

Scottish Borders Council

Stretch Aims 2022 – 23 Interim Report

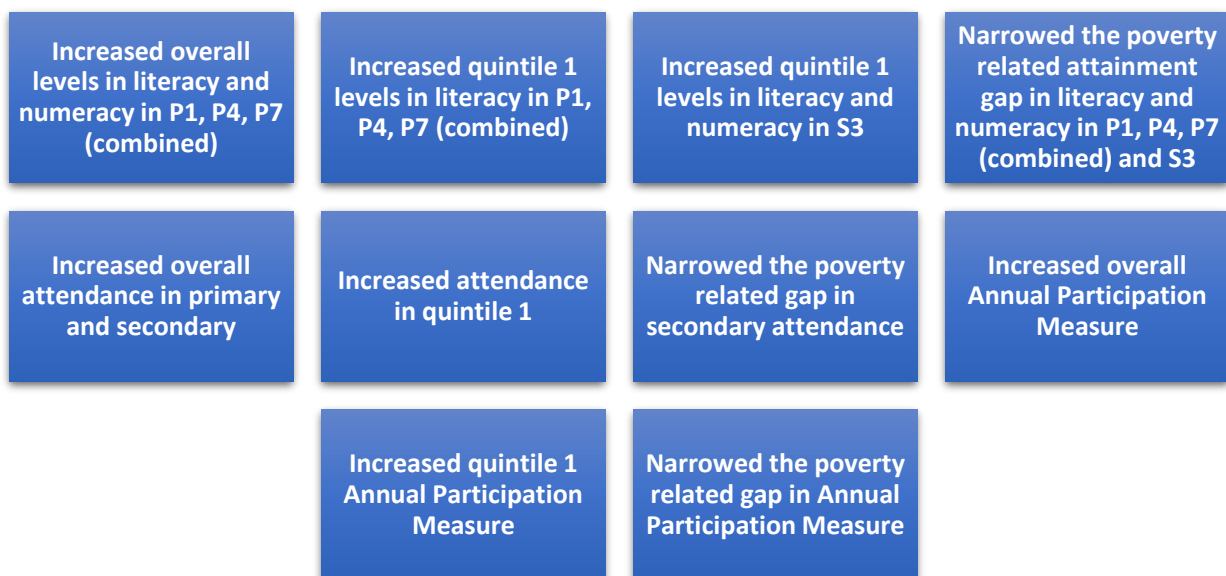
Introduction

Scottish Borders Council is pleased to confirm our 2022/23 stretch aims interim results.

Ambitious approaches in to setting stretch aims and robust monitoring procedures has led to an empowered system through to cluster, school, and practitioner level. Feedback from senior school leaders has been overwhelming positive to the stretch aim process. We have refined and improved our processes further for 2023-2026, based on feedback and self-evaluation.

Stretch aims results are included for areas in which we have updated and published national data and quality assured local data; it is therefore not possible to report on all areas until this data has been published i.e. Insight leavers data. A full report will be provided in February 2024 when this data is released.

Summary



Core Stretch Aims

Core: ACEL P1 P4 P7 Literacy Combined				
	Overall levels	SIMD Q1	SIMD Q5	Gap (Q1 - Q5)
2022/23	71.9%	52.9%	84.2%	31.4pp
2021/22	68.9%	46.2%	84.6%	38.4pp
2022/23 Stretch Aim	75%	60%	87%	27pp
Variance on 21/22	+3pp	+7pp	-0.4pp	Narrowed by 7pp
Additional Information				
Overall attainment progress and improvements in the attainment gap were being made in ACEL P1, P4, P7 Literacy prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the attainment of quintile 1 learners was impacted severely by the pandemic. Data from 21/22 and 22/23 has been encouraging as our quintile				

1 learner's attainment has started to level off and then improve significantly with the attainment gap narrowing for the first time since 2019.

Core: ACEL P1 P4 P7 Numeracy Combined				
	Overall levels	SIMD Q1	SIMD Q5	Gap (Q1 - Q5)
2022/23	76.9%	54.8%	87.4%	32.6pp
2021/22	76.6%	57.5%	91.2%	33.7pp
2022/23 Stretch Aim	80%	65%	89%	24pp
Variance on 21/22	+0.3pp	-2.7pp	-3.8pp	Narrowed by 1.1pp
Additional Information				
Overall attainment progress was made in ACEL P1, P4, P7 Numeracy prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the attainment of quintile 1 and 5 learners has reduced since the pandemic, although overall attainment has increased slightly, and the gap has started to narrow.				

Core: Annual Participation measure (16-19 – Education, Employment, or Training)				
	Overall levels	SIMD Q1	SIMD Q5	Gap (Q1 - Q5)
2022/23	95.6%	87.1%	98.2%	11.1p
2021/22	93.4%	86.1%	97.8%	11.7pp
2022/23 Stretch Aim	94%	89%	98%	9pp
Variance on 21/22	+2.2pp	+1pp	+0.4%	Narrowed by 0.7pp
Additional Information				
The overall Annual Participation Measure (APM) in 2023 of 95.6% is the highest ever achieved in Scottish Borders. This is an increase of 2.2% on the previous year and puts Scottish Borders in the top quartile of Scottish local authorities. The quintile 1 APM in 2023 of 87.1% is also the highest ever achieved, quintile 5 increased to 98.2% and the gap narrowed to 11.1%				

Core Health and Wellbeing: Attendance - Primary				
	Overall levels	SIMD Q1	SIMD Q5	Gap (Q1 - Q5)
2022/23	93.3%	89.7%	95.4%	5.7pp
2021/22	92.9%	89.2%	93.5%	4.3pp
2022/23 Stretch Aim	95%	95%	95%	0pp
Variance on 21/22	+0.7pp	+1.1pp	+1.7pp	Widened by 1.4pp
Additional Information				
Overall attendance in the primary sector was high prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and consistently above the national average. However, post-pandemic attendance rates fell in all areas and the gap widened. In 2022/23 attendance rates have climbed in all areas but the gap has widened. Attendance rates in all areas have not returned to the high levels of pre-pandemic. A new attendance policy is currently being developed and due to be launched by 2024/25.				

Core Health and Wellbeing: Attendance - Secondary				
	Overall levels	SIMD Q1	SIMD Q5	Gap (Q1 - Q5)
2022/23	89.2%	84.5%	90.9%	6.4pp
2021/22	88.6%	83.0%	90.6%	7.6pp
2022/23 Stretch Aim	95%	95%	95%	0pp
Variance on 21/22	+0.6pp	+1.5pp	+0.3pp	Narrowed by 1.2pp



Additional Information

Overall attendance in the secondary sector was satisfactory prior to the COVID-19 pandemic but was experiencing a falling trend. Post-pandemic attendance rates fell in all areas although the gap narrowed. In 2022/23, attendance rates have climbed in all areas and the gap has narrowed. Attendance rates in all areas have not returned to the higher levels of pre-pandemic. A new attendance policy is currently being developed by the LA and due to be launched by 2024/25.