

7. ACTIONS TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE IN SOCIAL SUBJECTS

The committee considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance) providing details of the actions taken to improve performance in Social Subjects across West Lothian Secondary Schools.

The Head of Education (Curriculum, Quality Improvement and Performance) introduced the report, noting the impact curriculum could have on the senior phase of higher education (S4–S6). The Chair of DHT Curriculum group, Siobhan McGarty and two representatives from the Principal Teachers of Curriculum (Social Subjects), Stephen MacKenzie (Inveralmond Community High School) and Claire Gill (St Kentigern's Academy), then presented the report and responded to questions.

Evidence from the broad General Education Curriculum VSE currently under way in West Lothian's Secondary schools and additional analysis of Senior phase attainment data in Social Subjects had led the council to develop a strategic approach to improving outcomes across all areas of the Social Subjects curriculum. As part of this strategic approach, a programme had been developed in consultation with the Depute Head Teacher (DHT) Curriculum group and the Principal Teachers of Curriculum (Social Subjects) to enhance capacity of Principal Teachers and classroom practitioners in order to raise attainment in Geography, Modern Studies and History across all secondary schools.

The committee members thanked the DHT Curriculum group and the Principal Teachers of Curriculum (Social Subjects) team and indicated that they looked forward to further good results.

It was recommended that the committee note:

- The contents of the report; and
- The arrangements for improvement actions across social subjects.

Decision

To note the contents of the report and the update by the Chair of DHT Curriculum group and Principal Teachers of Curriculum (Social Subjects) representatives.