

**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
28 JANUARY 2009**

**SUBJECT: HMIE INSPECTION OF THE LEARNING COMMUNITIES,
INSPECTION OF THE LEARNING COMMUNITY SURROUNDING
BUCKIE HIGH SCHOOL 13 JANUARY 2009**

BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is for Committee to scrutinise and note the recent report published following inspection by HM Inspectorate of Education of the learning community surrounding Buckie High School. A summary of the report is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section D(1) of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to exercising the functions of the Council as Education Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of this report.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The performance of the Community Learning and Development Service (CLD) is measured by HM Inspectors using quality indicators, described in their publication "*How Good is Our Community Learning and Development Service*" (HGIOCLDS). The CLD staff in Moray have copies of HGIOCLDS and are required to use this in their own self-evaluation and improvement planning. Since September 2008 HM Inspectors have evaluated CLD performance using only 5 key indicators from the set of quality indicators.
- 3.2 Since September 2008 HM Inspectors, whilst inspecting non-denominational secondary schools, have included a small team which inspects and reports on provision for youth work, adult learning and community capacity building within the area surrounding the school. These inspections take account of the contribution made to these communities by schools and specialist CLD provision.
- 3.3 When HMIE evaluate a CLD Service's performance against the quality indicators in HGIOCLDS they use standardised language.

Level	Definition	Description
Level 6	Excellent	Provision which is clearly outstanding or sector leading.
Level 5	Very Good	Provision which has major strengths

Level 4	Good	Provision with important strengths that clearly outweigh areas for improvement.
Level 3	Satisfactory	Provision where strengths just outweigh weaknesses.
Level 2	Weak	Provision with important weaknesses.
Level 1	Unsatisfactory	Provision which has major weaknesses and is unsatisfactory.

Words, numbers and proportions are used in a consistent manner throughout HMIE reports:

Almost all = over 90% *Most = 75-90%* *Majority = 50-74%*
Less than half = 15-49% *Few = up to 15%*

- 3.4 Inspection reports contain commentary by HMIE on the performance of the CLD Service at the time of inspection. Such reports provide a summary of the particular strengths of the learning community and agreed areas for improvement.

4. **SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

(a) **Corporate Development Plan/Community Plan/Service Improvement Plan**

The report provides Committee with information relating to CLD Service performance as measured by HMIE in line with the corporate commitment to public performance reporting.

(b) **Policy and Legal**

HMIE inspect and report on a sample of Learning Communities every year. Their reports are intended to provide parents, local authorities and Scottish Ministers with information about how well schools are performing against the National Priorities in Education.

(c) **Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**

There are no immediate Financial, Risk, Staffing, or property implications arising from this report.

(d) **Consultations**

Senior Officers within Educational Services have been consulted and support the recommendation.

5. **CONCLUSION**

5.1 That the Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of this report on the HMIE inspections of the learning communities surrounding Buckie High School.

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Background Papers:
Ref: DMD/JR/Reports/Children and Young People's Services Committee/28 January 2009/HMIE Inspection of the Learning Communities, Inspection of the Learning Community Surrounding Buckie High School - 13 January 2009

APPENDIX 1**HMIE REPORT ON LEARNING COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING BUCKIE HIGH SCHOOL****Particular strengths of the learning communities**

- Very well targeted range of provision for adults and young people.
- The positive impact on young people and the community through Youth Achievement Awards.
- The range of local services being developed with partners, for example Buckie Skatepark and The Well Projects
- Some very good examples of adult learning leading to community empowerment.
- The enthusiasm and commitment of CLD staff and strong operational leadership.

Examples of Good Practice

- The Buckie Blethers group that have produced learning materials to celebrate the Doric language.
- Very good English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) provision, attracting 215 new learners across Moray since 2007.
- The Buckie Area Forum
- The CLD Youthwork team in the area have made very good use of Youth Achievement Awards in their work with young people.

Areas for Improvement

HMIE have agreed the following areas for improvement with CLD and the education authority.

- Improve performance management system to demonstrate progression for learners more clearly.
- Embed the use of outcomes more fully in the work of CLD and its partners.

What Happens Next?

CLD providers have a good understanding of their strengths and areas for improvement and communities are achieving very well. As a result the HMIE have ended the process at this stage.

Quality Indicators for the learning communities surrounding Buckie High School

Improvement in performance	Satisfactory
Impact on young people	Very Good
Impact on adults	Very Good
Impact of capacity building on communities	Very Good
Improving services	Good