

**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
14 APRIL 2010**

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC PERFORMANCE REPORTING - EXCLUSIONS FROM
SCHOOLS IN SCOTLAND 2008/09**

BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

1.1 The purpose to this report is to notify the Committee of performance information with regard to exclusion from schools in Scotland.

1.2 This report is submitted to the Children and Young People's Services Committee in terms of Section D1 of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to exercising all the functions of the Council as Education Authority.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 **It is recommended that the committee scrutinises and notes the information contained in Appendices 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.**

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Further to the report approved at Educational Services Committee on 6 October 2004 (para 9 refers), information is now provided in line with the timetable set out at Appendix 1 of that report. Furthermore, a report updating this performance information was approved at Education and Social Services Committee on 9 April 2008 (para 15 refers).

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

The report addresses information relevant to departmental responsibilities for actions in the Single Outcome Agreement National Outcome 3, and also contributes to "Smarter" Community Planning Strategic groups.

(b) Policy and Legal

None.

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

None.

(d) Consultations

This report has been circulated to Senior Officers in Educational Services who are in agreement with the contents.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 That the Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of this report.

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Background Papers: Scottish Government Statistics Publication Notice:
Education Series: Exclusions from Schools 2008/09 ISSN
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Exclusions from Schools in Scotland 2008-09

APPENDIX 1**PERFORMANCE INFORMATION****Exclusions from Schools in Scotland 2008/09**

The following information summarises the main findings detailed in the Scottish Executive Publication Notice on Exclusions from Schools, 2008/09 published on 27th January 2010.

There were 33,917 exclusions from local authority schools in Scotland, a decrease of 14.6% from 2007/08 and the lowest number since 2002/03. About 18,100 different pupils (less than 3% of pupils) were excluded during the year. In Moray, there has been a decrease in the total number of exclusions from 512 in 2007/08 to 353 in 2008/09. Moray's rate of 28 exclusions per 1,000 pupils is nearly half the national average of 50 and significantly lower than that of our comparator authorities' average of 40 per 1,000 pupils. 356 different pupils in Moray schools (2.9% of pupils) were excluded during the year.

Moray, as a low excluding authority is currently the 5th lowest excluding authority in Scotland in terms of exclusions per 1,000 pupils alongside Aberdeenshire, Eilean Siar, and Highland authorities.

Over 99% of all exclusions both nationally and in Moray were temporary. There were only 3 removals from the register during 2008/09.

Nationally, 15% of the total exclusions were from local authority primary schools, equivalent to 13 exclusions per 1,000 pupils, below the 15 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in 2007/08. In Moray, 21% of the total exclusions were from primary schools, an equivalent of 11 exclusions per 1,000 pupils, above the 9 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in 2007/08. Temporary exclusion percentage rates peaked with 57% of all temporary exclusions occurring in P6 and P7, above the 52% recorded in P6 and P7 during 2007/08.

Nationally, 82% of the total exclusions were from local authority secondary schools, equivalent to 91 exclusions per 1,000 pupils. Exclusion rates peaked during S3, with 157 exclusions per 1,000 pupils. In Moray, 79% of the total exclusions were from secondary schools, an equivalent to 49 exclusions per 1,000 pupils, well below the 76 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in 2007/08. Temporary exclusions percentage rates peaked with 33% of all temporary exclusions occurring in S3 and 26% in S2. The rate of half day absence due to temporary exclusion decreased across all secondary schools in Moray.

The most common reasons for exclusion in both primary and secondary schools include; general or persistent disobedience, verbal abuse of staff, physical assault with no weapon and insolent or offensive behaviour.