



## Report of the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning

### Education Scrutiny Performance Panel – 14 December 2023

# Performance against Education Objectives and Progress against the Estyn recommendations following the 2022 Estyn inspection of Local Government Education Services

<b>Purpose:</b>	To brief the Panel on 2022-2023 academic year Education Directorate objectives and success in meeting objectives.  To brief the Panel on progress against the recommendations made following the 2022 Estyn Inspection of Swansea Local Government Education Services.
<b>Content:</b>	An overview of progress towards Education objectives and recommendations made by Estyn.
<b>Councillors are being asked to:</b>	Consider the information provided and give views.
<b>Lead Councillor:</b>	Cabinet Member for Education and Learning
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## 1. Background

- 1.1 The Education Scrutiny Performance Panel receives an annual performance report from the statutory chief officer for education.
- 1.2 A new Corporate Plan for 2023-2028 has been published by Swansea Council in 2023. Improving Education & Skills remains a key corporate priority in the new plan and the Education Directorate is committed to delivering against the agreed objectives.
- 1.3 The education and skills objectives for 2023-2028 can be summarised as follows:

- We want all children and young people in Swansea to attend school regularly, to be included, to be resilient and have successful school futures.
- We want all children and young people to have good Welsh language skills.
- We want to support and maintain effective school leadership.
- We want to support and maintain excellent teaching.
- We want all learners to receive their education in environments that are safe and sustainable communities for learning.

## **2. Progress in the 2022-2023 academic year for Education Directorate objectives**

- 2.1 Through service plans, the Education Directorate outlines the required work to achieve Corporate Plan objectives. Progress is reported on a quarterly basis. The Corporate Plan in place at the start of the academic year was superseded in April 2023. The Education Directorate Annual Report 2022-2023, in Appendix A, combines progress against service plans across the previous and current corporate plans.
- 2.2 A self-evaluation against the Estyn framework for Local Government Education Services was undertaken prior to the most recent Estyn inspection in June 2022. Evaluation also takes place through the Directorate's contribution to the Council's Annual Review of Performance, a requirement through Part 6 of the Local Government & Elections Act, which was approved by Council on 9 November 2023. Regular monitoring and evaluation of service delivery takes place as part of local performance management arrangements.
- 2.3 Service plan priorities are developed on an annual basis by heads of service in consultation with team managers, in line with corporate priorities. The Education Directorate utilises a RAYG rating rather than a RAG rating of performance against objectives. These are defined in Appendix B.
- 2.4 End of key stage 4 and post-16 data collection by Welsh Government has resumed, however outcomes should not be compared to pre-pandemic data.
- 2.5 The Education Directorate revised its performance indicators as part of the development of the new Corporate Plan. These are reported on a quarterly and annual basis to Cabinet.

## **3. Progress against the recommendations made by the Estyn inspection of Local Government Education Services in 2022**

- 3.1 Following the Estyn inspection of Local Government Education Services in June 2022, two recommendations were made. The first was to 'review post-16 provision to ensure that it meets the needs of all learners', and the second was to 'strengthen Welsh-medium provision across all ages and areas of the local authority'. Progress against these recommendations is included within the Education Directorate Annual Report 2022-2023, in Appendix A.

#### **4. Conclusions and Summary**

- 4.1 Good progress has been made for most objectives and where specific aspects require attention, steps to address these have been identified.

A full summary is included within the foreword of the Education Directorate Annual Report 2022-2023, in Appendix A.

#### **5. Legal implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications within this report.

#### **6. Finance Implications**

- 6.1 There are no financial implications within this report.

#### **7. Equality & Engagement Implications**

- 7.1 The report is for information and not for decision.

#### **Appendices:**

Appendix A: Education Directorate Annual Report 2022-2023

Appendix B: RAYG Rating Criteria