



**REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE ON
25 JUNE 2014**

**SUBJECT: THEMATIC REVIEW – THE INCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS**

BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR (EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE)

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to scrutinise and note a report on a thematic review.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III 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:**
 - (a) scrutinises and notes the contents of the thematic review report (Appendix 1);**
 - (b) endorses the recommendations contained in the thematic review report; and**
 - (c) tasks the Corporate Director (Education & Social Care) with tabling a paper at the next meeting of this Committee, providing a strategic overview of how the department will take forward these recommendations.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At a meeting on 12 December 2012, the Children and Young People's Services Committee scrutinised and endorsed the department's plans for self-evaluation, including thematic reviews (paragraph 10 of the minute refers).
- 3.2 The Continuous Improvement Team (CIT), and departmental Peer Reviewers, undertook a thematic review into 'The Inclusion of Children with Additional Support Needs', in February 2014.

- 3.3 The CIT was supported, in conducting the review, by Education Scotland. An HMI national specialist in inclusion, worked alongside the CIT during the review, providing advice and evaluation of areas of service. This partnership with Education Scotland, provided valuable guidance for the CIT in identifying areas for investigation; and ensured evaluations and recommendations were consistent with the national position.
- 3.4 The report on the outcomes of the review, including recommendations for improvement, is contained in **Appendix 1**.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Moray 2023: A Plan for the Future/Service Plan

The contents of this report relate to Moray 2023 Priority 2 – ‘Ambitious and confident children and young people’.

(b) Policy and Legal

This report relates to the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004, and the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2009.

(c) Financial implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

(d) Risk implications

Failure to ensure that the recommendations from the report are implemented, may result in children being disadvantaged in their access to learning, and the Authority potentially being held to account, and in breach of the above legislation.

(e) Staffing implications

There are no specific staffing implications arising directly from this report.

(f) Property

None.

(g) Equalities

Failure to get it right for children and young people who require additional support, could result in their experiences not being fully inclusive and equitable.

(h) Consultations

The Corporate Director (Education and Social Care); members of the Education and Social Care Senior Management Team; Jenny O'Hagan, Continuous Improvement Officer; members of the Continuous Improvement Peer Reviewing Team; Deborah Brands, Principal Accountant; Margaret Forrest, Legal Services Manager; Katrina McGillivray, Senior Human Resources Adviser; Don Toonen, Equal Opportunities Officer and Lissa Rowan, Committee Services Officer, have been consulted on this report and agree with the sections of the report relating to their areas of responsibility.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 That Committee scrutinises and notes the contents of the thematic review report and the notes that schools and services will take actions, appropriate to their circumstances, to ensure that the recommendations contained in the report are fully addressed.**

Author of Report: Jacqueline Wallace, Continuous Improvement Officer
Background Papers:
Ref: