

---

**Report to Scrutiny Committee**

---

**Date: 21 January 2010**

---

**Subject: HMIE and Care Commission reports session 09-10**

---

**Report by: Head of Education and Community Services**

---

**1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1. To provide the Scrutiny Committee with a report that contains a summary of the outcomes of the Inspections of the Council's early years and pre-school education provision.

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1. The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the content of the report.

**3.0 Considerations**

- 3.1. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) is responsible for the external evaluation of schools. HMIE aim to inspect schools at least once every seven years. A set of national quality Indicators entitled 'How Good is Our School?' is used to evaluate the quality of the service provided by schools.
- 3.2. HMIE and the Care Commission inspect early years establishments. The Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act, 2001, requires that the Care Commission and HM Inspectorate of Education carry out integrated inspections of the quality of care and education in the pre-school sector. In doing this, inspection teams take account of the 'National Care Standards, Early Education and Childcare' and 'The Child at the Centre 2'
- 3.3. In session 2009/12 reports were published, 2 HMIE/Care Commission Integrated reports (Alva Nursery class as part of the whole school Inspection and Tower Nursery School) and 10 Care Commission reports (Tillicoultry, Strathdevon, Sunnyside, Menstrie, Banchory, nursery classes, Sauchie, and Ladywell Nursery schools, ABC nursery and Alloa and Hillfoots Family Centres).
- 3.4. HMIE report on 5 quality indicators, Improvements in Performance, Learners' Experiences, Meeting Learning Needs, The Curriculum And Improvement Through Self-Evaluation. Evaluations are made according to a 6 point scale, Excellent to Unsatisfactory.

- 3.5. Care Commission report on 4 quality indicators, Quality of Care and Support, Quality of Environment, Quality of Staffing and Quality of Management and Leadership. Evaluations are made according to a 6 point scale, Excellent to Unsatisfactory.
- 3.6. In all of the primary schools/early years establishments inspected, Quality of Care and Support were evaluated as good, very good and excellent. Quality of Environment was evaluated as good, very good and excellent, Quality of Staffing evaluated as good, very good and excellent and Quality of Management and Leadership was evaluated as good, very good and excellent. Improvements in Performance, Learners' Experiences, Meeting Learning Needs, The Curriculum And Improvement Through Self-Evaluation evaluated as good overall.
- 3.7. Of the quality indicators looked at within these themes to which HMIE and /or the Care Commission gave grades they gave 14 at excellent, 49 at very good, 23 at good and 2 at satisfactory, i.e. 98 % of the ratings were good or better.
- 3.8. These evaluations mean that in the view of HMIE and/or Care Commission early years pre-school education establishments are well placed to continue to pursue their improvement agendas as detailed in establishments' individual improvement plans which are submitted to the authority on an annual basis.
- 3.9. Each Early years establishment inspected has developed a plan to take forward any specific actions recommended by HMIE. However, as a measure of the confidence of HMIE in the school/early years establishment and authority to continue to improve, there are no further visits from HMIE expected in connection with these reports.
- 3.10. The schools and pre-school early years establishments inspected in 2009 have demonstrated that overall service provision is of a high quality and has the capacity to continue to improve.

#### **4.0 Sustainability Implications**

- 4.1. There are no sustainability implications

#### **5.0 Resource Implications**

- 5.1. *There are no resource implications*

- 5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate.

Yes ☒

- 5.3. *Staffing*

*There are no staffing implications*

#### **6.0 Exempt Reports**

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes ☐ (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No ☒

## 7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

### (1) Our Priorities 2008 - 2011 (Please tick ☒)

The area has a positive image and attracts people and businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are more cohesive and inclusive	<input type="checkbox"/>
People are better skilled, trained and ready for learning and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Our communities are safer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vulnerable people and families are supported	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Substance misuse and its effects are reduced	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health is improving and health inequalities are reducing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The environment is protected and enhanced for all	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Council is effective, efficient and recognised for excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### (2) Council Policies (Please detail)

## 8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes ☐ No ☒

## 9.0 Legality

9.1 In adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes ☒

## 10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

"none"

## 11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at which the report is considered)

Yes ☒ (please list the documents below) No ☐

Published HMIE and Care Commission inspection reports.

**Author(s)**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>TEL NO / EXTENSION</b>
Sharon Evenden	Service Manager	452470

**Approved by**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DESIGNATION</b>	<b>SIGNATURE</b>
Jim Goodall	Head of Education and Community Services	(Signed: J Goodall)
Grahame Blair	Director Services to People	(Signed: G Blair)