

**REPORT TO: EDUCATION COMMITTEE - 28 JUNE 2010**

**REPORT ON: ADDITIONAL STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY 2010-2011**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

**REPORT NO: 373-2010**

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 This report brings to the attention of the Education Committee a request to approve one additional day for staff development and training in all schools and establishments on 1 October 2010, as granted by the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Learning. To make this possible, the Cabinet Secretary has indicated his intention to modify the number of days schools must be open using his powers under Section 133(4) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 The Education Committee is recommended to:
- i. note the contents of this report;
  - ii. approve one additional staff development and training day on 1 October 2010;
  - iii. instruct the Director of Education to make a formal request to the Cabinet Secretary for the additional day; and
  - iv. instruct the Director of Education to provide parents and carers with advance notice of the additional staff development and training day.

## **3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **4.0 MAIN TEXT**

- 4.1 Reference is made to Article V of the minute of the meeting of the Education Committee of 9 March 2009 where the Committee approved report no. 163-2009. The report requested the allocation of an additional staff development and training day to be held in each of August 2009, 2010 and 2011. This was to assist in the implementation of a Curriculum for Excellence (CfE).
- 4.2 Furthermore, the Scottish Government invited authorities to apply for an additional in-service day this session, which was taken in Dundee on 1 June 2010 (report no. 78-2010 of 8 February 2010 refers).
- 4.3 The implementation of CfE continues to represent a major development across Scottish education. All establishments are working currently on the development and implementation of revised planning, assessment, recording and reporting arrangements arising from the framework document, *'Building the Curriculum 5: A Framework for Assessment'*, which was published on 29 January 2010, together with an associated paper on quality assurance and moderation.

- 4.4 To support the continued implementation of the assessment framework within CfE, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Learning has approved the allocation of a further staff development and training day, to be taken between August and December 2010, and has invited and encouraged all local councils formally to request it.
- 4.5 As with the allocation of previous additional in-service days, this decision has clear implications for the Education Department given our stated commitment to the successful implementation of CfE across all sectors of education. The allocation of an additional staff development day will be used to enable staff across establishments to focus on specific areas of development arising from *'Building the Curriculum 5: A Framework for Assessment'*. In addition it will provide the opportunity for professional reflection of the effective use of assessment to support and enhance the learning process.
- 4.6 The assessment framework and the associated quality assurance paper have been agreed by the national CfE Management Board. Implementation of the new framework has started in our schools and will be the focus of ongoing staff development throughout the session. The allocation of an additional staff development and training day will clearly enhance the existing time for professional development. The programme for the day will be developed in discussion with schools and monitored closely by the Educational Development Service to ensure that the time is used to maximum effect.
- 4.7 It will also provide a staff development day when staff can participate in a variety of carefully planned and relevant professional development activities at school, departmental and individual level. As with previous staff development events, this will enable staff to engage in professional discussion about the development and successful implementation of the new assessment framework.
- 4.8 In our view, the most suitable date on which to request the additional staff development and training day is 1 October 2010. Having considered alternative dates between August and December 2010, the department considers this solution to be the most appropriate one for a number of reasons, including the fact that this date immediately precedes the start of the October holiday period and may minimise potential disruption for parents and carers in terms of childcare arrangements.

## 5.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This report has been screened for any implications in respect of sustainability, strategic environment assessment, anti-poverty, equality impact assessment and risk management.
- 5.2 There are no major issues.

## 6.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 This report has been subject to consultation with the Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), the Director of Finance, Head Teachers and the teacher trade unions.

**7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None.

Jim Collins  
Director of Education

17 June 2010  
JC/MM