

Period Dignity – Implementation of Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 approved - Instruction to Executive Director of Education Services.

2 Councillor Cannon, Convener for Education, Communities and Equalities, presented a report regarding the progress made in implementing the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 and the provision of period products across the city, advising

- (1) that the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021 had gained Royal Assent on 12th January 2021 and the Act which had been the world's first legislation to support the provision of free products for those who menstruate would come fully into force by 15th August 2022;
- (2) that as of 15th August 2022, this Council had a legal obligation for all primary and secondary schools in the city to stock a reasonable choice of period products in at least 1 building frequented by pupils and since 2019 schools in Glasgow had provided period products and as part of a pilot which would run until December 2022, 44 nursery/early years facilities now stocked period products despite there being no legal requirement for them to provide these;
- (3) that a Statement on Exercise of Function, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, provided a summary of the approach Glasgow would take to fulfil its legal obligations under the Period Products (Free Provision) (Scotland) Act 2021;
- (4) that a 4-week public consultation exercise seeking the views of school pupils, organisations and the general public on period dignity had been undertaken in January 2022 and the findings of the consultation, were as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report;
- (5) of the provision of period products in the community and that to date there were 95 Period Friendly Points across the city and 16 local Police stations and some of the Health and Social Care Partnership premises had also stocked period products;
- (6) that Glasgow had been allocated an annual budget of £620,000 to facilitate the provision of period products in schools and the wider community and local authorities had been requested to submit data associated with the delivery of access to free period products during 2021/22 in relation to the cost of delivery (including disposable and reusable products), administration and the total number of products purchased and that an independent evaluation would be undertaken between 2022/23 and 2025/26 to capture information from communities and Councils to provide an understanding of the impact of the Act; and
- (7) that a Glasgow Period Dignity Steering Group had been established to support the implementation of the Act and would work with organisations to ensure that the city was able to fully meet the requirements of the Act by ensuring that a variety of period products were made available in schools and public places across the city and the Steering Group would ensure that

appropriate monitoring systems were in place to satisfy the Scottish Government's monitoring and evaluation requirements.

After consideration, the committee

- (a) noted the report and the progress made to date;
- (b) approved the Statement on Exercise of Functions; and
- (c) instructed the Executive Director of Education Services to submit further reports on the progress in due course.