

9. SCOTTISH ATTAINMENT CHALLENGE INNOVATION FUND

A report had been circulated by the Head of Education (Quality Assurance) informing the Panel of the successful bids made by the Education Service for grant funding from the Scottish Attainment Challenge Innovation Fund.

The Head of Education (Quality Assurance) advised that the aim of the Scottish Attainment Challenge was to narrow the attainment gap at all levels and in all school sectors. An innovation fund of £1.5m had been announced in February 2016 to help schools across Scotland come up with innovative ways to improve attainment.

Of the £1.5m allocation to the fund for academic session 2016-17, schools and officers from West Lothian had submitted six successful bids for grant funding totalling £235,851.

The report provided a table showing the total funding allocation as undernoted:-

<b>School</b>	<b>Total Funding Allocation</b>
Bathgate Academy Cluster	£39,704
Broxburn Academy	£7,520
Linlithgow Academy	£10,000
Outdoor Learning	£120,900
Riverside Primary School	£10,000
The James Young High School Cluster	£47,727
<b>Total</b>	<b>£235,851</b>

The report went on to provide details of the six projects.

The Panel noted that, in total, pupils within four secondary schools and 23 primary schools in West Lothian would benefit from the £235,851 successful bids to the Innovation Fund.

Each of the six initiatives would address a different aspect of the challenge in raising attainment. The Education Service would assist schools in evidencing progress within each of the initiatives to support improvement in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing.

The Panel was asked to note the successful bids for funding as outlined in the report.

Decision

1. To note the terms of the report.

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2. To convey the Panel's thanks to staff involved in the submission of the bids.