
HEALTH & WELLBEING CENSUS DATA REPORTS

Report by Director Education & Lifelong Learning

SUB EDUCATION COMMITTEE

10 November 2022

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

1.1 This report includes details of the Scottish Borders Health and Wellbeing Census Data Reports for 2022 and the Executive Summary.

1.2 The Health and Wellbeing Census was carried out in March 2022 by all schools (P5-S6). This was a census directed by Scottish Government and undertaken by 16 of the 32 Local Authorities. Following consultation with both Elected Members and parents, it was agreed to remove the sexual health and relationships questions before issuing to our children and young people.

1.3 Scottish Government planned to publish the national level analysis in December 2022, however national level statistics will now be published in February 2023.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 I recommend that the Sub Education Committee:-

- a) Notes that national level statistics will be published in February 2023, which will allow comparison of Scottish Borders data with other Local Authorities and national information.**
- b) The Health and Wellbeing Census would be undertaken on a bi-annual basis, allowing us to track improvement overtime, using the 2022 Census as a baseline.**
- c) Agrees to change the time of year the census is carried out in future from March to November, making this easier for schools to undertake.**

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Scottish Government developed the census for use by Local Authorities. 16 out of 32 Local Authorities have undertaken the census in session 2021/22.

3.2 Following consultation with Elected Members and parents, the decision was taken to remove the sexual health and relationships questions before implementation across Scottish Borders schools.

3.3 The three reports outline the data collected from the census:-

1. Primary schools data (Appendix 1)
2. Secondary schools data (Appendix 2)
3. S4 substance use questionnaire data (Appendix 3)

3.4 An Executive Summary (Appendix 4) outlines some of the high level messages from the reports and the 4 key areas which are included in the Education Improvement Report for 2022/23.

3.5 The data reports will be of interest by other sectors and may influence planning and decision making moving forward.

4 CONTENT OF REPORTS AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

4.1 4 key areas have been identified and will be the focus for this session:

1. *Bullying, numbers of young carers, body image and stress, worry and loneliness:* Work has already started on the bullying element and the current Respective Relationships Policy is being updated involving all stakeholders. Within the reports, there are other areas which are of interest and require further work and consideration.
2. *National information:* when the national information becomes available, it will be useful to see how the Scottish Borders data compares with other areas.
3. *Bi-annual census:* Undertaking this activity bi-annually will allow us to look at trends and areas for development over time.
4. *November implementation of census:* Moving forward, implementing the census in November allows schools greater flexibility of engaging with all children and young people. Time is available early in January to March for analysis and data being available for schools in the summer term. This cycle works better for improvement planning.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial

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

5.2 Risk and Mitigations

- a) Currently Health and Wellbeing is of greater concern across all sectors of society. The Health and Wellbeing Census allows Scottish Borders to have local data, relevant to children and young people within this area.
- b) The risk of not undertaking this census on a bi-annual basis would be there is no local data available. Potentially there could be smaller surveys carried out in localities, but they would not be consistent in their application or approach.

5.3 Integrated Impact Assessment

There are no significant effects on the Integrated Impact Assessment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.4 UN Development Goals

- a) *Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages:* The Health and Wellbeing census data reports will provide information for Scottish Borders Council and partner agencies to consider the views of children and young people and areas where change is required to improve wellbeing.
- b) *Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all potential:* The Health and Wellbeing Census Data Reports will support schools and partner agencies to identify areas where improvements could be made to increase engagement with learning. For example, considering the age and areas where young people are feeling most stressed and worried, will allow practitioners to target support.
- c) *Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls:* The Health and Wellbeing Census data will allow Scottish Borders and partner agencies to identify areas where girls are requiring additional support. For example, body image will form part of the Education Improvement Plan for session 2022/23.

5.5 Climate Change

There are no significant effects on climate change arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.6 Rural Proofing

There are no significant effects on rural proofing arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.7 Data Protection Impact Statement

There are no personal data implications arising from the proposals contained in this report.

5.8 **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.

6 CONSULTATION

6.1 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 be reported at the Sub Education Committee Meeting.

Approved by

Lesley Munro

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Background Papers: Not applicable

Previous Minute Reference: Not applicable

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