West Online School – Update noted.

5 There was submitted and noted a report by the Head of Service, Education Services, Glasgow City Council, providing an update on the ongoing work of the West Online School (West OS), as it continued to diversify and evolve, advising

(1) that the West OS video content had encouraged independent learning by enabling learners to work at their own pace while undertaking independent study and exam preparation;

(2) that the high-quality online resources were available to practitioners to enhance teaching and learning and were a welcome addition to a practitioner toolkit;

(3) that whilst the recorded element produced by teachers remained at the heart of West OS, it had been necessary to extend the range of resources to ensure West OS continued to add value to the work of schools and to support teachers and young people, and had included a selection of careers videos and brochures that provided advice on navigating primary to secondary transition;

(4) that West OS had also created a series of short films that aimed to empower learners with the information required before moving to the next stage of their journey;

(5) of information on the Podcast series, Westcast, that reflected key points in the school year by having episodes which supported key moments such as transition, college and university applications and exam preparations, with the Podcast page having been reviewed over 500 times since its release;

(6) of information regarding usage and traffic on the website in respect of a variety of new learning materials that were being developed;

(7) of information on the West OS interactive study webinars that were popular with young people as it was a new and innovative way to learn and which were guided by the SQA course reports, meaning that tricky or complex content was the focus that could help to build confidence; and

(8) of a number of future initiatives that would add to the continued development of West OS, which had included the launch of a Parent Channel to support parents and carers with the use of West OS, as well as the production of more digital content such as Masterclasses and Podcasts that could be used to enrich learning experiences.

After consideration, and having heard Gerry Lyons, Head of Service, Education Services, Glasgow City Council, the committee noted the continued development, reach and impact of West OS.