation.
- 2.3 Following the mapping phase, the project team engaged with schools, internal teams within the Council, and a wide range of agencies that operate in the Levenmouth Area, including Home-Start, Fife Gingerbread, Fife International Forum, NHS Fife, BRAG Enterprises, PAMIS etc. These organisations have

shared the view of their clients and employees, as well as provided opportunities for the project team to attend group sessions to gather lived experiences.

- 2.4 A survey was also issued to all families in Levenmouth, through each of the primary schools, to gather data on current and future childcare usage, and any barriers that families have identified. See appendix 2. There were 456 responses which covered a split of 188 families with children not yet at school and 268 with only school aged children in the household. Of those parents and carers who responded, there were 106 instances of families unable to find appropriate childcare for children not yet at school, or school age childcare before school, after school or during school holidays.
- 2.5 From the survey and community engagement, families shared that they were relying on family and friends to ensure they could continue in employment, training for work or further education. Without this family support they do not feel they have many options.
- 2.6 From this engagement and survey work, families have also shared that they need affordable, reliable and flexible childcare before school, after school and during the school holidays. Their preference would be that this is within their child's own school or a neighbouring school.
- 2.7 The Scottish Government also has an ambition to grow Scotland's childminding workforce by 1,000 and provide more support to childminders. The Scottish Government has provided funding to the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) to scale up their successful childminder recruitment programme across Scotland, which includes a £750 start-up grant for newly registered childminders on completion of the programme. Through the Early Adopter Community funding, we have secured the revenue to pay for the induction of up to 18 childminders, as well as initial training. Although we are keen to highlight childminding as an option in the Levenmouth Area, the programme will accept childminders from across Fife.
- 2.8 To date there have been 40 enquiries, with 8 starting the registration process onto the programme, and 2 people having their site visit arranged with the Care Inspectorate. A full marketing programme will be taking place across Fife up until Christmas to ensure we can meet our target of 18 fully signed up and registered childminders by the end of March 2025.
- 2.9 We are currently evaluating our Protected Places and Playschemes that offer short-term funded places to school aged children. As part of this work, we have secured £10k for 2024-25 and £10k for 2025-26 to expand this work within the Levenmouth Area to target families who are entering the labour market for the first time, to provide some funded support to enable a smooth transition for the family.
- 2.10 Within the Levenmouth Area, Fife Council owns the building that was previously operated as Poppyview Childcare Centre which provided childcare for babies to school aged children. Since the charity has ceased to operate, we have been exploring, as part of this work, what is required to refurbish the building to the required standard to reestablish this as a childcare provision within the area. We had applied to the Scottish Government, through the Early Adopter Community work, for the capital investment to achieve this

however we were awarded £800k which falls short of the £2.4m estimated cost to fully renovate the building. As a result, we do not have the funds to develop this proposal further at this time.

- 2.11 Over the past four years, we have seen a decline in the delivery of school age childcare by private and voluntary sector organisations across Fife.
- 2.12 The ambition is to ensure there is a mixed economy of provision across Fife, and we are working with a number of groups and organisations to develop the delivery of school age childcare in the Levenmouth Area. We have again been awarded funding through the Early Adopter Community Project to provide financial assistance for temporary start up grants, as well as the recruitment of a Development Officer, to support others to establish these services. To date, the project team has engaged with Methilhill Community Children's Initiative, a group of parents through Buckhaven Parent Council who are interested in providing a holiday service, and early discussions are taking place with East Fife Community Football Club and Fife Voluntary Action.

## 3.0 Next Steps

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- 3.1 Following the research and engagement work conducted above, we are now moving into the delivery phase of the project.
- 3.2 The initial aim is to open within Mountfleurie Primary School, which would provide childcare before school, after school and during the school holidays for children who attend Mountfleurie Primary School and St Agatha's RC Primary School. Although discussions are at an early stage, we are hoping to have this open by the end of the year. The Early Adopter Community funding has enabled us to identify a Childcare Manager to oversee this service, as well as our current service at Kennoway Primary School. This post is temporary until March 2026, after which point we hope that the Out of School Club Service would run sustainably.
- 3.3 The Learning Estate Team is ready to engage in the refurbishment works of the old Poppyview Childcare Centre. We aim to begin this after the October holidays, with work to be completed by the end of March 2025. This would enable us to operate, as part of the first phase of the works, an Out of School Club that could provide childcare for all the neighbouring primary schools in the area. The Childcare Manager identified above, would also manage this service. Phase two would see the reopening of the pre-school facility as part of which we aim to target support to those families who are working or engaging with support services, to enter the labour market. The building is of a sufficient size that we anticipate being able to host Council services and external agencies to deliver programmes for families while their children are being cared for on site. This could include benefit maximisation sessions, boosting budgets workshops, cooking skills etc. The design of the refurbishment works will enable us to use the building as flexibly as possible. All of this is subject to capital funding from Scottish Government.
- 3.4 The start-up funding that has been secured will be essential in the next phase to financially support any new services in the community to operate within the first year, until they become sustainable. We can offer these organisations access to services within the Childcare Services Team to support them in the

creation of a sustainable delivery model, where this is appropriate. We see the Development Officer role being central to this offer.

- 3.5 As detailed above, we will soon be relaunching the Protected Places and Playschemes, with the new support scheme under one name of 'Play Places.' This scheme will enable us to manage referrals consistently, removing the need to apply to different schemes for referrers, to make sure we can quickly get support to families that need it most.
- 3.6 We have already engaged with Fife Council's Active Schools Team and colleagues from Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) with the view to developing a volunteering programme that targets secondary school young people, particularly those undertaking National 5 Childcare or Sports qualifications.
- 3.7 We also plan to use our learning from Levenmouth, to expand our research into other areas of Fife. We plan to move into the Cowdenbeath Area, as this work could link with the No Wrong Door Approach, which is being piloted in this area.

### **List of Appendices**

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- 1 Levenmouth Early Adopter Community Funding
- 2 Parents & Carers' School Age Childcare Requirements - Survey results

### **Report Contact:**

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# Appendix 1

## Levenmouth Early Adopter Community Funding

### Awarded by Scottish Government

REQUIREMENT	FIN YEAR 2024-2025		FIN YEAR 2025-2026	
	REVENUE	CAPITAL	REVENUE	CAPITAL
Project Team	136,312	-	136,312	-
Development Worker	51,444	-	51,444	-
Childcare Manager (Leven Services)	51,444	-	51,444	-
Resources (Leven Service)	5,000	-	-	-
Levenmouth Childcare Centre Refurbishment	-	*	-	-
MCCI	22,332	-	8,752	-
Possible Start Up (Buckhaven)	4,000	-	11,500	-
Start-Up Fund for Others	15,000	-	10,000	-
Protected Places	10,000	-	10,000	-
Childminder Recruitment	5,850	-	5,850	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£301,382</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£285,302</b>	<b>£0</b>

\* £800,000 capital funding against Levenmouth Childcare Centre Refurbishment for 2024/2025 pending approval.



## Appendix 2

# Levenmouth Childcare Project (Early Adopter Community) Parents & Carers' School Age Childcare Requirements

## Primary Schools & Nurseries - Survey

As part of the engagement process the Project Managers took the approach of issuing a survey to all the 12 primary schools in the Levenmouth area, including one special school, to assess the demand among all parents who opted to complete the survey. This served to highlight the breadth of the challenge in Levenmouth around childcare provision and also captured the 6 priority groups.

This was also issued to Fife Council nurseries and private partner nurseries to try to capture some views and potential requirements of parents and carers who will have children attending school in the near future.

The survey was open from 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 to 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

## General Statistics

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There was a total of 456 responses received, which covered a split of 188 families with children not yet at school and 268 with only school age children in the household.

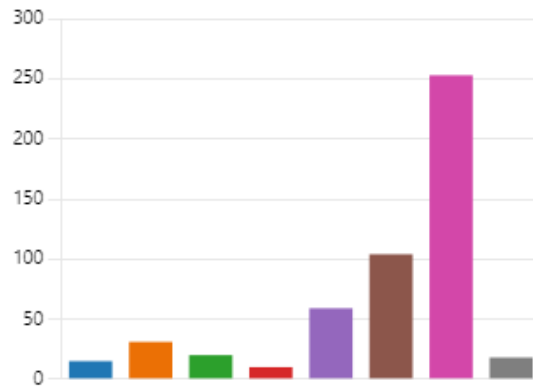
Of those parents and carers who responded, there were 106 instances of families unable to find any childcare for either children not yet at school, or school children before and after the school day.

## Family Groups

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Although this survey did not specifically aim to target the 6 priority groups, the Project Managers sought to determine the household groups of those families who responded. The breakdown was as shown below:

Minority ethnic family	15
More than 3 children in the home	31
A baby under 1	20
Mother is under 25 years of age	10
A disabled child or adult in the ...	59
Lone parent	104
None of the above	253
Prefer not to say	18



## Pre-School

The survey asked families whether they had any children not yet at school, and out of a total of 216 children not yet at school, 59% (127) of these were now at pre-school age of 3-5 years.

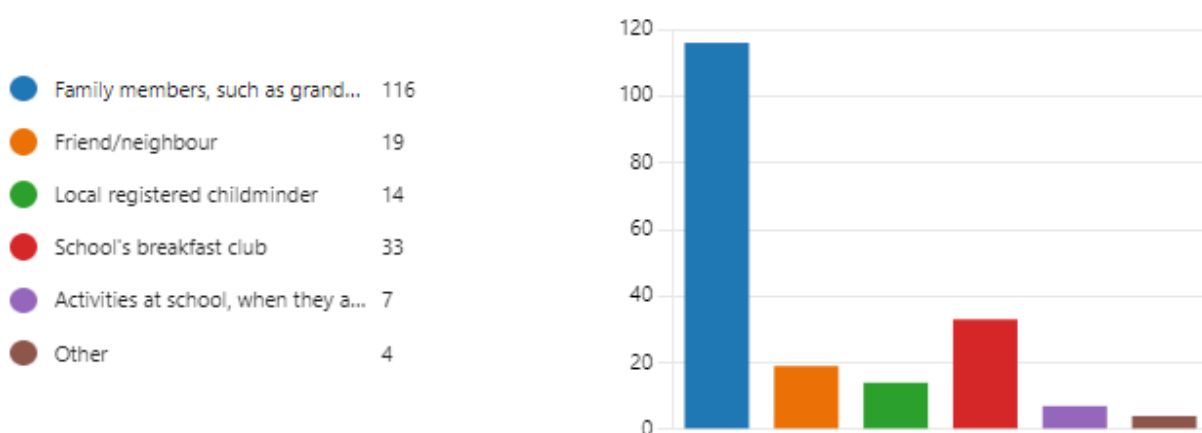
When asked a preference for their future childcare once their children were at school, the split was as shown:

Local registered childminder (if ...	43
A breakfast club	124
An after school club	146
Other	3



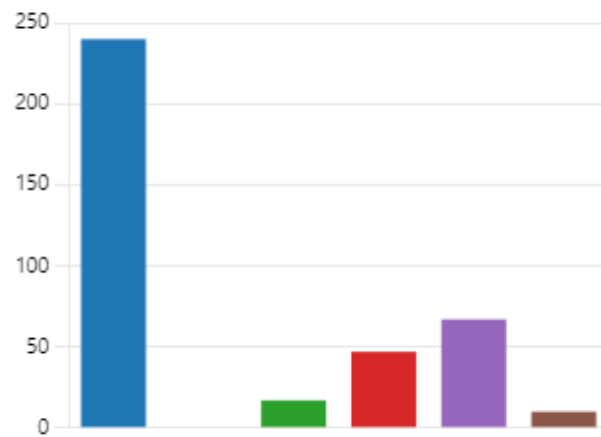
## Primary School - Morning:

198 primary age children across the respondents are currently using some form of formal or informal childcare in the morning. The mix is as shown:



When asked what childcare they would like to have available in the mornings, the response was as shown:

Breakfast club in school	240
Breakfast club in another location	0
Childminder	17
Anything that is available	47
Nothing different	67
Other	10



A high proportion of families selected a breakfast club in their school. Of those who selected other childcare, the responses indicated a supervised breakfast club, acknowledging that breakfast offerings currently are not formal childcare.

83 families said that they would need something earlier than 8am to get to work on time, and 265 families indicated that morning childcare would help them to work more or different hours, with 61 suggesting that it would maybe help them to work more or different hours.

Do you feel that having childcare before school could help you to work or to work more/different hours?

Yes	265
No	53
Maybe	61

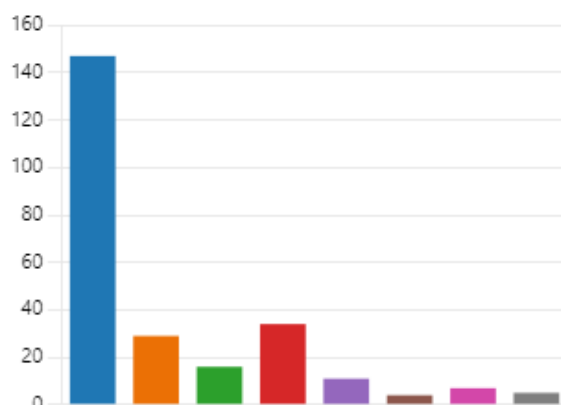


Of those parents and carers who chose to leave a comment as part of the survey, there were several references to morning childcare requirements.

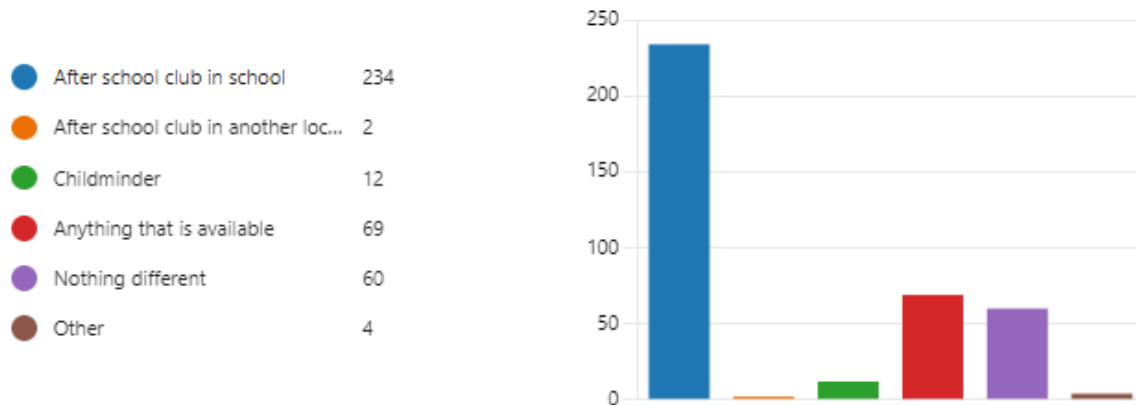
## Primary School - Afternoon:

230 primary age children across the respondents are currently using some form of formal or informal childcare in the afternoon. The mix is as shown:

Family members, such as grand...	147
Friend/neighbour	29
Local registered childminder	16
Activities at school, when they a...	34
Leven Baptist Church After Scho...	11
Kennoway Out of School Club	4
Methilhill Community Children's...	7
Other	5



When asked what childcare they would like to have available in the afternoons, the response was as shown:

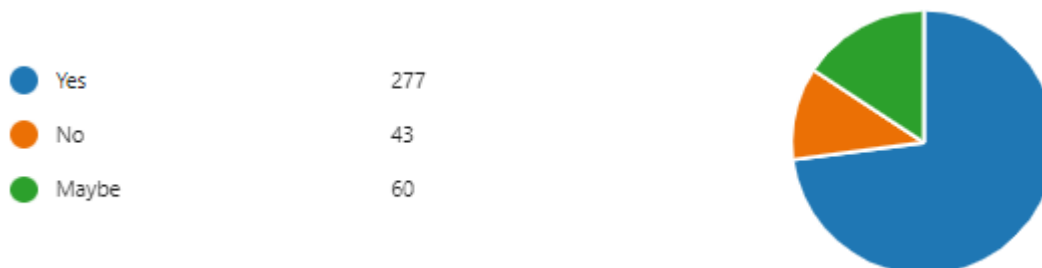


A high proportion of families selected an after school club within their school. Of those who selected other childcare, the responses indicated an offering suitable for children with autism, a sports club, an afterschool club with food and a good standard of care, or something with transport to transfer to another club as required.

106 families said that they would need something until 6pm to get back from work on time and 37 families said they would need something later than 6pm. 121 families said that something available up until 5pm could be sufficient.

277 families indicated that afternoon childcare would help them to work more or different hours, with 60 suggesting that it would maybe help them to work more or different hours.

Do you feel that having childcare after school could help you to work or to work more/different hours?



## Primary School - Holidays:

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232 families said that they would use a holiday club if it was available, with 92 families saying that they would maybe use a holiday club if it was available.

Of the families who said they would not use a holiday club if it was available, the most common reason was due to the cost. Some of the other comments suggested that it would be required to run from 9am until 5pm, and that they would possibly use it if it was interesting for the children.

243 families indicated that holiday childcare would help them to work more or different hours, with 72 suggesting that it would maybe help them to work more or different hours.

Do you feel that having school holiday childcare would help you to work or to work more/different hours?



Of those parents and carers who chose to leave a comment as part of the survey, there were several comments on the benefit of a holiday provision for children with Autism or ADHD specific needs, based on the need for routine and maintaining social interaction. Some families also suggested that they could use it if it was interesting for the child, and that it would have to be a full day provision.

## Other Key Points from the Survey:

### Impact

The Project Managers asked families what difference they felt having childcare could mean for them, and the response was as shown:



For those families that selected 'other', some of the reasons were:

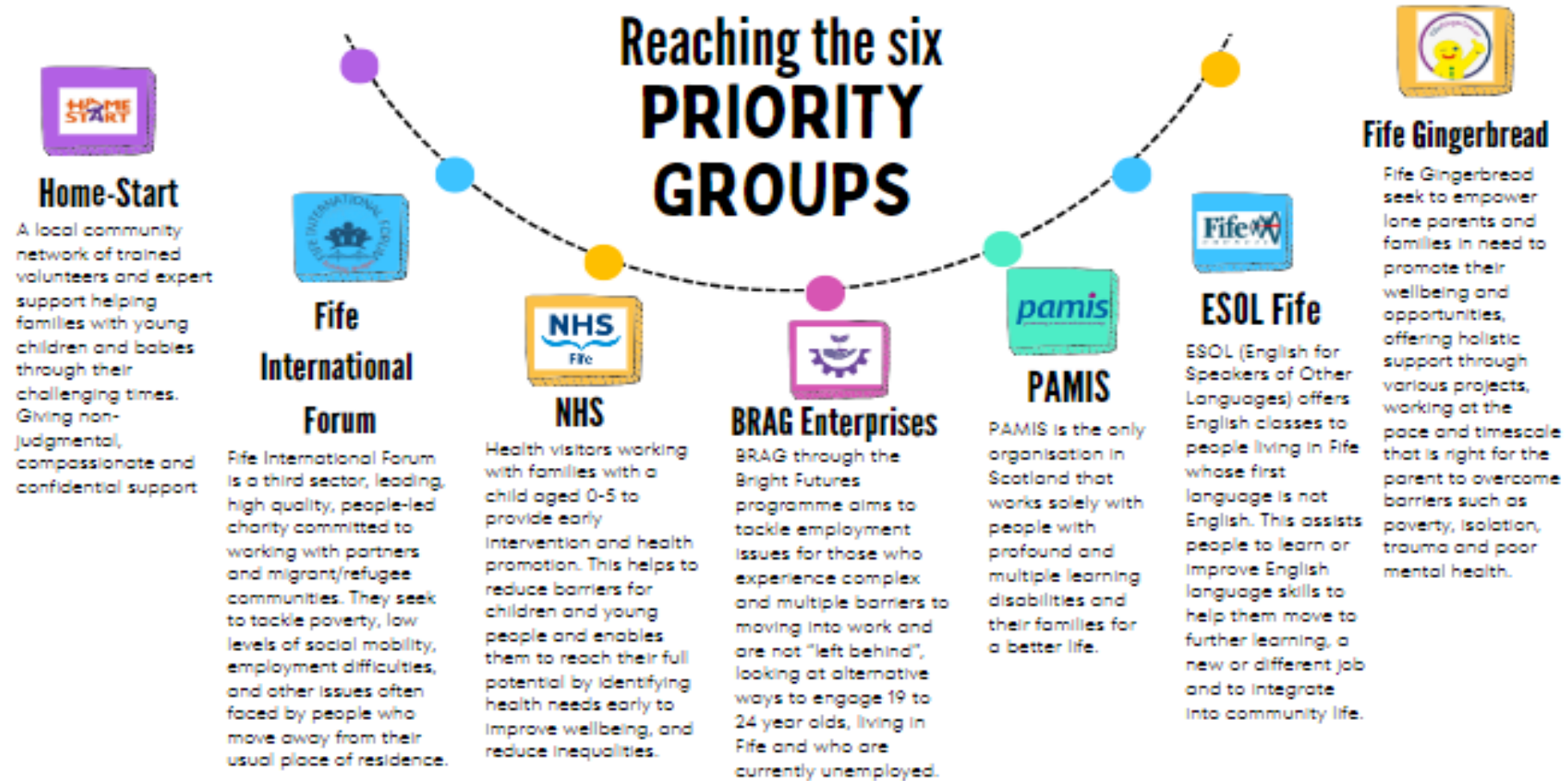
- To take the strain off grandparents or other family members
- To work current hours without relying on and worrying about additional support
- To improve the family balance for those who require to work shifts for childcare

## Family Feedback

Participants were given the opportunity to give any additional information that they wished, about their own situation or personal feelings. A wider analysis was carried out based on the comments. There were a limited number of comments around a perceived discrimination against working or lone parents and some talked about the costs of childcare particularly in the school holidays, however there were found to be consistent issues discussed and the impact on families due to the lack of childcare in the Levenmouth area, particularly around the limitation on working hours.

## Priority Groups

To reach the six priority groups, the Project Managers engaged with several agencies supporting families identifying with one or more of the child poverty groupings, including:



# Survey

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The following organisations collaborated with the Project Managers to issue surveys to the family groups that they support:

## Homestart

- Paper versions of the survey were issued via the Home-Start Hub at Letham Glen
- Opportunities were also provided by Home-Start to chat to families in both drop-in and closed group sessions

## ESOL Fife

- ESOL tutors supported families in Levenmouth to complete the survey
- The tutors advised that they were best placed to chat directly to families at this time due to potential language barriers

## Fife International Forum

- Fife International Forum confirmed that they did not have many families in the Levenmouth community in their system but issued the survey to those that they support currently

## Fife Gingerbread

- Fife Gingerbread issued the survey via their closed social medial channels
- Fife Gingerbread also issued an additional survey via social media to employers in the Levenmouth area on behalf of the Project Managers, to establish the impact of childcare issues on businesses in the area

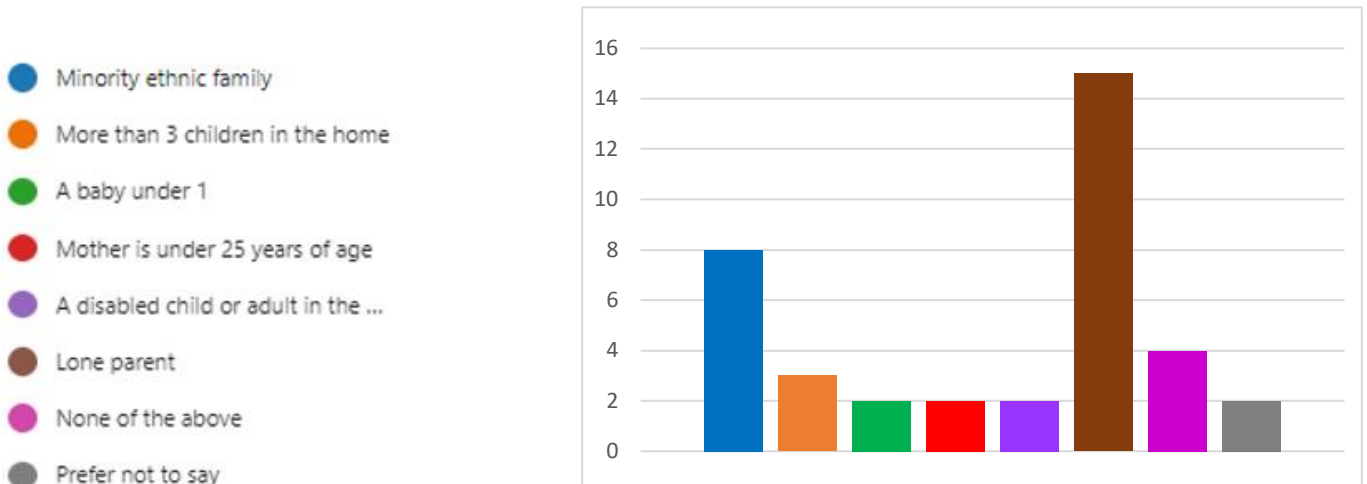
## NHS Fife

- Health visitors offered to issue a paper version of the survey to families in Levenmouth that they are currently supporting.
- The health visiting team confirmed that they are visiting around 80 families in the Levenmouth area with children starting school in August 2024, therefore any survey feedback may be provided at a later date.

## PAMIS

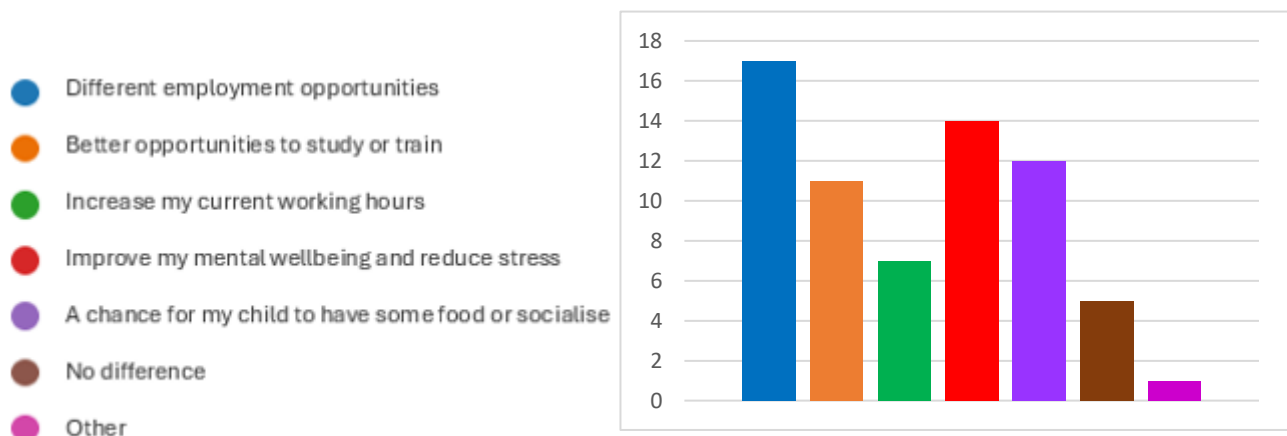
- Pamis confirmed that their engagement with families has reduced since covid and therefore felt that the survey may not be useful at this time, but of the families in Levenmouth that they currently support, the feedback provided was that that due to the complex needs of the child the parents choose not to work and childcare was not seen as a concern.
- Pamis offered to provide a wider report on childcare issues reported to their organisation by their families as a whole.

The breakdown of the families through the targeted surveys was as shown below:



- More than half of the parents in the groups who completed the survey were not working at the moment, and 1/6 of the parents said that they were unable to find childcare.
- 4 parents across the groups said that they would use a breakfast club, with 7 saying they would use any childcare that was available.
- 5 said they wanted something earlier than 8am
- 7 parents across the groups said that they would use an after-school club, with 7 also saying anything that was available.
- 2 said they would like something only until 5pm, 2 would like something until 6pm, and 2 would like something later than 6pm
- Most said that they would like something with flexible days and hours.
- 14 parents across the groups said that they would use a holiday club if it was available.
- 12 parents from the groups said that having childcare before or after school could help them to work more or different hours, with 5 saying maybe.

The overall impact and importance of childcare was demonstrated by the parents as follows:





17 September 2024

Agenda Item No 8

## Education Directorate

### Revenue Budget 2023-24 Provisional Outturn

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Report by:

**Donnie Macleod, Executive Director (Education)**

**Eileen Rowand, Executive Director Finance & Corporate Services**

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Wards Affected: All

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#### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to advise members of the provisional outturn for the 2023-24 Education Service Revenue Budget, for the areas in scope of the Education Scrutiny Committee.

#### Recommendation(s)

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Members are asked to note the provisional outturn position (subject to audit) for 2023-24, as detailed in this report, and the reasons for the main variances.

#### Resource Implications

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The Service is committed to managing service spend within the overall level of resource available.

#### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

#### Impact Assessment

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An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as no change or revision to existing policies and practices is proposed.

#### Consultation

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None

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the provisional outturn for the Education Service, for the 2023-24 Revenue Budget, and to highlight the major variances. Members should note that the outturn is provisional until the annual audit of accounts is complete.
- 1.2 The preparation of the 2023-24 Revenue Budget focussed on applying service underspends, budget realignment and vacancy factors to close the budget gap, and as such no specific savings proposals were approved by the Council as part of the Revenue Budget. There was therefore no requirement to include a Savings Tracker as part of financial reporting for the 2023-24 financial year.

## 2.0 Issues

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### **Provisional Outturn - Education Service**

- 2.1 The provisional outturn for the Education Service for the 2023-24 financial year is an overspend of £1.844m. A summary of the 2023-24 provisional outturn is detailed in Appendices 1-2. This shows expenditure against budget across the service headings within the Service. It should be noted that the balances are extracted from the ledger system and are shown as rounded thousands. This may mean that there are some rounding differences contained within the appendices, but these are immaterial values that do not impact on the overall financial position. The following paragraphs provide a brief explanation of the main areas where there are significant variances (+/-£0.250m) to budgets.

## 3.0 Major Variances

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### **DSM Budget :- provisional outturn - £ 1.472m underspend, movement £2.539m**

- 3.1 Under the DSM Scheme, schools' budgets are calculated and allocated with reference to a range of formulae based on appropriate data, for example school roll. A further exercise is undertaken annually to adjust schools' budgets following the start of the academic year in August to update for new roll numbers. The provisional outturn for schools' DSM budgets as at March 2024 against this budget is an underspend of £1.472m. The net underspend is due to an underspend in staffing of £2.123m, mainly related to vacant teaching posts offset by an overspend in premises costs of £0.563m and supplies and services of £0.596m as headteachers utilise some of their staffing underspends to enhance resources within schools.
- 3.2 In addition to the core DSM budget, schools' Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is included in devolved budgets. The PEF allocation from Scottish Government for 2023-24 to Fife schools is £10.456m. In addition to this unspent PEF at 31 March 2023 of £4.578m was carried forward, and therefore a total of £15.034m of PEF was available to schools. The underspend on schools' PEF budgets for 2023-24 was £2.663m.

3.3 The movement since the last monitoring report of £2.538m reflects the arrangement agreed between Councils and Scottish Government for the funding of the 2023-24 pay awards. The funding package included the redistribution of PEF underspends, whereby the Scottish Government adjusted the grant levels to reflect underspends and requested that Councils use those underspends to fund pay costs. The government have advised that the underspends will be returned to Councils in the final year of PEF funding. Therefore, the total funding will be received and there will be no detriment to schools. The effect is only in the phasing of PEF, however within Fife, the impact will be carried corporately, and schools will receive their PEF carry forwards into their 2024-25 budgets.

**Non-DSM/Childcare: - provisional outturn - £3.316m overspend, movement (£1.180m)**

3.4 The overspend mainly relates to maternity pay and long-term absence overspend of £4.241m. These costs are in relation to teachers but are borne by the non-devolved central Education budget and not the DSM. In addition to this element, also included within the non devolved employee projection is an additional £0.200m, which is the estimated cost of additional staffing within Levenmouth Academy to support the ongoing relationships and behaviour work within the school.

3.5 Also across schools increased property costs of £1.035m related to higher property maintenance costs, energy costs and waste collection charges. Within supplies and services an overspend of £0.842m related to additional maintenance and PPP costs, and also net underspends of £0.694m in relation to transport provision in the Primary and Secondary sectors.

3.6 Within Special Education an overspend of £1.454m is included in the projection. This is mainly in relation to overspends on transport provision costs for children of £1.182m due to demand and the impact of inflation, and the costs relating to the Education element of secure child placements of £0.853m. These are partly offset by an underspend on staffing and additional funding of £0.829m.

3.7 Offsetting the overspends described above is an underspend of £4.396m within General Education which relates to two elements. There is an underspend of £1.975m in relation to additional Scottish Government funding for staffing due to lead in times for the implementation of staffing changes for PSA's. Furthermore, the exercise to adjust schools' budgets for updated rolls has resulted in a net budget of £0.835m being removed from the DSM to the General Education budget. This is mainly because of a decrease of 19 classes in Primary due to the falling school roll. Additionally, there is an underspend of £2.788m due to additional funding from Scottish Government in respect of teachers and support staff. These underspends are partly offset by an overspend relating to outstanding revenue savings of £0.660m.

3.8 The movement of £1.179m since the last monitoring report is mainly due to is due to the movement in long term absence and maternity costs of £1.188m; additional employee costs for PSA's and single status staff in Primary of £0.524m; additional premises cost of £1.035m for property maintenance costs, waste collection charges and energy costs across all school sectors; increased costs for PPP schools of £0.376m; early years additional staffing and associated costs of £0.202m, and additional staffing costs within Special Education in relation to teachers and PSA's of £0.289m. Offsetting these are the additional budget in respect of additional teaching staff of £2.788m, as described above.

## 4.0 Conclusions

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- 4.1 The provisional outturn for the Education Service Revenue Budget for the 2023-24 financial year is an overspend of £1.844m.

### List of Appendices

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1. Education Directorate Revenue Monitor 2023-24 – Devolved (DSM) Budget
2. Education Directorate Revenue Monitor 2023-24 – Non Devolved Budget

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<b>BUDGET MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY</b>					<b>Appendix 1</b>	
<b>March 2024</b>						
<b>EDUCATION - DEVOLVED</b>						
	<b>CURRENT BUDGET 2023-24 £m</b>	<b>OUTTURN 2023-24 £m</b>	<b>VARIANCE £m</b>	<b>VARIANCE %</b>	<b>PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m</b>	<b>MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m</b>
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>246.433</b>	<b>244.961</b>	<b>(1.472)</b>	<b>-0.60%</b>	<b>(4.011)</b>	<b>2.539</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF SERVICE MANAGED BUDGET</b>						
PRIMARY EDUCATION	114.567	113.847	(0.720)	-0.63%	(2.796)	2.076
SECONDARY EDUCATION	123.912	123.108	(0.804)	-0.65%	(1.209)	0.405
NURSERY EDUCATION	3.127	3.164	0.037	1.19%	0.011	0.027
SPECIAL EDUCATION	4.796	4.807	0.012	0.25%	(0.017)	0.028
AREA GROUPS	0.031	0.034	0.003	9.06%	0.000	0.003
	<b>246.433</b>	<b>244.961</b>	<b>(1.472)</b>	<b>-0.60%</b>	<b>(4.011)</b>	<b>2.539</b>

	<b>CURRENT BUDGET 2023-24 £m</b>	<b>OUTTURN 2023-24 £m</b>	<b>VARIANCE £m</b>	<b>VARIANCE %</b>	<b>PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m</b>	<b>MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m</b>
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>246.433</b>	<b>244.961</b>	<b>(1.472)</b>	<b>-0.60%</b>	<b>(4.011)</b>	<b>2.539</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>(10.660)</b>	<b>(11.344)</b>	<b>(0.684)</b>	<b>6.42%</b>	<b>(0.367)</b>	<b>(0.317)</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
EMPLOYEE COSTS	246.519	244.396	(2.123)	-0.86%	(5.951)	3.829
PREMISES RELATED EXPENDITURE	0.058	0.621	0.563	972.64%	0.512	0.052
TRANSPORT RELATED EXPENDITURE	0.173	0.253	0.081	46.80%	0.090	(0.009)
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	8.399	8.995	0.596	7.09%	1.489	(0.894)
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	1.937	2.011	0.074	3.82%	0.201	(0.127)
TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
SUPPORT SERVICES CHARGES	0.007	0.028	0.021	294.54%	0.016	0.006
	<b>257.092</b>	<b>256.305</b>	<b>(0.788)</b>	<b>-0.31%</b>	<b>(3.644)</b>	<b>2.857</b>
	<b>246.433</b>	<b>244.961</b>	<b>(1.472)</b>	<b>-0.60%</b>	<b>(4.011)</b>	<b>2.539</b>

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY					Appendix 2	
March 2024						
EDUCATION - NON DEVOLVED						
	CURRENT BUDGET 2023-24 £m	OUTTURN 2023-24 £m	VARIANCE £m	VARIANCE %	PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m	MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>137.625</b>	<b>140.940</b>	<b>3.316</b>	<b>2.41%</b>	<b>2.136</b>	<b>1.180</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF SERVICE MANAGED BUDGET</b>						
PRIMARY EDUCATION	25.796	30.317	4.520	17.52%	2.102	2.419
SECONDARY EDUCATION	25.970	27.881	1.911	7.36%	1.104	0.807
NURSERY EDUCATION	26.234	26.215	(0.019)	-0.07%	(0.329)	0.310
SPECIAL EDUCATION	36.484	37.938	1.454	3.98%	1.164	0.289
AREA GROUPS	0.678	0.664	(0.014)	-2.05%	(0.007)	(0.007)
EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION	4.659	4.953	0.294	6.32%	0.217	0.077
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	0.079	0.079	0.001	1.07%	(0.000)	0.001
FIFE MUSIC SERVICE	2.816	2.717	(0.100)	-3.53%	(0.100)	0.000
SUPPORT SERVICES	3.035	2.948	(0.087)	-2.87%	(0.164)	0.077
GENERAL EDUCATION	9.237	4.842	(4.396)	-47.58%	(1.767)	(2.629)
CHILDCARE	2.636	2.386	(0.250)	-9.48%	(0.084)	(0.166)
	<b>137.625</b>	<b>140.940</b>	<b>3.316</b>	<b>2.41%</b>	<b>2.136</b>	<b>1.180</b>

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY					Appendix 2	
March 2024						
EDUCATION - NON DEVOLVED						
	CURRENT BUDGET 2022-23 £m	OUTTURN 2023-24 £m	VARIANCE £m	FORECAST VARIANCE %	PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m	MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>137.625</b>	<b>140.940</b>	<b>3.316</b>	<b>2.41%</b>	<b>2.136</b>	<b>1.180</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>(53.306)</b>	<b>(53.131)</b>	<b>0.175</b>	<b>-0.33%</b>	<b>0.865</b>	<b>(0.690)</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
EMPLOYEE COSTS	113.940	113.872	(0.068)	-0.06%	(0.295)	0.227
PREMISES RELATED EXPENDITURE	30.202	31.479	1.277	4.23%	0.192	1.085
TRANSPORT RELATED EXPENDITURE	16.119	17.118	0.999	6.20%	0.733	0.266
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	15.669	15.822	0.153	0.98%	(0.481)	0.635
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	14.856	15.492	0.637	4.29%	1.018	(0.381)
TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.145	0.128	(0.017)	-11.61%	0.018	(0.035)
SUPPORT SERVICES CHARGES	0.000	0.160	0.160	0.00%	0.087	0.073
	<b>190.931</b>	<b>194.071</b>	<b>3.140</b>	<b>1.64%</b>	<b>1.271</b>	<b>1.870</b>
	<b>137.625</b>	<b>140.940</b>	<b>3.316</b>	<b>2.41%</b>	<b>2.136</b>	<b>1.180</b>

17<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Agenda Item No 9

## Education Directorate

# Capital Investment Plan 2023-2024: Provisional Outturn Report

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Report by:

**Donnie Macleod, Executive Director (Education)**

**Eileen Rowand, Executive Director, Finance and Corporate Services**

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Wards Affected: All

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### Purpose

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This report provides members with information on the provisional outturn for the Education Directorate capital programme, for the financial year 2023-24, as well as providing information to members on the progress on our major projects.

### Recommendation(s)

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It is recommended that members note the financial position as detailed in this report.

### Resource Implications

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There are no direct resource implications. Provisional outturn for the Directorate for 2023-24 is £74.989m. The plan is showing advancement of £1.061m at the end of the financial year.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no legal implications arising from this report. Any potential over or under spend, or slippage or advancement, will be managed within the capital programme in 2023-2024 and the programme re-profiled over future years.

### Impact Assessment

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An EqIA has not been completed, and is not necessary, as no change or revision to existing policies is proposed.

### Consultation

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Not Applicable.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information on the provisional outturn of projects within the capital programme for 2023-24, as well as provide an update on projects under individual headings within the capital plan.
- 1.2 The provisional outturn is £74.989m, with advancement of £1.061m.
- 1.3 Appendix 1 provides the cost detail on major projects and programmes within the capital plan, where expenditure exceeds £1m.
- 1.4 Appendix 2 provides the provisional outturn for Education Service for the year 2023-2024.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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### Key Issues / Risks

- 2.1 Across the Capital Investment Plan the risk continues that both the timing and the costs of projects could be adversely affected by the current economic climate. Throughout the programme, issues are continuing to be identified in relation to the supply of construction materials, the consequences of which have been considered and reflected in the Capital Investment Plan review which was approved by Fife Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023. Monitoring of the impact of any additional costs on projects still in their infancy will continue and any significant impact on timescales and associated risks will be reported to this committee. Where appropriate, any known impact on timing of delivery of projects has been built into the re-phased plan and the overall scale of any additional costs or further delays will be considered as part of future reviews of the Capital Investment Plan.

### Major Projects

- 2.2 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the provisional outturn for the major projects and programmes within the Education Directorate Capital Plan. Within this Dunfermline Learning Campus is projecting a pressure of £1.624m on the project, which is due to an unsuccessful bid for external funding. Work is ongoing to mitigate the pressure where possible through other efficiencies in the project, and seeking other income streams, however any residual pressure will require to be accommodated within the overall Education Capital Plan. The schools have now been handed over to the Council and Woodmill and St Columba's RC High Schools opened to pupils on 21 August. The provisional outturn for the project details an achieved spend of £58.852m for the 2023-24 financial year as the project moved to conclusion.
- 2.3 Also included within the major projects is the replacement of Inverkeithing High School. The spend in 2023-24 on this project was £3.986m, and is included in the Secondary School Development project in Appendix 2 alongside the DLC as detailed above.
- 2.4 Other significant projects and programmes of work detailed within Appendix 2 include the project at Lochgelly South Primary School for ground consolidation works and improvements, which is included within the Education Rolling Programme. This project has spent £4.009m this financial year across both the main project at Lochgelly South Primary School and the associated project at St Kenneth's Primary School, including the provision of accommodation for the decant of pupils from Lochgelly South.



## Potential Risks and Actions – Key Projects

- 2.5 The Council's approved Capital Plan includes £213m investment in respect of Secondary Schools in West Fife, which includes the Dunfermline Learning Campus (DLC) and the Inverkeithing High School replacement. The budgets for the projects reflect the funding arrangements of the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP), which requires the Council to fund the up-front cost of construction, with Government support coming in the form of a revenue contribution based on the achievement of outcomes. The council has approval through LEIP Phase 2 funding for the replacement of Inverkeithing HS which is due to open in August 2026. Both of these projects will require the funding conditions around the maintenance and condition of the schools to be met in order to ensure financial support is secured for the 25 year period.
- 2.6 Scottish Government advised their decision in terms of the LEIP Phase 3 bid (Glenrothes secondary schools) on 30 October 2023, which was that the project had been unsuccessful in securing funding. The requirement to consider alternative options in relation to the Glenrothes secondary schools, alongside the needs of the wider school estate, will be brought forward for consideration as part of the next Capital Plan Review.
- 2.7 Within Early Learning and Childcare (ELC), there was one project due to be completed as at 31 March 2024 which is Raith Lodge, and contingency arrangements were in place until these facilities were completed and operational.
- 2.8 Scottish Government have indicated their revised policy intention to expand the provision of Free School Meals to Primary pupils (currently up to and including P5) by the end of this Scottish Parliamentary term. This will focus further expansion to children in Primaries 6 and 7, whose families are in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment. Work has already been undertaken to estimate the costs associated with expanding provision in terms of the works required to school kitchens and dining rooms, and this will require to be prioritised to provide additional capacity. Scottish Government have provided £3.963m of funding to date, and £1.175m of this has been spent in the 2023-24 financial year, with £0.829m in Education in respect of dining facilities, with the remainder being spent on kitchen equipment.

## Financial Performance – 2023-2024

- 2.9 Appendix 2 details the provisional outturn for 2023-2024 against the main projects and Investment Themes.
- 2.10 Within Secondary School Development in Appendix 2, the variance of £4.307m is a result of advancement of £4.821m under Dunfermline Learning Campus project, where good progress was made to prepare for the opening of the schools in August 2024, offset by slippage of (£0.514m) on Inverkeithing HS replacement project, as the scope of this project and the planning process moved forward.
- 2.11 There is slippage of (£0.611m) against the Early Learning and Childcare programme mainly due to delays in starting Raith Lodge project on-site, however work is ongoing and due to be completed in August 2024.
- 2.12 There is slippage of (£0.300m) under Building Fife's Future relating to Viewforth High School extension project which is due to ongoing discussions around the

scope and design of the project. Regular meetings are being held across directorates to scope out service requirement.

- 2.13 There is slippage of (£2.225m) under Education Rolling Programme as works are required to be reprogrammed due to various reasons. The slippage of (£0.856m) across the Lochgelly South Primary School regrouting works project was a result of the budget being profiled slightly higher this financial year during the re-phasing exercise in June 2023 to reflect the pace of work. Despite the slippage, work is ongoing and on time to be completed by August 2024. In addition, slippage of (£0.622m) has arisen for projects that had originally been planned under Education Rolling Programme but have been funded from Free School Meals Expansion capital funding, as this more accurately reflects the nature of the works. Slippage of (£0.200m) from Freuchie Primary School refurbishment have arisen from delays in finalising the scope of project. Enabling works are due to start in July 2024. The remaining slippage relating to Education Rolling Programme is around projects that had been planned for this financial year but are not starting until financial year 2024-25 due to resources being prioritised in other areas.

## 3.0 Conclusions

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- 3.1 The provisional outturn position for the capital programme for Education Service Directorate is £74.989m. There is advancement of £1.061m at the end of the financial year.
- 3.2 The management of capital resources require us to look across financial years, as well as within individual years. The current year performance is only a snapshot of the existing plan and the Directorate will adjust expenditure levels within future years of the plan to accommodate the advancement of projects.

### List of Appendices

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1. Project Cost Monitor
2. Capital Plan 2023-2024 Provisional Outturn Expenditure

### Background Papers

Not applicable

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FIFE COUNCIL  
EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
EDUCATION AND CHILDRENS SERVICES  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2023-33  
TOTAL COST MONITOR - MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS

Appendix 1

Project	Theme	Original Approved Budget £m	Current Project Budget £m	Total Outturn £m	Variance £m	Variance %	Current Project Status	Expected Project Completion Date
Madras College Extension	Opportunities for All		5.713	5.713	-	0.00%	Future Project	2026-27
Dunfermline Learning Campus	Opportunities for All		120.678	122.302	1.624	1.35%	Current Project	2024-25
Extension Secondary School - Viewforth	Opportunities for All	5.989	6.335	6.335	-	0.00%	Future Project	2030-31
New Secondary School - Glenrothes /Glenwood	Opportunities for All	27.532	86.831	86.831	-	0.00%	Future Project	2029-30
Queen Anne High School Extension	Opportunities for All		6.626	6.626	-	0.00%	Future Project	2030-31
Inverkeithing High School Replacement	Opportunities for All		85.000	85.000	-	0.00%	Future Project	2026-27
Lochgelly Primary School	Opportunities for All	9.000	8.984	8.984	-	0.00%	Current Project	2024-25
Primary School Development Future Projects	Opportunities for All		97.638	97.638	-	0.00%	Future Project	2032-33
Balwearie High School	Maintaining Our Assets	8.300	8.300	8.300	-	0.00%	Future Project	2026-27
<b>Total Major Projects over £5.000m</b>		<b>50.821</b>	<b>426.104</b>	<b>427.728</b>	<b>1.624</b>	<b>0.38%</b>		
Extension Secondary School - Auchmuty	Opportunities for All	9.62	3.734	3.734	-	0.00%	Future Project	2027-28
New Methilhaven Nursery	Opportunities for All		1.497	1.497	-	0.00%	Completed Project	2023-24
Extension to Freuchie PS	Opportunities for All	2.000	2.000	2.000	-	0.00%	Future Project	2025-26
Primary School Development Future Projects	Opportunities for All		6.282	6.282	-	0.00%	Future Project	2031-32
<b>Total Major Projects over £1.000m</b>		<b>11.620</b>	<b>13.513</b>	<b>13.513</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<b>Total Major Projects</b>		<b>62.441</b>	<b>439.617</b>	<b>441.241</b>	<b>1.624</b>	<b>0.37%</b>		

Expenditure	Current Budget £m	Actual to Date £m	Total Outturn £m	Variance £m	Outturn as % of Plan
Building Fife's Future	0.317	0.017	0.017	(0.300)	5%
Early Learning and Childcare	1.695	1.084	1.084	(0.611)	64%
Primary School Development	0.032	0.026	0.026	(0.006)	82%
Secondary School Development	58.532	62.838	62.838	4.307	107%
Education Rolling Programme	11.663	9.438	9.438	(2.225)	81%
Nursery Refurbishment	0.625	0.597	0.597	(0.028)	95%
Free School Meals Expansion	0.854	0.829	0.829	(0.025)	97%
Primary School Structural Pressures	0.050	-	-	(0.050)	0%
Childcare	0.161	0.161	0.161	-	100%
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>73.928</b>	<b>74.989</b>	<b>74.989</b>	<b>1.061</b>	<b>101%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>73.928</b>	<b>74.989</b>	<b>74.989</b>	<b>1.061</b>	<b>101%</b>

Income	Current Budget £m	Actual to Date £m	Total Outturn £m	Variance £m	Outturn as % of Plan
Building Fife's Future	(0.169)	-	-	0.169	0%
Primary School Development	(0.325)	(0.375)	(0.375)	(0.050)	116%
Secondary School Development	(0.032)	(0.032)	(0.032)	-	100%
Education Rolling Programme	(0.025)	(0.025)	(0.025)	-	100%
Childcare	(0.161)	(0.161)	(0.161)	-	100%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>(0.712)</b>	<b>(0.593)</b>	<b>(0.593)</b>	<b>0.119</b>	<b>83%</b>

17 September 2024

Agenda Item No. 10

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## 2024/25 Revenue Monitoring Projected Outturn – Education Directorate

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Report by: Donnie Macleod, Executive Director (Education)

Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services)

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Wards Affected: All

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### Purpose

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The purpose of this report is to give members an update on the projected outturn financial position for the 2024-25 financial year for the Education Directorate as at 30 June 2024.

### Recommendations

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Committee is asked to consider the current financial performance and activity as detailed in this report.

### Resource Implications

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None.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

### Impact Assessment

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An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as no change or revision to existing policies and practices is proposed.

### Consultation

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None.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the projected outturn for the Education Directorate, for the 2024-25 Revenue Budget, and to highlight the major variances as at 30 June 2024.
- 1.2 For 2024-25 no specific savings proposals were approved by the Council as part of the Revenue Budget. There is therefore no requirement to include a Savings Tracker

as part of financial reporting for the 2024-25 financial year.

## 2.0 Projected Outturn

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### Projected Outturn

- 2.1 There is a projected overspend of £0.977m for the Education Directorate. A summary of the 2024-25 projected out-turn for the areas falling under the scope of this committee are detailed in Appendix 1 and 2. Where there are significant variances (+/-£0.250m) to budgets a brief explanation is provided at Section 3.

## 3.0 Major Variances

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### Devolved School Management :- projected outturn £3.472m underspend

- 3.1 Under the DSM Scheme, schools' budgets are calculated and allocated with reference to a range of formulae based on appropriate data, for example school roll. At this stage in the financial year the projection for the DSM normally reflects the carry forward of underspend from the previous year as school budgets have still to be adjusted to reflect class numbers and staffing for the new session from August. The figure reported above therefore, includes the DSM carry forward across schools from 2023-24 of £1.472m.
- 3.2 In addition to the core DSM budget, schools' Pupil Equity Funding (PEF) is included in devolved budgets. This also includes any unspent PEF at 31 March 2024 which was carried forward, and for 2024-25 the amount of carry forward was £2.663m. The underspend reflects the fact that schools manage their PEF allocations over academic sessions, and therefore some of the funding requires to be carried forward to meet the commitments in their PEF plans. Schools' PEF allocations for 2024-25 are still subject to final confirmation by Scottish Government, but the indicative allocations provided by them, which total £10.456m, have been added to schools' budgets. The projected underspend of £2.000m is included as an estimate of unspent PEF at the end of the 2024-25 financial year, based on trends of past spend. Updated projections will be provided by schools in future monitoring reports.

### Non-DSM/Childcare: - projected outturn - £4.449m overspend

- 3.3 The projected overspend mainly relates to maternity pay and long-term absence, and overspends of £2.789m and £0.188m are included within the projection. These costs are in relation to teachers but are borne by the non-devolved central Education budget and not the DSM. A continued focus on addressing the overspend on this budget will be maintained, with the service implementing additional processes to increase the scrutiny of costs being charged to this area by schools.
- 3.4 Within Nursery Education a projected overspend of £0.598m is included due to additional staffing costs for nurseries to meet Care Commission requirements, and the cost of absence and cover arrangements for long term absence and maternity leave.
- 3.5 A projected overspend of £2.353m is also included for Special Education. This is mainly in relation to additional staffing costs of £0.455m, overspends on transport costs for children of £1.350m, and costs relating to the Education element of secure

child placements of £0.548m, for which costs are shared with Children and Families Service.

- 3.6 Partially offsetting these overspends is a projected underspend of (£1.680m) within General Education mainly due to budget setting within schools. These budgets will be adjusted when school budgets are amended for the new session from August. Adjustments for the new teaching complement, including probationers, will be actioned and budgets updated as required per school rolls. The impact of this will be reported as part of the October 2024 financial monitor and will be submitted to a future Scrutiny committee. Partially offsetting the underspend within General Education is unachieved savings of £0.660m, which are mainly in relation to historic income generation targets.

## 4.0 Conclusion

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- 4.1 The projected outturn position for the Education Directorate reporting to this Scrutiny committee is an overspend of £0.977m. The Directorate will seek to reduce spend wherever possible to reduce the level of overspend across services, and Heads of Service have reiterated the need to ensure that essential spend only is incurred.

### List of Appendices

- 1 Projected Outturn 2024-25 : Devolved School Management
- 2 Projected Outturn 2024-25 : Non- Devolved Education

### Report Contact

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<b>BUDGET MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY</b>					<b>Appendix 1</b>	
<b>JUNE 2024</b>						
<b>EDUCATION - DEVOLVED</b>						
	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>FORECAST</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>PREVIOUS</b>	<b>MOVEMENT FROM</b>
	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>	<b>PREVIOUS</b>
	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>TOTAL COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>247.499</b>	<b>244.028</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.40%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>
<b>LESS: CORPORATELY MANAGED ITEMS</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.006</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>247.493</b>	<b>244.022</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.40%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF SERVICE MANAGED BUDGET</b>						
PRIMARY EDUCATION	114.038	111.692	(2.346)	-2.06%	0.000	(2.346)
SECONDARY EDUCATION	125.065	123.960	(1.105)	-0.88%	0.000	(1.105)
NURSERY EDUCATION	3.016	3.053	0.037	1.23%	0.000	0.037
SPECIAL EDUCATION	5.361	5.303	(0.058)	-1.08%	0.000	(0.058)
AREA GROUPS	0.014	0.014	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
	<b>247.493</b>	<b>244.022</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.40%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>

	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>FORECAST</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>PREVIOUS</b>	<b>MOVEMENT FROM</b>
<b>SUBJECTIVE GROUPING</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>	<b>PREVIOUS</b>
	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>REPORTED</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>247.493</b>	<b>244.022</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.40%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>(10.466)</b>	<b>(10.466)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
EMPLOYEE COSTS	251.970	249.970	(2.000)	-0.79%	0.000	(2.000)
PREMISES RELATED EXPENDITURE	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
TRANSPORT RELATED EXPENDITURE	0.102	0.102	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	4.180	2.708	(1.472)	-35.21%	0.000	(1.472)
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	1.707	1.707	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
SUPPORT SERVICES CHARGES	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
	<b>257.959</b>	<b>254.488</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.35%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>
	<b>247.493</b>	<b>244.022</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>	<b>-1.40%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.472)</b>



BUDGET MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY JUNE 2024 EDUCATION - NON DEVOLVED					Appendix 2	
	CURRENT BUDGET 2024-25 £m	FORECAST 2024-25 £m	VARIANCE £m	VARIANCE %	PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m	MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m
<b>TOTAL COST OF SERVICES</b>	<b>221.397</b>	<b>225.846</b>	<b>4.449</b>	<b>2.01%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.449</b>
<b>LESS: CORPORATELY MANAGED ITEMS</b>	<b>43.930</b>	<b>43.930</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>177.467</b>	<b>181.916</b>	<b>4.449</b>	<b>2.51%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.449</b>
<b>ANALYSIS OF SERVICE MANAGED BUDGET</b>						
PRIMARY EDUCATION	27.959	30.096	2.137	7.64%	0.000	2.137
SECONDARY EDUCATION	28.353	29.303	0.951	3.35%	0.000	0.951
NURSERY EDUCATION	62.941	63.538	0.598	0.95%	0.000	0.598
SPECIAL EDUCATION	36.558	38.912	2.353	6.44%	0.000	2.353
AREA GROUPS	0.586	0.586	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION	4.905	4.995	0.090	1.84%	0.000	0.090
STAFF DEVELOPMENT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
FIFE MUSIC SERVICE	2.804	2.804	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
SUPPORT SERVICES	3.485	3.485	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
GENERAL EDUCATION	7.330	5.650	(1.680)	-22.92%	0.000	(1.680)
CHILDCARE	2.546	2.546	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
	<b>177.467</b>	<b>181.916</b>	<b>4.449</b>	<b>2.51%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.449</b>

SUBJECTIVE GROUPING	CURRENT BUDGET 2022-23 £m	FORECAST 2024-25 £m	VARIANCE £m	FORECAST VARIANCE %	PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m	MOVEMENT FROM PREVIOUS REPORTED VARIANCE £m
<b>SERVICE MANAGED NET BUDGET</b>	<b>177.467</b>	<b>181.916</b>	<b>4.449</b>	<b>2.51%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.449</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>(11.251)</b>	<b>(10.583)</b>	<b>0.668</b>	<b>-5.94%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.668</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>						
EMPLOYEE COSTS	106.665	108.394	1.728	1.62%	0.000	1.728
PREMISES RELATED EXPENDITURE	32.988	32.988	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
TRANSPORT RELATED EXPENDITURE	16.544	17.866	1.322	7.99%	0.000	1.322
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	16.635	16.818	0.183	1.10%	0.000	0.183
THIRD PARTY PAYMENTS	15.868	16.416	0.548	3.45%	0.000	0.548
TRANSFER PAYMENTS	0.018	0.018	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
SUPPORT SERVICES CHARGES	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.00%	0.000	0.000
	<b>188.718</b>	<b>192.499</b>	<b>3.781</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>3.781</b>
	<b>177.467</b>	<b>181.916</b>	<b>4.449</b>	<b>2.51%</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.449</b>

17 September 2024

Agenda Item No 11

## 2024-25 Capital Monitoring Progress Report – Education Directorate

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Report by:

**Donnie Macleod, Executive Director (Education)**

**Eileen Rowand, Executive Director (Finance & Corporate Services)**

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Wards Affected: All

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### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Capital Investment Plan and advise on the projected financial position for the 2024-25 financial year for the Education Directorate.

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### Recommendation(s)

Committee is asked to consider the current financial performance and activity as detailed in this report.

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### Resource Implications

None.

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### Legal & Risk Implications

None

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### Impact Assessment

An EqIA has not been completed and is not necessary as no change or revision to existing policies and practices is proposed.

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### Consultation

None.

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## 1.0 Background

- 1.1 The report summarises the projected capital outturn for the areas falling under the scope of this Committee for 2024-25. Projected expenditure is £50.103m, which represents 100% of the approved capital programme for 2024-25 and nil variance.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 shows an analysis of specific projects in the current capital investment plan which have a budget greater than £1.000m and analyses total project cost rather than only in year spend.

- 1.3 Appendix 2 details the projected expenditure against budget for each theme, along with associated income.
- 1.4 Slippage describes projects that are expected to spend less than the budget allocation in a particular year due to a delay in timing on the delivery of the project. This is not uncommon in the capital programme, and the reasons for this can be wide and varied. Advancement describes projects that are expected to spend more than the budget allocation in a particular year due to an acceleration of the budget from future years. Specific issues within projects arising from these factors are highlighted within these reports.

## 2.0 Issues and Options

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### Major Projects – Potential Risks and Actions

- 2.1 The Council's approved Capital Plan includes £213m investment in respect of Secondary Schools in West Fife, which includes the Dunfermline Learning Campus (DLC) and the Inverkeithing High School replacement. The budgets for the projects reflect the funding arrangements of the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP), which requires the Council to fund the up-front cost of construction, with Government support coming in the form of a revenue contribution based on the achievement of outcomes. Both projects will require the funding conditions around the maintenance and condition of the schools to be met in order to ensure financial support is secured for the 25 year period.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the provisional outturn for the major projects and programmes within the Education Directorate Capital Plan. Within this Dunfermline Learning Campus (DLC) had been projecting a pressure of £1.624m on the project as reported in the Capital Provisional Outturn 2023-24 report, which was due to an unsuccessful bid for external funding. However, in the new financial year, this pressure has been funded from the remaining insurance monies received for Woodmill HS fire. As a result this pressure is no longer being shown under Appendix 1 in this progress report. Work on the campus is substantially complete, and the Woodmill and St Columba's RC High Schools opened to pupils on 21<sup>st</sup> August.
- 2.3 Also included within the major projects is the replacement of Inverkeithing High School. The projected outturn in 2024-25 on this project is £28.465m and the project is included in the Secondary School Development project in Appendix 2 along with the DLC. The overall budget for this project is detailed in Appendix 1 as £85m. Members will be aware that Cabinet Committee approved the Business Case for the project on 9 May 2024, and the approved budget was revised to £88m. This increase in budget will require to be accommodated within the capital plan review process currently ongoing.
- 2.4 Other significant projects and programmes of work detailed within Appendix 2 include the project at Lochgelly South Primary School for ground consolidation works and improvements, which is included within the Education Rolling Programme. The projected outturn in 2024-25 on this project is £4.856m across both the main project at Lochgelly South Primary School and the associated project at St Kenneth's Primary School, including the provision of accommodation for the decant of pupils from Lochgelly South. Lochgelly South Primary School reopened in August at the start of academic year 2024-25.

- 2.5 Within Early Learning and Childcare (ELC), the remaining project at Raith Lodge is now complete and opened in August.
- 2.6 Scottish Government have indicated their revised policy intention to expand the provision of Free School Meals to Primary pupils (currently up to and including P5) by the end of this Scottish Parliamentary term. This will focus further expansion to children in Primaries 6 and 7, whose families are in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment. Work has already been undertaken to estimate the costs associated with expanding provision in terms of the works required to school kitchens and dining rooms, and this will require to be prioritised to provide additional capacity. Scottish Government have provided £3.963m of funding to date, and £1.340m is projected to be spent in 2024-25 across the school estate, after £1.175m was spent on projects in Education dining facilities and on kitchen equipment last financial year.

### **Financial Performance – Significant Variances**

- 2.7 There are no significant variances to report at this point in the financial year.

## **3.0 Conclusions**

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- 3.1 The total 2024-25 approved programme for the Education Directorate is £50.103m with a forecast level of expenditure of £50.103m, which represents 100% of the total programme.
- 3.2 The management of capital resources require us to look across financial years, as well as within individual years. The current year performance is only a snapshot of the existing plan and the Directorate will adjust expenditure levels within future years of the plan to accommodate the advancement of projects.

### **List of Appendices**

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1. Project Cost Monitor
2. Capital Plan 2024-2025 Projected Outturn Expenditure

### **Background Papers**

Not applicable

### **Report Contacts**

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**FIFE COUNCIL  
EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
EDUCATION AND CHILDRENS SERVICES  
CAPITAL INVESTMENT PLAN 2024-33  
TOTAL COST MONITOR - MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Appendix 1

<b>Project</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Original Approved Budget £m</b>	<b>Current Project Budget £m</b>	<b>Total Outturn £m</b>	<b>Variance £m</b>	<b>Variance %</b>	<b>Current Project Status</b>	<b>Expected Project Completion Date</b>
Madras College Extension	Opportunities for All		5.713	5.713	-	0.00%	Future Project	2027-28
Dunfermline Learning Campus	Opportunities for All		120.678	120.678	-	0.00%	Current Project	2024-25
Extension Secondary School - Viewforth	Opportunities for All	5.989	6.335	6.335	-	0.00%	Future Project	2030-31
New Secondary School - Glenrothes /Glenwood	Opportunities for All	27.532	86.831	86.831	-	0.00%	Future Project	2029-30
Queen Anne High School Extension	Opportunities for All		6.626	6.626	-	0.00%	Future Project	2030-31
Inverkeithing High School Replacement	Opportunities for All		85.000	85.000	-	0.00%	Future Project	2026-27
Primary School Development Future Projects	Opportunities for All		97.638	97.638	-	0.00%	Future Project	2032-33
Lochgelly Primary School	Maintaining Our Assets	9.000	8.984	8.984	-	0.00%	Current Project	2024-25
Balwearie High School	Maintaining Our Assets	8.300	8.300	8.300	-	0.00%	Future Project	2027-28
<b>Total Major Projects over £5.000m</b>		<b>50.821</b>	<b>426.104</b>	<b>426.104</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
Extension Secondary School - Auchmuty	Opportunities for All	9.62	3.734	3.734	-	0.00%	Future Project	2027-28
Primary School Development Future Projects	Opportunities for All		6.282	6.282	-	0.00%	Future Project	2031-32
Raith Lodge - Early Years Provision	Opportunities for All		1.432	1.432	-	0.00%	Current Project	2024-25
<b>Total Major Projects over £1.000m</b>		<b>9.620</b>	<b>11.448</b>	<b>11.448</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		
<b>Total Major Projects</b>		<b>60.441</b>	<b>437.552</b>	<b>437.552</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.00%</b>		

Expenditure	Current Budget £m	Actual to Date £m	Total Outturn £m	Variance £m	Outturn as % of Plan
Building Fife's Future	0.122	-	0.122	-	100%
Early Learning and Childcare	0.611	0.139	0.611	-	100%
Primary School Development	0.206	-	0.206	-	100%
Secondary School Development	34.363	3.398	34.363	-	100%
Education Rolling Programme	12.520	1.708	12.520	-	100%
Nursery Refurbishment	0.941	0.070	0.941	-	100%
Free School Meals Expansion	1.340	0.122	1.340	-	100%
Primary School Structural Pressures	-	-	-	-	0%
Childcare	-	(0.003)	-	-	0%
<b>TOTAL EDUCATION SERVICES</b>	<b>50.103</b>	<b>5.433</b>	<b>50.103</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>50.103</b>	<b>5.433</b>	<b>50.103</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100%</b>

Income	Current Budget £m	Actual to Date £m	Total Outturn £m	Variance £m	Outturn as % of Plan
Building Fife's Future	-	-	-	-	0%
Primary School Development	(0.509)	-	(0.509)	-	100%
Secondary School Development	-	-	-	-	0%
Education Rolling Programme	-	(0.096)	-	-	0%
Childcare	-	0.004	-	-	0%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>(0.509)</b>	<b>(0.092)</b>	<b>(0.509)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100%</b>

17 September 2024

Agenda Item No. 12

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## Education Scrutiny Committee Workplan

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**Report by:** Eileen Rowand, Executive Director Finance & Corporate Services

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**Wards Affected:** All

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### Purpose

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This report supports the committee's consideration of the workplan for future meetings of the committee.

### Recommendation

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It is recommended that the committee review the workplan and that members come forward with suggestions for areas of scrutiny.

### Resource Implications

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Committee should consider the resource implication for Council staff of any request for future reports.

### Legal & Risk Implications

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Committee should consider seeking inclusion of future items on the workplan by prioritising those which have the biggest impact and those which seek to deal with the highest level of risk.

### Impact Assessment

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None required for this paper.

### Consultation

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The purpose of the paper is to support the committee's discussion and therefore no consultation is necessary.

## 1.0 Background

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- 1.1 Each Scrutiny Committee operates a workplan which contains items which fall under three broad headings: performance reporting, planning; and improvement work. These items will often lead to reactive rather than proactive scrutiny. Discussion on the workplan agenda item will afford members the opportunity to shape, as a committee, the agenda with future items of business it wishes to review in more detail.

## 2.0 Conclusions

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- 2.1 The current workplan is included as Appendix one and should be reviewed by the committee to help inform scrutiny activity.

### List of Appendices

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1. Workplan

### Background Papers

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973:-

None

### Report Contact

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<b>Education Scrutiny Committee of 19 November 2024</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
School Meals Provision	Education	Tariq Ditta	Referred from CAC 28.02.24 for scrutiny. Min Para Ref 140 of 2024.CAC.54 refers - motion. Deferred from 17.09.24.
Senior Phase outcome report 2023/24	Education	Gavin Waterston, Stuart Booker	
Broad General Education (BGE) Attainment 2023/24	Education	Alan Cumming, Angela Logue	Include BGE attainment and aspects of PEF which support it.
Education Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan			

<b>Education Scrutiny Committee of 28 January 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Cost of School Transport	Education	Shelagh McLean	Para 84 (2) of minute of ES 05.03.24 refers. To include cost of provision for pupils with additional support for learning needs.
Inspection Reports 2023/24	Education	Angela Logue, Maria Lloyd	Look back at the previous year's inspection outcomes for early years, Primary, Special and Secondary.
Education Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan			

<b>Education Scrutiny Committee of 18 March 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Supporting Refugee, Asylum Seeking and Displaced Young People with English as an Additional Language in Education	Education	Jackie Funnell, Jennifer Wilsonr	Update report - previously considered 07.05.24, Para No. 88 (2) of 2024.ES.43.
Attendance Update Report	Education	Rona Weir, Angela Logue	Update - previously considered 07.05.24, Para. No. 91 (3) of 2024.ES.44.
Relationships & Behaviour in Schools – Update Report	Education	Shelagh McLean, Maria Lloyd	Previous update at committee 14.11.23. Should refer to the Behaviour research report 2023
Education Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan			

<b>Education Scrutiny Committee of 20 May 2025</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Senior Phase Destinations	Education	Karen Lees, Stuart Booker	
Education Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan			

<b>Unallocated</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Outcome of Short-term Working Group on Virtual Classrooms	Education	Angela Logue, Craig Martin	Visit to North Lanarkshire to be arranged. Referred from Cabinet Committee of 06.06.24, Para 252 refers (see Action Note): CC Action Note 06 06 24

<b>Unallocated</b>			
<b>Title</b>	<b>Service(s)</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>	<b>Comments</b>
National Thematic - Local Authority approaches to support school improvement	Education	Maria Lloyd, Angela Logue	Took place on 9 September with a focus on school improvement. Dependent on when the report is published by Education Scotland.