West Partnership draft Regional Improvement Plan 2023/24 approved etc.

3 There was submitted a report by the Regional Lead Officer regarding the West Partnership's draft Regional Improvement Plan 2023/24 (RIP) and seeking the committee's endorsement of the draft improvement plan, as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report, advising

(1) that since the committee had approved the submission of the West Partnership's RIP to Education Scotland in August 2019, as required by statute, an updated RIP had been prepared outlining future proposed activity based on the revised governance and operational structure previously approved by committee;

(2) that over the past session, a comprehensive range of engagements with stakeholders had taken place, complementing the ongoing evaluation activity, giving a clearer set of qualitative and quantitative data to ensure the Improvement Plan met the needs of practitioners and officers across the West Partnership and that there was a clear consensus that existing programmes and activity were broadly meeting the needs of those officer and practitioners across the West Partnership;

(3) that the feedback gathered from the stakeholder engagements, recommendations from the Robert Owen Centre evaluation and consensus building conversations with workstream sponsors, workstream members, programme participants and Education Scotland, had all contributed to the Improvement Plan 2023/24;

(4) that taking account of all consultation to date, it was suggested that most programmes continued, following review and in some cases, augmentation;

(5) that discussion at the West Partnership Board meeting on 9th June 2023 had also identified activity in the areas of Supporting Improvement, to be developed with the Leadership, Empowerment and Improvement workstream, and Artificial Intelligence, to be developed with the West OS Team, with proposals for both being further developed and taken to the relevant workstream meetings in September 2023;

(6) that to assist in the Scottish Government's (SG) Regional Improvement Collaborative Peer Review process and strengthen approaches to self-evaluation, senior colleagues from across the Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RICs) had worked over the course of the year to establish a draft self-evaluation framework, a version of which would be used as part of the evidence considered by the SG in its review of RICs; and

(7) of the next steps, which included,

(a) members reporting back to their own authorities through appropriate individual local governance arrangements for approval in order to ensure local democratic accountability; and

(b) confirming that, in seeking to ensure that the West Partnership could continue to contribute to the wider work of the Glasgow City Regional Economic Strategy, a report would be prepared, including the endorsed RIP, and presented to the Glasgow City Region Cabinet by the Regional Lead Officer or Convener of this committee, as appropriate.

After consideration and having heard a presentation by Mark Ratter, Regional Lead Officer, the committee

(i) agreed

(A) to endorse the draft Regional Improvement Plan 2023/24; and

(B) to submit the draft RIP to the Glasgow City Region Cabinet for its consideration; and

(ii) noted that each individual authority would report on the RIP to their appropriate committee for approval, maintaining local democratic oversight.