



Your Moray

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PLANNING BOARD ON 16 SEPTEMBER 2020

**SUBJECT: EDUCATION SCOTLAND CONTINUING ENGAGEMENT
REPORT 6 JULY 2020**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (EDUCATION, COMMUNITIES
AND ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1. To update Board members on the Continuing Engagement visit of Education Scotland Inspectors in July 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. **It is recommended that the Board notes the positive outcome to the continuing engagement visit and acknowledges the contribution partners and volunteers have made to achieve this.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. In April 2018 HM Inspectors published a report on community learning and development in the Buckie area and communities of Portknockie, Cullen, Findochty and Portgordon. A further monitoring visit was carried out in October 2018 and March 2019. Subsequently Inspectors visited again in March 2020.
- 3.2. HMI Inspectors focussed on the areas for improvement identified in the original inspection which were:
- Improve leadership, governance and planning for change at all levels in line with legislative requirements.
 - Improve approaches to the management of risks and meeting CLD standards.
 - Improve the systematic gathering, analysis and sharing of performance information across partners.
- 3.3. In July 2020 the report was published at the link below and is attached to this report as **Appendix A** for ease of reference
- <https://education.gov.scot/media/budpejgi/moraycouncilcldccev060720.pdf>
- 3.4. After the publication of the final report a Record of Visit (ROV) is prepared by the inspection team, the key points of which were shared at the discussion of

findings meeting on the final day. The purpose of the ROV is to provide professional feedback in a technical document for the CLD Strategic Partnership to support and guide further planning for improvement. It is not for circulation.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The CLD Strategic Partnership will integrate the improvement ideas from the ROV for the third year of the CLD Plan plus focus on these priorities for CLD in the Service Plan. They will also feature in the next iteration of the CLD Plan in September 2021.
- 4.2 The improvement areas are as follows:
- The authority and its partners should continue to work to improve the wider learning offer and the coordination of support available at a local level.
 - Moray Council should consider how it continues to support groups that have secured asset transfers in the longer term.
 - There is potential to gather systematically and report on the benefits of volunteering in terms of its impact on mental health and wellbeing.
- 4.3 Each of these areas of work has a partnership resource implication within challenging budgets and a need to have skilled staff and volunteers operating at a local level. The partnership focus over 2 years through the Buckie Community's Locality Plan plus inspection process has brought a lot of strength and positive outcomes to the area which need to be sustained. It is vital for the next phase of planning that partners consider what the future priorities will be for work with communities and what resource commitment there is for development.
- 4.4 Education Scotland are in the process of developing a new more compact evaluation framework for future inspections combining the "How good is our Third Sector" with "How good is the learning and development in our community?" There may be potential engagement next year in pilots of the new model through themed and place-based inspections.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 As a result of ongoing improvements the outcome of the inspection was that HM Inspectors have disengaged and will make no further visits to the Buckie area. It is clear that we have made progress working in these communities alongside committed staff and volunteers. We have also developed as a partnership. The CLD Strategic Partnership will shortly submit their monitoring report to the Board for Year 2 of the CLD Plan as per legislation.

Author of Report: Karen Delaney CLD Support Officer
Background Papers:
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