Item 2
17th September 2024

Glasgow City Region Education Committee

Report by: Dr James Bowness, Data and Evaluation Officer, WP and Renfrewshire Council

Contact: Sharon Hayward, Senior Partnership Officer, The West Partnership

West Partnership Annual Evaluation Report 2023-24

Purpose of the Report

To advise members of the committee of the main content and key messages included in the West Partnership Evaluation Report (appendix 1).

Recommendations :

The committee is asked to:

- note the very good progress demonstrated in the evaluation report and to share any comments on the report.

1. Key Points

1.1 This report details progress over the academic year 2023-2024 towards achieving each of the associated target outcomes and expected impacts as detailed in the West Partnership Improvement Plan.

1.2. Each year, we see the growing benefit of working collaboratively and systematically across the West Partnership area, and the difference this is making to staff, children, and young people. The report captures the very good progress made within the West Partnership. This is testament to the dedication and commitment of all staff who have worked to support our children and young people.

1.3. The report notes that significant growth in engagement with practitioners from across the West Partnership was experienced in the 23/24 session. Our activities received over 10,000 sign ups in the 23/24 session, up considerably from approximately 4500 in 22/23. Data suggests we engaged with at least 24% of all practitioners in our region. We engaged with 92% of the region's schools across primary, secondary, and special sectors.

1.4. Throughout the report, there are very strong examples of how the Partnership is improving attainment and achievement for all (excellence) while closing the poverty related attainment gap (equity). We are shifting the ownership of change and enabling our staff to take collective action to deliver on this (empowerment).

1.5. The West Partnership continues to compare favourably against national figures across most measures. The percentage of P1, P4 and P7 pupils who meet the expected level for Literacy and Numeracy continues to be higher in the West Partnership compared to Scotland overall. The gap is greatest in Literacy, where 74.5% of West Partnership primary pupils met the expected level compared to 72.7% of all primary pupils nationally.

1.6. West Partnership school leavers also continue to outperform their peers nationally. For example, in the 22/23 session, 68.1% of West Partnership leavers left with a SCQF level 6 award. This was greater than the 65.6% of school leavers nationally that also achieved a Level 6 award. Comparing senior phase attainment of leavers cohorts is difficult due to the recent use of alternative modes of assessment. Furthermore, the constitution of leavers cohorts has shifted in 22/23, with a meaningful increase in S4 and S5 leavers.

1.7. In the first half of the 2010s, Scottish leavers were more likely to be in an initial destination than West Partnership leavers. From 2018/19 onwards, West Partnership leavers have been more likely to enter initial positive destinations than their national peers. Our 2023 leavers cohort achieved the highest positive destination figure recorded since the measure began in 2009.

1.8. Work has also been done this session to make a stronger link between the critical indicators and the three E's: equity, excellence, and empowerment. This is demonstrated in the report. Furthermore, some critical indicators have been added in recognition of our commitment to closing the poverty related attainment gap as well as the Promise.

2. Recommendations

- The Committee is asked to note the very good progress demonstrated in the evaluation report and to share any comments on the report.