Inclusive education in Glasgow schools – Update noted – Instruction to Executive Director of Education Services.

6 With reference to the minutes of 28th September 2023 (Print 4, page 61) noting the developments planned and activities in relation to the equality agenda across Education Services, there was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Education Services providing an update on the work being undertaken in early learning centres and schools to promote an inclusive education for all Glasgow Learners,

(1) advising

(a) that additional support needs (ASN) was of principle importance when developing an understanding of inclusive education in Glasgow's schools;

(b) of the key legislation and policy documents that had driven forward Education Services' inclusion agenda in practice;

(c) of statistical information on the number of young people in Scotland with ASN which had shown a steady increase since 2007;

(d) of the current challenges faced by Education Services in response to this increased level of need, which included the increased number of placing requests submitted for additional support for learning (ASL) schools;

(e) of the referral process to the Area Inclusion Group (AIG) when a child or young person had been identified as having ASN and required support which was not available at their current school or early learning centre;

(f) of the research that had supported the evidence that there was a direct correlation between poverty and ASN;

(g) of the range of systems and interventions available to help support inclusion across and within education establishments in Glasgow; and

(h) of the next steps in the promotion of inclusive education for all Glasgow learners; and

(2) detailing in the appendices to the report, a wide range of needs highlighted in the audit carried out of all pupils who attended standalone ASL schools and the structures, purpose and referral processes within the AIG.

After consideration, the committee

(i) noted the range of approaches used in the promotion of inclusive education for all Glasgow learners; and

(ii) instructed the Executive Director of Education Services to bring further updates to this committee, as appropriate.