

ANNUAL PARTICIPATION MEASURE 2018

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The main purpose of this report is to provide Community Service Committee Members with an update on the most recent Annual Participation Measure published in September 2018.
- 1.2 The Annual Participation Measure (APM) reports on the economic and employment activity of the wider 16-19 year old cohort, including those at school. The measure is used to inform policy, planning and service delivery and to determine the impact of the Opportunities for All commitment.
- 1.3 The APM was incorporated into the Scottish Government's National Performance Framework from August 2017 as the source of the indicator, "increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work", replacing the school leaver destination reports.
- 1.4 The previous measure, school leaver destination reports collected data on young people in the senior phase of school (S4-S6) who left school during the school year and essentially offered a snapshot at the time of reporting (October/February). The APM takes account of all statuses for 16-19 year olds in Scotland over a full calendar year (1st April – 31st March).
- 1.5 The headline participation classifications (participating, not participating and unconfirmed) are based on the classification within which each individual spent the greatest number of days.
- 1.6 The 2018 APM headline figures confirm that 94.2% of 16-19 year olds in Argyll and Bute were **participating** in education, training or employment compared to 91.8% nationally. 2.7% were **not participating** compared to 3.4% nationally and 3.1% have an **unconfirmed** status compared to 4.7% nationally.
- 1.7 Argyll and Bute rank 9th out of the 32 local authorities and higher than our comparator authorities for the proportion of 16 to 19 year olds participating in education, training or employment.

RECOMMENDATION

1.8 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:

- Note the publication of the 2018 Annual Participation Measure and that Annual Participation Measure has replaced School Leaver Destination Reports as the source of the national indicator, “increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work.”
- Agree that Opportunities for All and Developing Young Workforce programmes have contributed positively to Argyll and Bute 2018 participation measures being above both the Scottish average and comparator authorities.

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The Annual Participation Measure (APM) is published in September each year and used to inform policy, planning and service delivery, and also to assess progress in the delivery of Opportunities for All, the Scottish Government's commitment to offer a place in learning or training to every 16 to 19-year-old in Scotland not in employment, education or training.
- 2.2 The 2018 APM marks the fourth release of statistics on the participation of 16-19 year olds at a national and local authority level, and is the third year using the current APM reporting methodology. The report takes account of the status for 16-19 year olds from 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018.
- 2.3 The statistics are produced using data collected by SDS and a range of partners, which is shared through the 16+ Data Hub.
- 2.4 The report is based on a cohort of 211,255 young people aged between 16 and 19, of which 3,337 are from Argyll and Bute.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Community Services Committee:
- Note the publication of the 2018 Annual Participation Measure and that Annual Participation Measure has replaced School Leaver Destination Reports as the source of the national indicator, "increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work."
 - Agree that Opportunities for All and Developing Young Workforce programmes have contributed positively to Argyll and Bute 2018 participation measures being above both the Scottish average and comparator authorities.

4.0 DETAIL

- 4.1 The APM is compiled from data collected from the 16+ Data Hub, a multi-partner secure data sharing gateway managed by Skills Development

Scotland (SDS). Data input is provided from Local Authorities, Colleges, Department of Work and Pensions, SAAS and the Scottish Funding Council. It is estimated that approximately 90% of young people in the 16 to 19 age group are recorded on the system.

4.2 The participation status of each young person is identified by combining the number of days spent in each status between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018. Their overall headline classification (participating, not-participating and unknown) is then decided by the classification under which they have spent the most days over that year.

4.3 The classifications are defined as –

- Participating – school pupil, higher education, further education, employment, modern apprenticeships, training and voluntary work.
- Not Participating – unemployed and seeking employment or training, unemployed and not seeking employment or training.
- Unconfirmed Status – information on individual not available for reporting. Some of these young people may be in employment but not in contact with partner agencies.

4.4 Argyll and Bute continues to perform above the national average in each classification and there has been a small improvement from 2017 figures.

	Argyll and Bute 2018	PP Difference from 2017	Scotland Average 2018
% Participating	94.2%	+ 1.2%	2018
% Not Participating	2.7%	- 0.1%	91.8%
% Unconfirmed	3.1%	- 1.1%	3.4%

4.5 Argyll and Bute rank 9th out of the 32 local authorities and higher in the participation classification than our comparator authorities –

	% Participating	National Placing
Argyll and Bute	94.2%	9
Angus	92.2%	15=
Dumfries and Galloway	92.2%	15=
Highland	93.8%	11
Scottish Borders	92.8%	13
South Ayrshire Council	91.6%	16=

4.6 Participation rates decreased by age, with the highest participation rate amongst 16 year olds, which you would expect as most young people will still be at school at this age.

Age 16	Age 17	Age 18	Age 19
99.2%	97.4%	92.3%	88.7%

The majority of young people recorded as participating (69.6%) were in education, 22.9% were in employment and 1.7% in training and personal development.

- 4.7 The percentage of young people participating by gender in Argyll and Bute is evenly balanced with 94.1% female and 94.2% male. This is slightly different to the national picture, which shows marginally more females as participating – 92.5% female and 91.2% male.
- 4.8 100% of mixed or multiple, Asian, African, Caribbean or Black young people in Argyll and Bute are recorded as participating.
- 4.9 89.8% of young people aged 16 to 19 from the most deprived areas of Argyll and Bute (SIMD 20% most deprived deciles) are recorded as participating. Again, this is higher than the Scottish average of 85.7%.
- 4.10 The percentage point difference between young people from the most deprived (89.8%) and least deprived areas (96.1%) is 6.2%. This figure has reduced significantly from 8.9% in 2016. The equivalent Scottish percentage point difference for 2018 is 10.8%.
- 4.11 When broken down into electoral wards the APM data tells us there has been significant increases in participation rates in Cowal, Lomond North, Helensburgh Central and Oban North and Lorn.

Electoral Wards	2017	2018	PP Change
Cowal	93.7%	97.4%	3.7%
Mid-Argyll	96.2%	96.4%	0.2%
Oban South and the Isles	96.4%	96.2%	-0.3%
Kintyre and the Islands	99.2%	95.8%	-3.4%
South Kintyre	92.7%	94.5%	1.9%
Lomond North	91.0%	94.4%	3.4%
Helensburgh Central	88.9%	93.8%	4.9%
Helensburgh and Lomond South	92.9%	93.4%	0.6%
Dunoon	94.0%	92.2%	-1.8%
Oban North and Lorn	87.1%	91.8%	4.7%
Isle of Bute	91.6%	88.8%	-2.8%

Further analysis is being done to establish the reasons the negative PP change to Kintyre and the Islands and Isle of Bute.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The Annual Participation Measure provides data on the economic and employment activity of 16 to 19 year olds and enables local authorities to measure progress against the National Improvement Framework indicator - “increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work.”
- 5.2 The 2018 Annual Participation Measure indicates that Argyll and Bute is performing above the Scottish average and better than our comparator authorities.
- 5.3 Opportunities for All and Developing Young Workforce activities assist young people with the transition from school into employment, education or training. The robust, current information provided by the Data Hub and Annual Participation Measure will be increasingly used to identify potential issues and inform partners. This will enable partners to be proactive in providing more targeted and tailored intervention to support young people.
- 5.4 Key partner agencies, including secondary schools, Community Learning and Development (CLD), local colleges, Skills Development Scotland and the third sector, will continue to work together with the Opportunities for All team during 2018/2019 to ensure young people are supported to access and sustain positive destinations.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Policy This report links directly to Outcome 3 in the Argyll and Bute Single Outcome Agreement (Education Skills and Training Maximises Opportunities for All.)
- 6.2 Financial None
- 6.3 Legal None
- 6.4 HR None
- 6.5 Equalities The Opportunities for All programme and Developing Scotland’s Young Workforce recommendations actively seek to address disadvantage.
- 6.6 Risk Failure to support young people into positive destinations will impact on the life chances of young people across the Local Authority area and may result in outward migration of young
- 6.7 Customer Service This report provides elected members with an overview on Service performance.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Summary of 2018 Argyll and Bute Annual Participation Measure