
South East Improvement Plan (Phase 3 - August 2021)

Report by Service Director, Children & Young People's Services

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5 October 2021

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Committee of the progress made by the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) and the improvement priorities from August 2021.**
- 1.2 The document highlights SEIC progress and achievements, as well as details the priorities from August 2021. It demonstrates commitment and actions to achieving the national aims of excellence, equity and empowerment.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Executive Committee note the SEIC Improvement Plan (Appendix 1) and support the involvement of staff in relevant improvement activities for the benefit of Children and Young People in Scottish Borders.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RICs) were first introduced in 2017 as part of Education Reform. There are six RICs across Scotland. Scottish Borders is part of the South East Improvement Collaborative (SEIC) and works in partnership with City of Edinburgh, Fife, Midlothian and East Lothian.
- 3.2 SEIC supports joint improvement activity across all five local authorities, as well as adds value to each local authority, dependant on local need.
- 3.3 The work of SEIC is supported by an improvement plan. The first SEIC plan was produced in September 2018; the second in September 2019 (phase 2); an Agile Plan was produced in March 2020 in response to the pandemic; and the latest plan (phase 3) was finalised in summer 2021 for implementation from August 2021.
- 3.4 SEIC improvement activity is facilitated by a SEIC team who are recruited and managed by the SEIC Board. Each local authority has a Quality Improvement Officer to support SEIC and LA work. There are dedicated education support officers to support professional learning, digital learning and creative learning. All work is supported by two data officers.
- 3.5 SEIC is also supported by a SEIT team, managed by Education Scotland. They work closely with the SEIC team to achieve SEIC goals and local authority improvement priorities.
- 3.6 The phase 3 SEIC plan has three strategic goals:
1. Drive high quality learning, teaching & Assessment
 2. Support inclusion, equity and wellbeing
 3. Use digital technologies to enhance learning
- 3.7 These goals will be achieved through the SEIC and SEIT teams, working groups and networks and the empowered system.
- 3.8 Progress and achievements of SEIC are carefully monitored by the SEIC Board with regular reporting to Scottish Government. Governance structures allow frequent updates to key groups. Following feedback from stakeholders an Implementation Group has been established this session, to ensure decisions made at the SEIC board translate into actions at a local level and maximise impact in the classroom.
- 3.9 SEIC has grown and developed over the four years of working together on common goals. There has been a strong drive to build capacity of staff and to become self-sustaining through an empowered system approach. Scottish Borders schools have benefited from being part of Pedagogy Pioneers, SEIC Associates and Research Schools. There is a national review of Regional Improvement Collaboratives, the results of which will be published in October 2021.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

There are no costs attached to any of the recommendations contained in this report.

4.2 Risk and Mitigations

There are no risks associated with this Report.

4.3 Equalities

It is anticipated that there are no adverse impact due to race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation or religion/belief arising from the proposals in this report.

4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no significant impacts on the economy, community or environment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.6 Rural Proofing

This report does not relate to new or amended policy or strategy and as a result rural proofing is not an applicable consideration.

4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Director (Finance & Corporate Governance), the Monitoring Officer/Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Director (People Performance & Change), the Clerk to the Council and Corporate Communications have been consulted and any comments received will need to be incorporated into the final report.

Approved by

Lesley Munro

Signature

Service Director, Children & Young People's Services

Author(s)

Name	Designation and Contact Number
Michelle Strong	Chief Education Officer

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Contact us at Council Headquarters, Newtown St Boswells, Melrose TD6 0SA.