

EE33. EXTENSION OF FRANCHISE TO 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS

The Education Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the recent legislative changes that had been made in Scotland which gives 16 and 17 year olds the right to vote in both Scottish Parliamentary and Local Government elections.

The report sets out information and examples of how Children's Services and the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) were working with secondary schools in helping to promote and encourage young people to register to vote and become involved in the democratic process. Children's Services also provided specific activities to raise awareness amongst vulnerable pupils, particularly those with additional support needs and those who are looked after.

Decision

The Education Executive agreed:-

- (1) to note the report, and**
- (2) that the Director of Children's Services continues to work with schools and other parties to encourage young people to register to vote and to participate in the democratic process.**