

REPORT TO: Education Committee

MEETING DATE: 25 March 2014

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Resources and People Services)

SUBJECT: Reporting on SQA Performance 2013 (Post-Appeal)

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of the trends in Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) performance (post-appeal) in East Lothian to 2013.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to:-
- i. Note that the data contained within the report is post-appeal.
 - ii. Note that the East Lothian results represent a continuing good profile in comparison to the national and comparator grouping averages. The Education Service recognises the key challenge is to improve attainment and educational outcomes for children and young people, especially at the end of S4.
 - iii. Note the results contained within the report and that the examination results inform and guide actions in each of the six secondary schools' School Improvement Plans.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Scottish Government Education Department analyse all attainment data through ScotXed (Scottish Exchange of Educational Data) and provide Education Authorities and schools with information about their attainment in relation to the national performance and that of their comparator authorities.
- 3.2 The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) is used as the basis for reporting attainment. The SCQF is a way of comparing the wide range of Scottish qualifications and covers achievements from school, college, university and many work-based qualifications. There

are 12 SCQF Levels. SCQF Level 1 is the least demanding and SCQF Level 12 the most demanding. In schools, students work towards qualifications from SCQF Level 1 to 7 through a range of SQA courses.

- 3.3 The following table shows where the different SQA awards sit within the SCQF framework:

SCQF Level	SQA Awards
Level 7	Advanced Higher A-C and Scottish Baccalaureates
Level 6	Higher A-C and Skills for Work Higher
Level 5	Standard Grade Credit (Grade 1-2), Skills for Work Int 2 and Intermediate 2 Pass A-C
Level 4	Standard Grade General (Grade 3-4), Skills for Work Int 1 and Intermediate 1 Pass A-C
Level 3	Standard Grade Foundation (Grade 5-6), Skills for Work Access 3 and Access 3 Pass
Level 2	Access 2 Pass
Level 1	Access 1 Pass

- 3.4 The exam results in this report are taken from the STACs (Standards Tables and Charts) 2013 Post Appeals publication.
- 3.5 The national and comparator authorities grouping percentages presented in this report for 2013 are unofficial statistics. The Scottish Government will publish the official national post-appeal attainment data in June 2014 as per the revised arrangements following changes implemented to the School Handbook legislation in 2012.
- 3.6 The figures that were reported to parents in the school handbooks by schools in December were based upon the post appeal data from the SQA uploaded into the school management system at the end of November to give an accurate reflection of performance in 2013, in alignment with the national statistics that will be published in June 2014.
- 3.7 The figures reported in this report and that will be reported on nationally later in the year represent the **cumulative attainment** by the end of each stage. For example, attainment by the end of S4 will include the results of Standard Grade or Intermediate courses completed by the same pupils when they were in S3.
- 3.8 Three and five year averages and average rate of change (RoC) trends are presented along with the annual percentages and NCD placings to show the rate of progress and provide an indication of a declining or improving trend by East Lothian schools in relation to our comparator authorities and the national average.
- 3.9 A positive value indicates an improving trend on average over the 3 or 5 year period and a negative value indicates a declining trend.

3.10 Examination performance is measured nationally against a number of key measures:

By the end of S4

- English and Mathematics at Level 3
- 5 or more awards at Level 3
- 5 or more awards at Level 4
- 5 or more awards at Level 5

By the end of S5

- 5 or more awards at Level 5
- 1 or more awards at Level 6
- 3 or more awards at Level 6
- 5 or more awards at Level 6

By the end of S6

- 5 or more awards at Level 5
- 1 or more awards at Level 6
- 3 or more awards at Level 6
- 5 or more awards at Level 6
- 1 or more awards at Level 7

3.11 In East Lothian we operate inclusive schools and there are some pupils who pass examinations at SCQF levels 1 and 2, which are not included in the analysis as key measures.

3.12 The figures, which allow us to make a judgement about our progress, are the National Comparison Deciles (NCDs). Each national comparison decile represents one tenth of the local authorities in Scotland, each decile therefore represents approximately 3 Education Authorities. If an Education Authority were in the 10th decile (NCD10) they would be in the lowest three performing Education Authorities in that particular area of attainment. An NCD of 1 would mean that the Education Authority was amongst the top three performing Education Authorities in Scotland.

3.13 East Lothian's comparator grouping authorities are Aberdeenshire, Fife, Midlothian, South Lanarkshire and Stirling.

3.14 East Lothian progress in relation to national levels of performance

Highlights

3.14.1 Post-appeal SQA examination performance in East Lothian continues to equal or perform above both the national and comparator grouping percentage average in eleven of the thirteen key measures listed in paragraph 3.10.

3.14.2 At the end of S5 and S6, East Lothian has improving trends in the key measures and is consistently above our comparator authorities grouping and national levels in eight out of the nine key measures.

3.14.3 While a good level of performance has been maintained at the end of S4, East Lothian's performance in the 5+ Level 5 key measure has dropped below the national average.

3.14.4 While overall performance is showing an improving/consistent trend the Education Service recognises that the key challenge is to improve attainment and educational outcomes for children and young people, especially at the end of S4. Details of ongoing actions to improve attainment can be found in Appendix 3.

3.14.5 The following tables (1-23) and commentary shows the progress made by East Lothian schools and our comparator authorities grouping against the national average in relation to the percentage of the S4 roll achieving key measures by the end of S4, S5 and S6 over the last 5 years.

3.15 Performance by the end of S4

3.15.1 East Lothian's percentage performance across the S4 measures has been consistently above the comparator authority grouping and national averages over the last 5 years with the exception of English & Maths at Level 3 measure, which has dropped to the comparator authority and national average for the first time. In addition the 5+ Level 4 measure has remained static at the national average and the 5+ Level 5 measure remained static dropping 1% below the national average for the first time in 2013.

3.15.2 A total of 1,016 pupils were presented for examination across the Education Authority in 2013. A 1% drop in performance from one year to the next equates to a difference of approx 10 pupils across the Authority and provides an indication of the very fine margins of performance.

3.15.3 Despite maintaining its percentage performance, East Lothian shows a declining trend over the last 3 years in terms of its NCD placings in the 5+ Level 3, 5+ Level 4 and 5+ Level 5 measures by the end of S4 as the national average continues to improve year on year reducing the gap.

3.15.4 The following tables detail the progress made by East Lothian schools and our comparator authorities against the national average in relation to the attainment of pupils by the end of S4.

TABLE 1

Eng & Maths @ Level 3											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	93	6	93	6	94	6	95	6	95	7	95	1	94	1	6	6
East Lothian Ave	96	2	94	4	96	2	96	2	95	6	96	-1	95	0	3	3
National Ave	93		93		93		94		95		94	1	94	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	3	4	1	2	2	4	1	4	0	1	1		1		3	3
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	3		1		3		2		0		2		1			

Table 1 shows a relatively static trend over the last 5 years in East Lothian with an average percentage performance of 95% and an average NCD placing in top nine performing Education Authorities in Scotland, 3 placings on average above our comparator grouping. Post-appeal figures for 2013, however, show a decile placing drop of four places to NCD6 for East Lothian as the national average has continued to improve year on year reducing the gap with East Lothian.

TABLE 2

5 or more Level 3											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	91	6	92	6	92	8	93	9	93	9	93	1	92	1	9	8
East Lothian Ave	95	2	96	1	95	2	96	3	96	5	96	1	96	0	3	3
National Ave	92		92		93		94		95		94	1	93	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	4	4	4	5	3	6	3	6	3	4	3		4		6	5
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	3		4		2		2		1		2		3			

Table 2 shows a relatively static trend in East Lothian over the last 5 years with an average percentage performance of 96% and an average NCD placing in top 9 performing Education Authorities in Scotland, 5 placings on average above our comparator grouping. However, post-appeal figures for 2013 indicate a decile placing drop for a third year to NCD5 as the national average continues to improve for a third consecutive year reducing the gap with East Lothian.

Table 3/..

TABLE 3

5 or more Level 4											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	79	6	79	6	78	6	79	7	81	6	79	2	79	1	6	6
East Lothian Ave	84	2	83	2	82	3	82	5	82	6	82	0	83	-1	5	4
National Ave	78		78		79		80		82		80	2	79	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	1	0	3		4		1	2
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	6		5		3		2		0		2		4			

Table 3 shows a declining trend over the last 5 years in East Lothian with an average percentage performance of 82% and an average NCD placing in the 4th decile, 1 to 2 placings on average above our comparator grouping. The percentage of pupils who gained 5+ Level 4 awards in 2013 dropped a further NCD placing on the previous year to the 6th decile for the first time in 5 years, reflecting the continuing improvement that has been made nationally in this measure.

TABLE 4

5 or more Level 5											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	35	6	36	6	36	6	37	6	37	7	37	1	36	1	6	6
East Lothian Ave	38	5	39	4	39	4	38	5	38	7	38	-1	38	0	5	5
National Ave	35		36		36		37		39		37	1	37	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	3	1	3	2	3	2	1	1	1	0	1		2		1	1
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	3		3		3		1		-1		1		1			

Table 4 shows a slight declining trend in East Lothian over the last 3 years with an average percentage performance of 38% and an average NCD placing in the 5th decile, 1 placing on average above our comparator grouping. The percentage of pupils who gained 5+ Level 5 awards in 2013 dropped to 1% below the national average and two NCD placings on the previous year to the 7th decile for the first time in 5 years, reflecting the continuing improvement that has been made nationally in this measure.

3.16 Gender Differences in Key Measures by the end of S4

3.16.1 Performance by boys and girls by the end of S4 in East Lothian reflects a similar trend to the East Lothian trends above with girls generally performing higher than the boys in terms of percentage performance in line with the national average, with the exception of the 5 or more at Level 3 measure.

3.16.2 The tables below detail the percentage performance and NCD placings of boys and girls in East Lothian as well as the measure of difference between boys and girls in the performance on the key measures and the difference in the NCD placings between boys and girls by the end of S4.

3.16.3 Values shaded in pink indicate that girls are performing higher than boys and values shaded in green indicate that boys are performing higher.

TABLE 5

Eng & Maths Level 3											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	95	2	92	7	96	1	96	2	96	5	96	95	3	3
East Lothian Girls	96	2	95	4	96	2	97	2	95	7	96	96	4	3
East Lothian Diff	-1	0	-3	3	0	-1	-1	0	1	-2	0	-1	-1	0
National Diff	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-1	-1		

Table 5 shows that girls outperform boys on average in East Lothian over the last 5 years in this measure in line with the national average. However, progress has been made by boys in the last 3 years to reduce the gap between girls and boys. Post-appeal figures for 2013 show a drop in performance for both boys and girls in East Lothian of three and five decile placings respectively.

TABLE 6

5 or more Level 3											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	95	2	95	2	96	1	96	2	96	3	96	96	2	2
East Lothian Girls	95	3	97	1	95	3	95	3	95	6	95	95	4	3
East Lothian Diff	0	-1	-2	1	1	-2	1	-1	1	-3	1	1	-2	-1
National Diff	-1	0	-1	0	-1	0	-2	0	-1	0	-1	-1		

Table 6 shows that boys outperform girls on average in East Lothian over the last 5 years in this measure in contrast to the national average. Post-appeal figures for 2013 show a slight drop in NCD placing for boys despite maintaining the same percentage performance. The post-appeal performance of girls shows a more significant drop of 3 NCD placings on the previous year in East Lothian.

Table 7/...

TABLE 7

5 or more Level 4											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	83	2	77	5	80	4	81	4	78	6	80	80	5	4
East Lothian Girls	85	3	89	1	85	3	83	6	84	6	84	85	5	4
East Lothian Diff	-2	-1	-12	4	-5	1	-2	-2	-4	0	-4	-5	0	0
National Diff	-5	0	-5	0	-4	0	-5	0	-5	0	-5	-5		

Table 7 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 5% in East Lothian over the last 5 years. Both the NCD placings for girls and boys in East Lothian show a declining trend over this period as the national average continues to improve.

TABLE 8

5 or more Level 5											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	36	2	31	6	35	4	32	6	33	7	33	33	6	5
East Lothian Girls	39	6	48	2	43	5	45	4	43	6	44	44	5	5
East Lothian Diff	-3	-4	-17	4	-8	-1	-13	2	-10	1	-11	-11	1	0
National Diff	-9	0	-9	0	-9	0	-9	0	-9	0	-9	-9		

Table 8 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 11% in East Lothian over the last 5 years. Both the percentage performance and NCD placings for girls and boys in East Lothian show a declining trend over this period as the national average continues to improve.

3.17 Performance by the end of S5

3.17.1 East Lothian's percentage performance across all the S5 key measures has been consistently above the comparator authority grouping and national averages over the last 5 years with East Lothian's NCD placings also indicating a generally improving trend as it continues to improve in line with the national average rate of change.

3.17.2 The tables below detail the annual progress made by East Lothian schools and our comparator authorities against the national average in relation to the attainment of pupils by the end of S5 and are expressed as a proportion of the original S4 roll and not as a proportion of the number of pupils from that S4 cohort who return to school in S5.

Table 9/...

TABLE 9

1 or more Level 6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	41	6	43	6	45	5	46	6	48	6	46	2	45	2	6	6
East Lothian Ave	45	3	46	3	47	5	48	3	48	6	48	1	47	1	5	4
National Ave	41		43		45		47		49		47	2	45	2		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	4	3	3	3	2	0	2	3	0	0	2		2		1	2
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	4		3		2		1		-1		1		2			

Table 9 shows a relatively static percentage trend over the last 3 years in East Lothian with an average performance of 48% and a fluctuating NCD placing. Post-appeal figures for 2013 show another consistent performance in terms of percentage but a decile placing drop of 3 places on the previous year, as the national average continues to improve year on year.

TABLE 10

3 or more Level 6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	24	5	25	5	27	5	27	4	28	6	27	1	26	1	5	5
East Lothian Ave	27	2	26	4	28	3	29	3	31	4	29	2	28	1	3	3
National Ave	23		25		26		27		29		27	2	26	2		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	2	2		2		2	2
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	4		1		2		2		2		2		2			

Table 10 shows an improving percentage performance trend over the last 5 years in East Lothian and an average placing trend within the top nine performing Education Authorities across Scotland over the period as East Lothian's performance continues to improve in line with the national rate of change.

Table 11/...

TABLE 11

5 or more Level 6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	11	5	11	5	12	5	13	5	13	5	13	1	12	1	5	5
East Lothian Ave	12	3	12	3	13	4	14	3	16	2	14	1	13	1	3	3
National Ave	11		11		12		13		14		13	1	12	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>2</i>		<i>1</i>		<i>1</i>			

Table 11 shows an improving percentage performance trend in East Lothian over the last 5 years in this measure and a steady placing trend on average within the top nine performing Education Authorities across Scotland.

3.18 Value Added by the end of S5

3.18.1 The table below shows the percentage performance and NCD placings in the 5+ Level 5 measure by the end of S5 as well as the measure of difference between the performance by the end of S4 and S5.

3.18.2 East Lothian pupils add an additional 15% and 16% on average to the 5+ Lev 5 measure by the end of S5 over the last 5 and 3 years respectively, in line with the national and comparator grouping average.

TABLE 12

5 or more Level 5 by end of S5											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	48	6	49	7	51	6	52	6	54	7	52	2	51	2	6	6
East Lothian Ave	52	3	54	2	54	4	55	4	55	6	55	1	54	1	4	4
National Ave	47		49		51		52		54		52	2	51	2		
Comp Group % VA	12		14		15		16		17		16	1	15	1		
East Lothian % VA	13		16		15		16		17		16	1	15	1		
National % VA	13		14		15		16		17		16	1	15	1		

Table 12 shows an improving trend in terms of percentage performance over the last 5 years in East Lothian remaining consistently above the comparator grouping and national averages. However, the NCD placings have declined over the last 3 years, dropping 2 places in 2013 to the 6th decile as the national average has continued to improve at a higher rate year on year narrowing the gap with East Lothian.

It should be noted that while the percentage of S4 pupils staying-on to S5 shows an improving trend over the last 5 years (see Appendix 1), the proportion of pupils staying on nationally has increased at a higher rate and this may be having an impact on the NCD placings for East Lothian in this measure.

3.19 Gender Differences in Key Measures by the end of S5

3.19.1 Performance by boys and girls by the end of S5 in East Lothian reflects a similar trend to the East Lothian trends above with girls generally performing higher than the boys in terms of percentage performance in line with the national average.

3.19.2 It should be noted that the stay-on rate to S5 for both girls and boys in East Lothian has increased over the last 5 years but at a lower rate than the national average and while showing an improving trend, the proportion of boys staying on is consistently lower than girls. This will have an impact on the ability of boys to add equivalent value in S5 to the girls as there are fewer boys sitting examinations.

3.19.3 Boys in East Lothian have made good progress increasing their NCD placings in the 3+ Lev 6 and 5+ Lev 6 measure by 2 and 4 placings respectively.

3.19.4 The tables below detail the percentage performance and NCD placings of boys and girls in East Lothian as well as the measure of difference between boys and girls in the performance on the key whole school measures and the difference in the NCD placings between boys and girls by the end of S5.

3.19.5 Values shaded in pink indicate that girls are performing higher than boys and values shaded in green indicate that boys are performing higher.

TABLE 13

	1 or more Level 6										%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	40	3	45	1	39	7	42	4	42	7	41	42	6	4
East Lothian Girls	50	3	47	7	54	3	55	3	56	5	55	52	4	4
East Lothian Diff	-10	0	-2	-6	-15	4	-13	1	-14	2	-14	-10	2	0
National Diff	-9	0	-9	0	-10	0	-10	0	-11	0	-10	-10		

Table 13 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 10% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 14% over the last 3 years. Both the NCD placings for girls and boys in East Lothian show a fluctuating trend over this period with the 2013 post-appeal showing a 2 placing drop for the girls and a 3 placing drop for the boys.

TABLE 14

3 or more Level 6											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	24	3	25	2	22	5	22	6	25	4	23	24	5	4
East Lothian Girls	31	2	28	5	34	2	35	2	37	2	35	33	2	3
East Lothian Diff	-7	1	-3	-3	-12	3	-13	4	-12	2	-12	-9	3	1
National Diff	-7	0	-6	0	-7	0	-7	0	-10	0	-8	-7		

Table 14 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 9% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 12% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show an improving trend over this period maintaining their position in the top 6 performing Education Authorities across Scotland for the last 3 years. The boys show a more fluctuating trend, however the 2013 post-appeal figures show a significant improvement on the previous year by 3% and two decile placings into the top 12 performing Education Authorities across Scotland.

TABLE 15

5 or more Level 6											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	11	2	12	2	10	5	10	6	14	2	11	11	4	3
East Lothian Girls	13	4	12	6	16	2	18	2	18	3	17	15	2	3
East Lothian Diff	-2	-2	0	-4	-6	3	-8	4	-4	-1	-6	-4	2	0
National Diff	-3	0	-3	0	-4	0	-4	0	-5	0	-4	-4		

Table 15 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 4% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 6% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show a steady performance, maintaining their position within the top 9 performing Education Authorities across Scotland for the last 3 years. The boys show an improving trend overall the last 3 years with the 2013 post-appeal figures showing a significant improvement on the previous year by 4% and four decile placings into the top 6 performing Education Authorities across Scotland.

3.20 Performance by the end of S6

3.20.1 Attainment at the end of S6 reflects more accurately the impact on schools who design the curriculum to give young people the best chance to achieve their full potential.

3.20.2 Over the last 5 years, East Lothian has made continuous improvement across each of the key measures by the end of S6, with the percentage performance in each measure remaining equal to or above the national and comparator authorities' grouping average year on year. East Lothian has maintained or improved its decile placing into the top nine performing Education Authorities across all the measures by the end of S6.

3.20.3 The tables below detail the annual progress made by East Lothian schools and our comparator authorities against the national average in relation to the attainment of S4 pupils who achieve certain levels of performance by the end of S6.

3.20.4 Key measures are the percentage of S4 pupils who gain 5 or more awards at Level 5 (credit or equivalent) by the end of S6, and the percentage of S4 pupils who gain 3 or more awards at Level 6 (Higher), 5 or more awards at Level 6 (Higher) and 1 or more awards at Level 7 (Advanced Higher) by the end of S6.

3.20.5 The attainment by the end of S6 is expressed as a proportion of the original S4 roll and not as a proportion of the number of pupils from that S4 cohort who return to school in S6.

TABLE 16

1+ Lev 7											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	14	6	15	6	16	6	17	5	18	5	17	1	16	1	5	6
East Lothian Ave	16	4	19	2	16	4	17	5	19	3	17	2	17	1	4	4
National Ave	14		15		16		16		17		16	1	16	1		
<i>Diff ELC v CA</i>	2	2	4	4	0	2	0	0	1	2	0		1		1	2
<i>Diff ELC v NAT</i>	2		4		0		1		2		1		1			

Table 16 shows a fluctuating trend over the last 5 years in East Lothian but an improving performance and NCD placing over the last 3 years. Post-appeal figures for 2013 show an increase of 2 decile placings on the previous year to the top 9 performing Education Authorities in Scotland.

It should be noted that universities are sending out inconsistent messages about the value of an Advanced Higher in S6 as opposed to additional Higher passes in S6. As a result some pupils who might have chosen to sit and pass Advanced Highers are now opting to sit more Highers.

3.21 Value Added by the end of S6

3.21.1 The tables below show the percentage performance and NCD placings in the 5+ Level 5, 3+ Level 6 and 5+ Level 6 measures by the end of S6 as

well as the measure of difference between the performance by the end of S4 and S6 and S5 and S6.

3.21.2 The percentage of S4 pupils staying-on to S6 shows an improving trend in East Lothian over the last 5 years and has increased in line with the national average keeping East Lothian within the top two decile placings for S6 stay-on rates over the last 4 years.

TABLE 17

5 or more Level 5 by end of S6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	49	6	51	6	52	7	55	6	55	7	54	2	52	2	7	6
East Lothian Ave	52	4	56	2	59	2	58	4	60	3	59	1	57	2	3	3
National Ave	48		50		53		55		57		55	2	53	2		
Comp Group % VA	15		15		17		19		20		19	2	17	1		
East Lothian % VA	14		17		21		19		21		20	0	18	2		
National % VA	15		16		18		19		21		19	2	18	2		

Table 17 shows an improving trend in terms of percentage performance over the last 5 years remaining consistently above the comparator grouping and national averages although the percentage performance remained relatively static in the previous two years which has had an impact of the NCD placing as the national average has continued to make further improvements year on year. The 2013 post-appeal shows an improvement on the previous year to the 3rd decile. East Lothian pupils add an additional 18% and 20% on average to the 5+ Lev 5 measure by the end of S6 over the last 5 and 3 years respectively, equal to or higher than the national and comparator grouping average.

TABLE 18

3 or more Level 6 by end of S6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	31	5	33	6	35	7	37	6	38	6	37	2	35	2	6	6
East Lothian	34	4	37	3	39	2	40	3	41	3	40	1	38	2	3	3
National	31		33		35		37		38		37	2	35	2		
Comp Group % VA	9		9		10		10		11		10	1	10	1		
East Lothian % VA	9		10		13		12		12		12	-1	11	1		
National % VA	9		10		10		11		11		11	1	10	1		

Table 18 shows an improving trend in terms of percentage performance over the last 5 years remaining consistently above the comparator grouping and national averages although the performance has remained relatively static over the last 2 years with the 2013 post-appeal figures

showing the NCD placing being maintained in the 3rd decile. East Lothian pupils add an additional 11% to 12% on average to the 3+ Lev 6 measure by the end of S6, higher than both the national and comparator grouping average.

TABLE 19

5 or more Level 6 by end of S6											%				NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	3 Yr	5Yr	5 Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	RoC	Ave	RoC	Ave	Ave
Comp Group Ave	20	6	23	5	23	6	26	5	26	5	25	2	24	2	5	5
East Lothian	24	3	25	3	26	4	28	3	29	3	28	2	26	1	3	3
National	21		22		24		26		27		26	2	24	2		
Comp Group % VA	10		12		12		14		13		13	1	12	1		
East Lothian % VA	14		13		14		15		15		15	1	14	0		
National % VA	11		11		13		14		14		14	1	13	1		

Table 19 shows an improving trend in terms of percentage performance over the last 5 years remaining consistently above the comparator grouping and national averages. The NCD placing for East Lothian has also remained relatively static in the top nine performing Education Authorities across Scotland. East Lothian pupils add an additional 14% to 15% on average to the 5+ Lev 6 measure by the end of S6, 1% to 2% higher than both the national and comparator grouping average.

3.22 Gender Differences in Key Measures by the end of S6

3.22.1 Performance by boys and girls by the end of S6 in East Lothian reflects a similar trend to the East Lothian trends above with girls generally performing higher than the boys in terms of percentage performance in line with the national average.

3.22.2 It should be noted that while the stay-on rate to S6 for both girls and boys in East Lothian has increased over the last 5 years and the proportion of boys in East Lothian falls consistently within the top decile for the last 4 years, the proportion of boys staying on is also consistently lower than girls and this will have an impact on the ability to add equivalent value in S6 as there are fewer boys sitting examinations.

3.22.3 Both boys and girls in East Lothian perform generally above the comparator grouping and national averages in terms of percentage points across the range of whole school measures by the end of S6 with the exception of boys in the Level 6 (Higher) and Level 7 (Advanced Higher) measures over the last 2 years which has been on or just below the average.

3.22.4 This is reflected in the NCD placings with the girls in the top 3 deciles for the last 2 years across all the measures with the exception of the 5+

Level 4 measure which saw a drop in 2013 to the 4th decile placing for the first time since 2010.

3.22.5 Boys in East Lothian have also placed in the top 3 deciles across Scotland for the Level 3 and Level 4 measures but show more of a declining trend in the Level 5, Level 6 and Level 7 measures.

3.22.6 The tables below detail the percentage performance and NCD placings of boys and girls in East Lothian as well as the measure of difference between boys and girls in the performance in the key whole school measures and the difference in the NCD placings between boys and girls by the end of S6.

3.22.7 Values shaded in pink indicates that girls are performing higher than boys and values shaded in green indicate that boys are performing higher.

TABLE 20

5 or more Level 5 by end of S6

											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	51	2	51	3	57	1	52	5	54	4	54	53	3	3
East Lothian Girls	53	6	61	2	61	3	65	3	65	2	64	61	3	3
East Lothian Diff	-2	-4	-10	1	-4	-2	-13	2	-11	2	-10	-8	0	0
National Diff	-8	0	-9	0	-8	0	-9	0	-9	0	-9	-9		

Table 20 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 8% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 10% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show a steady performance, maintaining their position within the top 9 performing Education Authorities across Scotland over the last 4 years and improving to the 2nd decile in 2013. The boys show a more fluctuating trend overall with the 2013 post-appeal figures indicating a slight improvement on the previous year by 2% to the 4th decile.

TABLE 21

3 or more Level 6 by end of S6

											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	34	1	32	3	37	2	32	5	33	5	34	34	4	3
East Lothian Girls	34	6	42	3	42	4	47	2	49	1	46	43	2	3
East Lothian Diff	0	-5	-10	0	-5	-2	-15	3	-16	4	-12	-9	2	0
National Diff	-8	0	-8	0	-9	0	-10	0	-11	0	-10	-9		

Table 21 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 9% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 12% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show an improving trend over the last 5 years and are now in the top decile across Scotland. The boys show a more fluctuating trend overall with the last 3 years showing a decline as the % performance dropped to the national average.

TABLE 22

5 or more Level 6 by end of S6

											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	24	1	22	3	24	2	22	5	21	5	22	23	4	3
East Lothian Girls	23	5	28	4	27	5	35	2	38	1	33	30	3	3
East Lothian Diff	1	-4	-6	-1	-3	-3	-13	3	-17	4	-11	-7	1	0
National Diff	-5	0	-6	0	-8	0	-8	0	-9	0	-8	-7		

Table 22 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 7% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 11% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show an improving trend over the last 3 years and are now in the top decile across Scotland. The boys show a more fluctuating trend overall with the last 3 years showing a decline with the percentage performance falling to 1% below the national average.

TABLE 23

1 or more Level 7 by end of S6

											%		NCD	
	2009		2010		2011		2012		2013		3Yr	5Yr	3Yr	5Yr
	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	%	NCD	Ave	Ave	Ave	Ave
East Lothian Boys	16	2	17	1	16	3	12	9	13	8	14	15	7	5
East Lothian Girls	17	5	21	2	17	7	23	2	25	1	22	21	3	3
East Lothian Diff	-1	-3	-4	-1	-1	-4	-11	7	-12	7	-8	-6	4	2
National Diff	-3	0	-3	0	-4	0	-3	0	-4	0	-4	-3		

Table 23 shows that girls outperform boys on average by 6% in East Lothian over the last 5 years and 8% over the last 3 years. The percentage performance and NCD placings for girls in East Lothian show an improving trend over the last 3 years and are now in the top decile across Scotland. The boys show a more fluctuating trend overall with the last 3 years showing a decline with the percentage performance falling below the national average.

4 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 There are no policy implications in this report.

5 **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

5.1 This report is not applicable to the well being of equalities groups and an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Financial - None

6.2 Personnel - None

6.3 Other - None

7 **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

7.1 None

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Appendix 1

Pupil Rolls & Stay-on Rate Trends in East Lothian

All Candidates

	Pupil Roll					Staying on Rates						
	S4	S5 Sep	S5 Jan	S6	S5/S6	S5 Sep	NCD	S5 Jan	NCD	S6	NCD	
2013	1033	925	871	680	1551	84	6	80	4	80	1	
2012	1095	851	824	640	1464	79	9	76	5	74	2	
2011	1079	863	821	666	1487	80	7	76	3	77	1	
2010	1076	870	816	647	1463	79	6	74	3	77	1	
2009	1098	841	781	535	1316	73	7	68	4	59	5	

Boys

	Pupil Roll					Staying on Rates						
	S4	S5 Sep	S5 Jan	S6	S5/S6	S5 Sep	NCD	S5 Jan	NCD	S6	NCD	
2013	518	469	442	324	766	82	6	78	4	78	1	
2012	569	418	408	298	706	76	9	74	5	73	1	
2011	550	406	387	354	741	76	6	73	4	76	1	
2010	531	464	433	324	757	79	5	74	3	76	1	
2009	585	426	394	258	652	71	7	66	4	59	4	

Girls

	Pupil Roll					Staying on Rates						
	S4	S5 Sep	S5 Jan	S6	S5/S6	S5 Sep	NCD	S5 Jan	NCD	S6	NCD	
2013	515	456	429	356	785	87	7	82	5	82	1	
2012	526	433	416	342	758	82	8	79	6	75	3	
2011	529	457	434	312	746	84	7	80	4	77	2	
2010	545	406	383	323	706	79	7	75	5	78	1	
2009	513	415	387	277	664	76	8	71	6	59	7	

Notes re Pupil Roll & Stay-on Rates:

S4, S5 Sept and S6 Pupil roll data is based on September school census returns. S5 Jan data is based on the January School Leaver Survey and excludes Christmas leavers. S5 Staying-on rates are based on the relevant S4 roll and S6 Staying-on rate uses the relevant S5 roll. The S5/S6 roll uses the January S5 roll.

Explanation of NCD Placing Movements

NCDs of 1 or 10 are notable. Changes in NCD placings of two deciles may be considered worthy of consideration and placing changes of three or more are generally considered to be a notable/significant change. However, changes in decile placings and whether they are statistically significant or not is relevant to the range of percentage scores across the deciles separating each Education Authority, which may be very narrow and are not consistent between each measure. For example, a change of one decile or more in one measure may be the result of a change of less than 1% in real performance terms and, therefore, is not statistically significant in comparison to another measure where the change in decile placing of a similar distance may be as the result of a change of 2% or 3%.

Appendix 3

Examples of actions and activities to monitor and raise attainment in our schools

Actions and Activities	Anticipated impact on attainment	Responsibility	Timescales
Raising the level of challenge of courses within Broad General Education (S1-S3)	Raised expectations and better prepared pupils moving into Senior Phase (S4-S6)	Head Teachers	Ongoing
Improved curricular and skills transition from cluster primary schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools having a clear understanding of where pupils are Raised level of skills Pupils readiness to start S1 improved Pupils will make better progress in learning at transition 	Head Teachers	Commence Session 2014/15
More effective monitoring and tracking processes	Schools will provide more effective and timely interventions for pupil learning at every level	Head Teachers Quality Improvement Officers	Report due end of May 2014 for implementation during session 2014/15
Further improve the quality of learning and teaching	Better learner outcomes and better engagement with their learning	All	Ongoing
Schools using data more effectively to provide appropriate and targeted support for pupils both in Senior Phase and in Broad General Education	Pupils better supported to achieve to their potential	Head Teachers	Ongoing
Close monitoring of attendance	Pupils are in school and can benefit from learning	Head Teachers Children's Wellbeing Staff	Ongoing
Continue to develop learning skills and higher order thinking skills programmes across schools	Increasing capacity of pupils to demonstrate breadth, application and challenge in their learning	All	Ongoing
Greater focus on accountability through analysis of exam results linked to classroom practice	Better learning and teaching in classes	Head Teachers	Annually
Improved collaborative approaches to learning and teaching	Ensure greater consistency in high quality learning and teaching across schools	Head Teachers Education Scotland	Ongoing
Continue to provide high quality support in line with GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child)	All pupils including those in the lowest 20% achieve to their potential	All	Ongoing