

**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
9 JUNE 2010**

SUBJECT: PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT STRATEGY

BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this Report is to seek Committee`s approval for the Authority`s Parental Involvement Strategy
- 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 approves the Parental Involvement Strategy.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Scottish Schools (Parental Involvement) Act 2006 requires the education authority to prepare a strategy document setting out its policies for parental involvement. The strategy must cover the authority`s duties to:

- involve parents in their own child`s education, and that provided by a school to its pupils generally.
- give advice and information to parents in respect of their own child.
- promote the establishment of parent councils in schools and support their operation.
- establish a complaints procedure for their duties under the Act.

- 3.2 The education authority must seek and take account of the views of all those with an interest in the authority`s implementation of its duties under the above legislation. This includes parents, pupils and parent councils, school staff, and any other person the authority considers important.

- 3.3 A Parental Involvement Strategy Group was established to oversee the development of the strategy. It had wide representation including parents, school staff and other agencies who work with children or have an interest in supporting their welfare and learning. The Strategy documentation has been placed on the Members' Portal, copies (3) are available in the Members'

Library, and copies have been issued to the Chair of Children and Young People's Services Committee, the SNP Education Spokesperson and the Leader of the Labour Group.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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

This report relates to Action Areas 11 and 19 of the current Educational Services Improvement Plan, namely *Curriculum for Excellence and Parent/Pupil Voice*.

(b) Policy and Legal

The strategy encompasses relevant parts of the following legislation:

- The Scottish Schools (Parental involvement) Act 2006
- Education (Scotland) Act 1980
- The Children (Scotland) Act 1995
- Standards in Scotland's Schools etc Act (2000)
- The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004

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

There are no financial, risk, staffing or property implications arising from this report.

(d) Consultations

Senior Officers within Educational Services and Grant Cruickshank, Principal Personnel Adviser, have been consulted and support the recommendation.

Rhona Gunn, Acting Principal Solicitor has been consulted and has indicated that the policy meets relevant legislative requirements.

All schools, a parents` focus group, a pupils` focus group, parent councils, teacher unions, and social work have been consulted and their views have been taken into account.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 The recommendation in this report seeks Committee's approval of the Parental Involvement Strategy.

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Background Papers:
Ref: DMD/JR/Reports/Children and Young People's Services
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