

Finance and Resources Committee

10.00am, Tuesday 12 June 2018

Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600-1140 hours by 2020 – Current Progress and Next Steps - referral from the Education, Children and Families Committee

Item number	7.24
Report number	
Wards	All

Executive summary

The Education, Children and Families Committee on 22 May 2018 considered the attached report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families providing an update on the expansion plan towards delivering 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare to all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds by August 2020.

The report is referred to the Finance and Resources Committee for information.

Terms of Referral

Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600-1140 hours by 2020 – Current Progress and Next Steps

Terms of referral

- 1.1 On 22 May 2018, the Education, Children and Families Committee considered the attached report setting out proposals for expanding the delivery of 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare to all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds by August 2020.
- 1.2 City of Edinburgh currently had a baseline revenue budget of £30m to deliver 600 hours of Early Learning and Childcare. Revenue funding for 2018/19 had now been confirmed and Edinburgh had been allocated a total of £5,420,242 to meet the cost of delivering the expansion.
- 1.3 The capital costs of the Council's Early Learning Childcare Expansion Strategy had been estimated at £39.4m. A bid for this funding had been submitted to the Scottish Government but notification of the agreed allocation had not yet been received.
- 1.4 The Education, Children and Families Committee agreed:
 - 1.4.1 To note the progress made towards 1140 hours.
 - 1.4.2 To approve the increase in the hourly rate paid to partner providers from £3.70 to £3.80 from August 2018 to enable them to continue to sustain the delivery of early learning and childcare to approximately 40% of Edinburgh's children.
 - 1.4.3 To approve the increase in the hourly rate from £3.70 to £5.31 for a small number of partner providers (up to 100 children) to allow them to pilot the 1140 provision.
 - 1.4.4 To note that the proposed capital investment plan as outlined in the report was subject to the availability of funding from the Scottish Government.
 - 1.4.5 To note the intention to progress design and investigation work for new Early Learning and Childcare facilities.
 - 1.4.6 To note the intention to progress informal consultation with affected communities.

- 1.4.7 To note the risks as outlined in Section 6 of the report in particular the significant challenges in the Council's ability to deliver the expansion from 2020.
- 1.4.8 To note the intention to return a report on the finalised plan to Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2018 following the recent announcement of the multi-year revenue and capital funding by the Scottish Government.
- 1.4.9 To refer the report to the Finance and Resources Committee.

For Decision/Action

- 2.1 The Finance and Resources Committee is asked to note the progress being made towards implementing the Early Learning Childcare Expansion Strategy.

Background reading / external references

[Webcast of Education, Children and Families Committee – 22 May 2018](#)

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Links

Appendix [Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600-1140 Hours by 2020 – Current Progress and Next Steps](#)– report by the Executive Director for Communities and Families

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 22 May 2018

Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600 – 1140 hours by 2020. Current progress and next steps

Item number	7.12
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	
Council Commitments	32

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on our approach to delivering 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare to all eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds by August 2020. Our expansion plan will continue to be reviewed and adapted where necessary as we work with the Scottish Government in terms of funding allocations.

Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600 – 1140 hours by 2020. Current progress and next steps

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note the progress made towards 1140 hours;
 - 1.1.2 Approve the increase in the hourly rate paid to partner providers from £3.70 to £3.80 from August 2018 to enable them to continue to sustain the delivery of early learning and childcare to approximately 40% of Edinburgh's children;
 - 1.1.3 Approve the increase in the hourly rate from £3.70 to £5.31 for a small number of partner providers (up to 100 children) to allow them to pilot the 1140 provision;
 - 1.1.4 Note that the proposed capital investment plan as outlined in this report is subject to the availability of funding from the Scottish Government.
 - 1.1.5 Note intention to progress design and investigation work for new ELC facilities;
 - 1.1.6 Note intention to progress informal consultation with affected communities;
 - 1.1.7 Note that this report will be referred to the Finance and Resources Committee;
 - 1.1.8 Note the risks as outlined in Section 6 of this report in particular the significant challenges in the Council's ability to deliver the expansion from 2020;
 - 1.1.9 Note the intention to return a report on the finalised plan to Education, Children and Families Committee in August 2018 following the recent announcement of the multi-year revenue and capital funding by the Scottish Government.

2. Background

- 2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council's Early Years Service currently provides 600 hours of funded Early Learning and Childcare to all 3-4 year olds and eligible 2 year olds. This is approximately 11,000 children.
- 2.2 Edinburgh has 216 settings providing funded Early Learning and Childcare. This is made up of 98 local authority and 118 partner provider settings. 17 local authority settings are open all year round and the rest are open term time only. Almost all partner providers are open all year round.
- 2.3 In October 2016, The Scottish Government launched 'A Blueprint for 2020 Consultation' which set out a vision for the expansion of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) in Scotland which is underpinned by four clear guiding principles: Quality, Flexibility, Accessibility and Affordability.
- 2.4 The Scottish Government published 'A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Action Plan' in March 2017. This plan sets out the policy framework that will underpin the expansion. The Framework focuses on quality of provision, structures and capacity.
- 2.5 The Scottish Government allocated £1.7 million revenue and £2.5 million capital funding to Edinburgh to support the phased implementation of the expanded hours from August 2017.
- 2.6 Twenty five Local Authority settings now deliver 1140 hours ELC to families across the city and a further three settings deliver the increased hours through a blended model of nursery class and forest kindergarten provision.
- 2.7 The Scottish Government requested that all Local Authorities submit an Expansion Plan for 2020 by the end of September 2017. This plan along with the finance template outlining our estimated revenue and capital cost for the expansion was reviewed throughout October and November 2017. Following this review the Scottish Government requested that all Local Authorities submit a revised finance template by 2 March 2018.
- 2.8 Edinburgh currently has a baseline revenue budget of £30,000,000 to deliver 600 hours of Early Learning and Childcare. Revenue funding for 2018/19 has now be confirmed and Edinburgh has been allocated a total of £5,420,242 to meet the cost of delivering the expansion.
- 2.9 Following the agreement of the multi-year funding package, Edinburgh has been allocated a total recurring revenue of **£48,025,000** by 2021-22. This will be issued as a specific grant annually as follows 2019-20 **£26,019,000**, 2020-21 an additional **£17,035,000** and 2021-22 a further **£4,971,000**.
- 2.10 Edinburgh has been allocated a total capital funding of £39,480,000 to support the expansion. This is allocated as follows 2017-18 **£2,580,000**, 2018-19 **£12,400,000**, 2019-20 **£14,500,000**, and 2020-2021 **£10,000,000**

- 2.11 On 29 March the Scottish Government and COSLA published the **Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper**, which sets out the Funding Follows the Child approach, and seeks views on the National Standard. The consultation can be accessed at: <https://consult.gov.scot/children-and-families/service-model-for-2020>.

3. Main report

Current Progress Towards 1140 hours by 2020

- 3.1 **Phase 1** of the expansion of early learning and childcare began in August 2017 with twenty five local authority settings offering 1140 hours to parents. Approximately 1050 children have access to the increased hours and uptake has been 87%. This uptake would be higher as due to demand we have had to cap the number of 1140 places in some settings.
- 3.2 Three additional local authority setting are offering access to the increased hours through a blended model with Forest Kindergarten provision. Children from Cramond nursery class and Clermiston nursery class are attending the forest kindergarten at Lauriston Castle. The grounds at Cliftonhall are also being used to deliver the forest kindergarten approach and children from Ratho nursery class are attending this in the morning or afternoon. Demand for the approach has been popular with 71 children attending a nursery class for part of the day and a forest kindergarten for the rest.
- 3.3 We have also piloted working in partnership with childminders to offer the increased hours to parents. In the North West of the city six childminders are supporting a blended model of provision with children attending a nursery class in the morning and a childminder in the afternoon. Another childminder is providing the full 1140 hours to one child.
- 3.4 We are in the process of evaluating phase 1 of the expansion and initial findings are positive. Staff have reported that children have benefitted from the increase hours through increased opportunities to build on their learning experiences. Parents have also benefitted and there are reports of some parents being able to start work as a result of having access to increased childcare.
- 3.5 The settings involved in phase 1 of the expansion initially found the delivery of lunches to a large number of children as one time challenging. However, support to manage this along with the provision of commercial dishwashers to save time, has led to a significant improvement.
- 3.6 The popularity of the additional hours has led to an increase in demand at settings where there has previously been a low uptake of places. The introduction of the criteria approved in the December report to Committee has enabled us to address this and ensure the provision of the additional hours is accessed by those who will benefit the most.

Next Steps towards 1140 hours by 2020

- 3.7 **Phase 2** of the expansion will begin in August 2018 and planning for this is in progress. In addition to the Phase 1 settings a further twenty one local authority settings are being considered to provide additional hours from August. Our aim is that a further 1,000 children will be able to access the additional hours in these settings.
- 3.8 We are also exploring phasing in the additional funded hours with our partner provider settings and aim to create approximately 100 places where the additional funded hours can be accessed. Our criteria for approaching partner providers will focus on settings that are currently providing subsidised childcare, in close proximity to local authority phase one settings and provide a balance of access to the increased hours across each locality in the city.
- 3.9 To support the delivery of the expansion, we will require a significant increase in the early years workforce. We will build on our successful approach to 'growing our own' workforce through Edinburgh's Early Learning and Childcare Academy (EELCA) and the next cohort recruited to our training programme will increase from 30 to 90 Modern Apprentice and Trainee Early Years Practitioners from August 2018
- 3.10 To further increase our workforce to the levels required we will procure external training providers to provide more qualification routes to a career in early learning and childcare in Edinburgh.
- 3.11 The Scottish Government has committed to funding an additional graduate in early years settings within areas of high deprivation. Edinburgh has been allocated 20 full time graduates to be in post by August 2018.

Early Years Capital Investment plan

- 3.12 Demand for early years places (local authority and partner providers) across the city has been assessed on a cluster basis using non-denominational high school catchment areas. The projected demand for places is based on:
- Catchment birth data;
 - Uptake of early years places for three and four year olds in local authority and partner provider settings;
 - The estimated percentage of eligible two year olds in SIMD declie 1 and 2 in each cluster area;
 - Housing data from the Council's [Housing Land Audit and Delivery Programme 2017](#);
 - National Records of Scotland (NRS) 2014 based Population Projections for Scottish Areas.
- 3.13 The capacity of the city's existing Early Years establishments to meet the projected demand has been assessed based on current management arrangements and

available infrastructure. Table 1 (below) shows that within City of Edinburgh Council area there is a projected capacity shortfall of almost 3,000 places for 3-4 year olds and a shortfall of 360 places for 2 year olds.

Table 1: Existing capacity for 1140 and future places required.

Cluster (Locality)	Existing Local Authority Places		Partner Provider Funded Places for 3-4's	Places Required (2020)	
	2 year olds	3-4 year olds		2 year olds	3-4 year olds
Balerno (SW)	0	90	17	0	221
Boroughmuir (SE)	60	134	488	0	688
Broughton (NW)	45	300	297	136	738
Castlebrae (NE)	110	358	0	135	354
Craigmount (NW)	30	280	304	2	662
Craigroyston (NW)	60	150	127	164	464
Currie (SW)	0	110	139	0	421
Drummond (NE)	10	180	270	3	686
Firrhill (SW)	25	238	219	32	612
Forrester (NW)	23	270	30	34	514
Gracemount (SE)	0	70	36	85	213
James Gillespie's (SE)	70	364	448	8	869
Leith (NE)	60	240	82	152	646
Liberton (SE)	20	295	246	73	806
Portobello (NE)	0	240	287	44	653
Queensferry (NW)	58	170	161	13	503
The Royal High (NW)	15	150	431	16	720
Trinity (NW)	60	200	264	29	516
Tynecastle (SW)	60	220	181	65	599
WHEC (SW)	70	136	37	145	316
TOTAL	776	4,195	4,064	1,136	11,201

3.14 In order to address these shortfalls an expansion strategy for Early Learning and Childcare in Edinburgh has been developed. The aim of this strategy is to provide all current and projected eligible children with a place in a City of Edinburgh Council

or partner provider establishment in their own cluster area or an adjoining cluster area.

- 3.15 Much of this shortfall may be met by changing the opening hours and management arrangements at existing facilities. Some of the shortfall may also be met by adapting existing facilities. However, a significant programme of new build will also be required. A summary of the physical expansion opportunities identified is contained within Appendix 1. Should this expansion plan be implemented the number of places available for three and four year olds and eligible two year olds would be sufficient to meet projected demand.
- 3.16 Delivering new and refurbished facilities by 2020 will be a significant challenge requiring swift design, procurement and construction processes. Accordingly, early design work and site investigations have been progressed. The Council have also opened discussions with representatives from the Scottish Government and the construction industry to identify the most appropriate construction methodologies. As all local authorities face similar pressures to deliver 1140 hours by 2020 there is a risk that resources, particularly within the construction industry, become stretched.
- 3.17 Early engagement with affected school communities has also begun and, while the Scottish Government have removed the requirement for local authorities to undertake a statutory consultation process to establish a nursery, it is the intention to undertake informal consultation with all affected communities

Funding

- 3.18 The capital costs of the Council's Early Learning Childcare expansion strategy has been estimated at £39.4m. A bid for this level of funding to the Scottish Government has been submitted and we are awaiting notification of our allocation.
- 3.19 In preparing its bid the Council has sought to address the eligibility criteria for capital funding issued by the Scottish Government which are based on the principles of "make best use of existing assets, buy what you can, build what you need".
- 3.20 The cost metric rate for capital funding is expected to cover design and development costs, furniture, fixtures and equipment and landscaping. To achieve economies of scale, where a new building is required, two standardised nursery designs are being developed that meet the Council's operational requirements, regulatory requirements and the Scottish Government's ELC design guidance 'Space to Grow'. Settings linked to other developments will be taken forward as a bespoke design.

4. Measures of success

- 4.1 Overall progress measured using a suite of indicators within the Communities and Families Service Plan to ensure that our children have the best start in life, are able to sustain relationships and are ready to succeed.
- 4.2 Outcomes from Inspections from Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate provide information on quality across the service.
- 4.3 We have achieved the Council's commitments 32 and 33.

5. Financial impact

- 5.1 All plans for Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be covered through the revenue funding of £5,420,242 allocated for 2018/19.
- 5.2 Following the agreement of the multi-year funding package, Edinburgh has been allocated a total recurring revenue of **£48,025,000** by 2021-22. This will be issued as a specific grant annually as follows 2019-20 **£26,019,000**, 2020-21 an additional **£17,035,000** and 2021-22 a further **£4,971,000**.
- 5.3 Edinburgh has been allocated a total capital funding of £39,480,000 to support the expansion. This is allocated as follows 2017-18 **£2,580,000**, 2018-19 **£12,400,000**, 2019-20 **£14,500,000**, and 2020-2021 **£10,000,000**.
- 5.4 Delivery plans will be reviewed to ensure affordability.

6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 Approximately 40% of children entitled to funded early learning and childcare attend our partner provider provision. There is a level of uncertainty about future partner provision due to concern about the hourly rate they are paid to deliver an increase in funded early learning and childcare.
- 6.2 To enable us to address this and support the sustainability of our partner provider provision, we have included an increase in the hourly rate paid to partners within the finance template submitted to the Scottish Government. This will increase from £3.70 per hour to £3.80 per hour for 600 hour provision from August 2018.
- 6.3 We are proposing to increase the hourly rate to £5.31 per hour for 1140 hour provision. This will be piloted with a small number of partner providers in Phase 2 of the expansion during session 2018.
- 6.4 There is a risk that the guidance we received from Scottish Government delivery support team to devise our expansion plan estimates in our finance template may require us to provide models of delivery for the 1140 hours which will not be suitable for many parents to be able to access work.

- 6.5 Delivering the required infrastructure and the ability to recruit the number of staff within the required timeframe continue to provide significant challenges in the Council's ability to deliver the expansion from 2020.
- 6.6 The timescales to allow the delivery of new infrastructure are extremely tight and represent a significant risk to the Council's ability to provide the statutory 1140 hours to all children. In addition, the requirement to construct and refurbish Early Years facilities on the scale proposed – both within Edinburgh and at a national level – will place significant pressure on the construction market. Accordingly, the availability of resources to undertake the work and supply the necessary services and products also represents a significant risk to the delivery of the Council's Early Learning Childcare expansion strategy.

7. Equalities impact

- 7.1 All work within this area seems to address inequalities, both in terms of provision of resources and impact on outcomes for children and their families. There is no negative impact arising from these proposals.

8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no impacts on carbon, adaptation to climate or sustainable development arising from this report. These matters will be considered as part of planning, design development and in the implication of each phase of the expansion of the provision.

9. Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 Necessary consultation has been undertaken with key stakeholders in the development and delivery of the expansion. This includes an authority wide consultation with parents/carers, local authority and partner provider ELC settings and childminders. Consultation also took place in October 2017 with non-partner providers and sixteen have expressed an interest in coming into partnership; with the council. We will continue consultation throughout the expansion.
- 9.2 A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare – Scottish Government Consultation.

10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 [Children and Young People \(Scotland\) Act 2014](#)
- 10.2 [A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland](#)

- 10.3 [2017 National Improvement Framework and Improvement Plan for Scottish Education: Achieving Excellence and Equity](#)
- 10.4 [Building the Ambition: National Practice Guidance on Early Learning and Childcare](#)
- 10.5 [My World Outdoors: Care Inspectorate](#)
- 10.6 [Report to Education, Children and Families Committee: Early Learning and Childcare Strategy Report August 2017](#)
- 10.7 [A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper.](#)

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11. Appendices

- 11.1 Appendix 1 - Early Learning Childcare (ELC) Expansion Strategy

APPENDIX 1

Early Learning Childcare (ELC) Expansion Strategy

Make best use of existing assets

Nursery classes within primary schools account for 72% of City of Edinburgh Council's existing Early Years places and generally offer morning or afternoon sessions during term time. Additional hours to purchase are offered during term time where there is capacity to do so.

The opportunity to expand early years provision into the existing primary and secondary school estate is limited because of existing pressures on the school estate. Accordingly, the ELC expansion strategy has developed having regard to projected growth in the primary and secondary estate to ensure it does not compromise capacity at existing schools.

Operational Changes

The requirement to make the best use of existing assets will require a change to the Council's operational model, increasing the availability in some settings from term time only to all year round. Where possible, this will be restricted to settings in standalone buildings to avoid revenue costs associated with opening part of a school building all year round.

Refurbishments and small extensions

Some existing Council Early Years settings offer the opportunity to increase their physical capacity if ancillary facilities are upgraded, for example, by provision of additional toilets or baby changing facilities. The establishments in Table 2 (below) have been identified as facilities that offer such potential (subject to the completion of feasibility work):

Table 2: Establishments where refurbishment or extension is proposed.

Site	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Existing Capacity	Proposed Capacity
Dean Park Primary School Nursery Class	Balerno HS (SW)	60	88
Moffat Early Years Centre	Castlebrae HS (NE)	100	144
Forthview Primary School Nursery Class	Craigroyston HS (NW)	50	64
Abbeyhill Primary School Nursery Class	Drummond HS (NE)	40	64
St Leonard's Nursery School	James Gillespie's HS (SE)	60	64

St Peter's Primary School Nursery Class	James Gillespie's HS (SE)	30	40
Stanwell Nursery School	Leith Academy (NE)	60	72
Prestonfield Primary School Nursery Class	Liberton HS (SE)	30	64
Brunstane Primary School Nursery Class	Portobello HS (NE)	40	96
Canal View Primary School Nursery Class	WHEC (SW)	60	64

Buy what you can - Partner Providers

Partner providers offer the flexibility of 08:00-18:00, all year-round provision that most Council settings do not offer. Early Years officers have been working with partner providers to consider what additional contribution they may make to reduce the shortfall for places in Edinburgh. However, any changes that may be brought about by partner providers are likely to be limited and are largely outside the control of the Council. Accordingly, the ELC expansion strategy assumes the existing number of places provided by partners will be maintained.

Build what you need - New Early Years Establishments

In order to meet the requirement to accommodate projected demand for 1140 hours by August 2020, the Council will be required to make significant investment in new facilities.

The expansion strategy has focused developing new facilities on existing Children and Families assets and, in consultation with Strategic Assessment Management, other Council owned assets. Existing Children and Families assets have been prioritised because there are no ownership constraints, no land use constraints and, in some cases, educational benefits associated with transition from nursery to primary classes.

The Council's [Edinburgh Design Guidance](#) (October 2017) sets parking standards for new developments. The Council's parking standards for schools and nurseries require a maximum number of spaces for staff determined by the zone within the city the site is located in and the number of staff. There is no minimum requirement for parking provision and there is no requirement to provide car parking for pick up or drop-off. Accordingly, where it is located on an existing school site, in order to retain as much playground as possible for children attending the school and nursery, it is proposed that no additional car parking for staff will be provided as part of the ELC expansion. As an employer, the Council promotes active travel and will consider other means to mitigate any adverse traffic impacts from new development working with the Council's Active Travel Team.

School Sites

Table 3 (below) shows the schools which have been identified as sites that offer potential (subject to further consultation and site feasibility work) for ELC expansion:

Table 3: School Sites Identified for New Build Early Years Facilities

School	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Existing Capacity	Proposed Capacity
Ratho Primary School	Balerno HS (SW)	30	64
Granton Primary School	Broughton HS (NW)	60	128
Nether Currie Primary School	Currie HS (SW)	0	64
St Mark's Primary School	Firrhill HS (SW)	30	128
Carrick Knowe Primary School	Forrester HS (NW)	60	128
Craigentenny Primary School	Leith Academy (NE)	40	128
Gilmerton Primary School (Spinney Lane)	Liberton HS (SE)	60	128
St John Vianney RC Primary School	Liberton HS (SE)	30	128
Echline Primary School	Queensferry HS (NW)	30	64
Sighthill Primary School	WHEC (SW)	30	128

Relocation of Temporary Units

There are two temporary nurseries in the Early Years' Estate that need to be relocated following the completion of building works at Leith Primary School and Tynecastle Nursery School. The new settings are expected to be in operation for August 2018.

It is proposed the units are relocated to Craigmillar Early Years Centre and Sighthill Primary School. Both sites are in areas of change because of housing growth and/or potential changes to the wider school estate. Until there is certainty regarding the education and community facilities in the affected areas it is considered appropriate to increase provision in the short term with the temporary units.

Table 4 (below) shows new primary schools the Council has committed to build by 2020 that will include new ELC.

Table 4: New School Sites

School	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Proposed Capacity
New South Edinburgh Primary School	Boroughmuir HS (SE)	80
Leith Waterfront Primary School (Victoria Primary School)	Trinity Academy (NE)	80
Broomhills Primary School	Gracemount HS (SE)	80

South Morningside Primary School's Nursery Class currently operates from Fairmilehead Parish Church and it is expected the Council will not renew its lease when the new South Edinburgh Primary School opens.

Non-school sites

Table 5 (below) shows the Council owned non-school sites which have been identified as offering the potential (subject to further consultation and site feasibility work) to support for ELC expansion:

Table 5: Non-School Sites Identified for New Build Early Years Facilities

Site	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Current Capacity	Proposed Capacity
Gracemount Leisure Centre Pitches	Liberton HS (SE)	50	114
Northfield / Willowbrae (adjacent to the Community Centre)	Portobello HS (NE)	30	64
Kirkliston Leisure Centre	Queensferry HS (NW)	70	128

All of the sites above are designated as an outdoor sports facility in the Council's [Open Space Map](#). Their loss is only likely to be supported through the Planning process if existing pitch provision is improved or the Council is satisfied there is a clear excess of outdoor sports facilities to meet current and future demand.

The Council's open space strategy, [Open Space 2021](#), states a new Physical Activity and Sport Strategy is expected to be prepared to examine the capacity and demand for sports facilities across the city. The timeline and schedule for consultation has not yet been determined.

While there is evidence to suggest the above sites could be developed without detriment to the overall quality of provision across the city, the absence of an up-to-date Physical Activity and Sport Strategy that assesses the city-wide resource and need for outdoor sports facilities may compromise their development.

Expansion of services is also required in the Leith Academy and Royal High School clusters. The Leith cluster in particular is difficult due to the lack of feasible sites. Options within both clusters require more investigation, development and consultation before progressing further. However, given the demand for places in these areas and the requirement to provide 1140 by August 2020, options identified will require to be developed swiftly.

Coordinated development

The Council's Housing Development and Regeneration Team are taking forward and developing proposals for housing led redevelopment across a number of sites, some of which are adjacent to existing early years settings and offer the opportunity to develop mixed-use developments that include new early years settings with housing or other services, i.e. a library, or consolidate early years settings onto one site.

Table 6 (below) shows sites that have been identified offering potential for ELC expansion alongside other development (subject to feasibility studies):

Table 6: New Early Years facilities as part of other developments

Site	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Proposed Capacity	Notes
Muirhouse Library	Craigroyston HS (NW)	192	Mixed use development: library and nursery. Relocate Craigroyston EYC from Craigroyston HS to release secondary capacity.
Broughton Powderhall	Drummond HS (NE)	178	Mixed use development with Housing Development and Regeneration.
Calderglen Nursery	Forrester HS (SW)	128	Mixed use development with Housing Development and Regeneration.

Forest Kindergarten

The Council has established Forest Kindergarten as part of a blended approach to deliver 1140 hours with existing provision in nursery classes. Two sites, Lauriston Castle (NW) and Clifton Hall Independent School (SW) are currently being used to deliver 1140 ELC as part of a blended approach with Craigentenny Primary School, Ferryhill Primary School and Ratho Primary School.

The expansion strategy identifies sites to allow Forest Kindergarten provision to increase so that at least one is available in each locality.

For a site to be suitable for forest kindergarten it needs to offer year-round learning opportunities that meet all aspects of the curriculum. They also have to provide areas for shelter and places of safety during high winds. Accordingly, public parks and sites where

millennium woodland has been created, are not appropriate because they do not provide year-round learning opportunities.

Table 7 (below) shows sites which have been identified as offering potential for ELC expansion through the and will be subject to further investigation:

Table 7: New Early Years facilities as part of other developments

Site	Secondary School Cluster (Locality)	Proposed Capacity	Notes
Clifton Hall	Balerno HS (SW)	30	Privately owned
Mortonhall	Gracemount HS (SE)	30	Privately owned
Hermitage	James Gillespie's HS (SE)	30	CEC Culture and Leisure
Meadow Field	Portobello HS (NE)	30	CEC Culture and Leisure
Cammo Estate	Royal High HS (NW)	30	CEC Culture and Leisure
Lauriston Castle	Royal High HS (NW)	30	CEC Culture and Leisure
Craiglockhart	Tynecastle HS (SW)	30	CEC Culture and Leisure