# **Education, Children and Families Committee**

# 10.00am, Tuesday, 16 April 2024

# **Early Years Cross Boundary Places.**

Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

### 1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:
  - 1.1.1 Note the decision of the Strategic Programme Board to deliver best value to Edinburgh's residents and save £1.2 million by limiting early learning and childcare cross boundary places to local authority settings.
  - 1.1.2 Note the Strategic Programme Board has delegated responsibility to meet the financial strategy and Medium Term Financial-Plan to address the council budgetary challenges,
  - 1.1.3 Note the request for an additional audit has been submitted to the Head of Internal Audit, with a request for approval as an addition to the 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan being presented to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 7 May.

#### **Amanda Hatton**

Executive Director of Children, Education and Justice Services

Contact: Donna Murray, Head of Education (Early Years,

Parents and Operational)

E-mail: donna.murray@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 529 3979

# Report

# **Early Years Cross Boundary Places**

### 2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 At the meeting of full council on 21 March 2024, elected members requested a report on the decision of the Strategic Programme Board to bring all cross boundary funded early learning and childcare places in house and remove the need to pay external providers to deliver this provision.
- 2.2 Appendix 1 provides details of what was agreed at the full council meeting.
- 2.3 Section 47 (1) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, provides that each education authority must ensure that the statutory funded early learning and childcare entitlement is made available for each eligible young child belonging to (i.e. residing in) it's area.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 The Statutory Guidance on funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) published in July 2021 states:
  - In preparing their plans for the delivery of early learning and childcare, education authorities should be clear about the need for delivery to be manageable and affordable within their resources.
- 3.2 Due to a review of the overall funding distribution for Early Years the Scottish Government reduced Edinburgh's ring-fenced funding for Early Learning and Childcare 1140 expansion from £46.4m in 2021-23 to £41.3m in 2022-23 and then reduced again to £40.4m in 2023-24. A further reduction of £1.9m is to be applied in 2024/25. The overall reduction of £7.9m is therefore a major budget pressure. To continue to deliver a high-quality service, we need to reshape the model of delivery for ELC.
- 3.3 The revised distribution also reflects a change in how the funding is allocated to individual authorities. Prior to 2022/23 the funding was distributed based on need, directly reflecting the number of Early Years Places in each authority regardless of the home authority of the child attending the centre. This effectively negated the need for any recharge mechanism between authorities. However, under the new methodology the funding is directed to the home authority based on the number of 2–4-year-olds in each area along with a factor relating to the number of Early Years places provided in the annual September census with a further adjustment to take account of rurality and deprivation. This does not fully reflect the impact of cross boundary placements and a recharge mechanism is now required to ensure that the funding follows the child.

- 3.4 From August 2021 it became a statutory duty of all local authorities to provide 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare per year to all 3 and for year olds and eligible 2-year-olds.
- 3.5 Edinburgh started planning for this change in 2016 and carried out an extensive review of local authority and partner provider provision. At this time 35% of funded places were in private providers and a decision was made to protect our partner setting with a 'Do no harm' approach to planning changes within local authority provision. Our plan towards full delivery of 1140 hours had the following in place to protect existing partner provider provision.
  - We phased out selling additional hours in local authority settings.
  - We changed local authority settings from term time to full year provision in settings where there was very little or no partner settings providing full year options for parents.
  - Limited new build and extended local authority provision to areas where there was little or no partner provision to meet the demand for places.
  - Restricted models of delivery in local authority settings to term time, or full year with AM or PM places or 2 full days with flexi Friday's.
- 3.6 The Strategic Programme Board is responsible for the Change Programme and has delegated responsibility to ensure the Council meets the budget challenges as set out in the Financial Strategy and Medium-Term Financial Plan report to the Finance and Resources Committee on 23 June 2023.
- 3.7 The Change Programme is structured into four broad themes:
  - Organisational Reform and Efficiency
  - Asset Rationalisation and Service Delivery
  - Third Party Spending
  - Partnerships and Prevention
- 3.8 Third Party Spending is about the money we spend externally on goods and services to ensure we are driving best value from our procurements and contract management. It is also about ensuring the best balance between in house and external delivery including commissioning services from the community and third sector.

### 4. Main report

### Reviewing the plan for the delivery of Early Learning and Childcare

- 4.1 The local authority is required to review their plan for the delivery of early learning and childcare every two years and take account of the views expressed by parents and carers through consultation.
- 4.2 In preparing our revised plan for the delivery of early learning and childcare, we are also required to ensure that our delivery is manageable and affordable within our resources.

- 4.3 The key principles of the early year's expansion from 600 hours to 1140 hours of funded early learning and childcare are Quality, Flexibility, Accessibility and Affordability. Whilst we have continued to provide high quality provision with 97% of our local authority settings evaluated by the care inspectorate as good or better, there is scope for improving the delivery of funded early learning and childcare to provide parents/carers with more flexible delivery options that enable them to also be able to access affordable additional childcare.
- 4.4 Scottish Government funding for the delivery of ELC in Edinburgh has been reduced by approximately £7.9m and the distribution methodology changed to direct funding more in favour of the home authority, Therefore, to provide best value for Edinburgh's residents and ensure we can provide our parents and carers with flexible and affordable childcare we need to ensure we utilise our local authority resources efficiently to align with the councils Medium Term Financial plan.
- 4.5 Our review of the delivery of funded hour provision across the city and consultation with parents since full implementation in August 2021 has revealed a need for more flexibility for parents in our local authority provision as well as a need to ensure we deliver best value for Edinburgh's residents.
- 4.6 21% of parents who responded to our survey in November 2023 stated a preference for a full year placement in a local authority setting with the option to purchase additional hours beyond their funded entitlement.
- 4.7 The percentage of places in private settings has increased from 35% to 42%. This 7% increase costs the council approximately £4.5 Million.
- 4.8 174 children from nine other local authorities currently receive a funded place in Edinburgh 150 of these places are in private provider settings. It costs the City of Edinburgh Council approximately £1.2 million to provide these places.
- 4.9 The 150 children from other local authorities are within 51 private provider settings in Edinburgh and only two settings have more than eight children from other local authorities.

| Type of provider   | Number of funded places | Number of children<br>from other Local<br>Authorities | Percentage of children from other local authorities |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---|---|
| Independent school | 159                     | 16  | 10%   |
| Private business   | 33                      | 20  | 60.6%   |

4.10 We are aware the impact the decision to bring the provision of funded places for children who are not Edinburgh residents in house may have on the private business noted above. Council officers have met with this provider and are continuing to explore solutions to provide business assistance. The 20 children are all from the same local authority and we are in discussion with this local authority to consider how they may fund the places for their own residents as set out in Section

- 47 (1) of The children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, stating that each education authority must ensure that the statutory funded early learning and childcare entitlement is made available for each eligible young child belonging to (i.e. residing in) it's area.
- 4.11 The Strategic Programme Board for the Medium-Term Financial Plan has agreed to support the early years' service with a revised delivery plan which will
  - a. Maximise the use of local authority places by reducing the need to procure external provision and providing places for children from other local authorities whose parents/carers work in Edinburgh.
  - b. Provide greater flexibility for parents to access affordable childcare by enabling them to purchase additional hours in local authority settings.
  - c. Reduce the number of local authority settings open over the Christmas holiday period when the uptake of places is lower.
  - d. Review demand for term time and full year provision across the city to ensure local authority provision continues to meet the changing needs of parents/carers.
- 4.12 With regards to the 4.11a proposal agreed by the Strategic Programme Board. The local authority assured this change would be compliant with The Scottish Government Statutory Guidance for Early Learning and childcare, published July 2021 which states.
  - 183. It is expected that for many education authorities their admissions policies will include cross-boundary arrangements. Under Funding Follows the Child the choice of setting available to families is not restricted to their own local authority boundary. Therefore, families should be able to access their child's early learning and childcare entitlement at any setting that meets the National Standard, has a space available and is willing to enter into contract with the education authority. Education authorities should, wherever possible, make arrangements that ensure families accessing cross-boundary placements are treated on the same basis.
- 4.13 The City of Edinburgh does include cross boundary arrangements in our admissions policy for local authority settings. Unfortunately, due to the £7.9m reduction in our early years budget allocation from the Scottish Government it is no longer possible to justify paying private businesses £1.2M for cross boundary places when vacant spaces are available within the local authority settings. We therefore need to ensure best value in line with our original ELC delivery plan for 1140 hours.
- 4.14 The Scottish Government Statutory Guidance for Early Learning and childcare, states the following:
  - It is recommended that a cross boundary no charging policy is implemented uniformly by education authorities. However this is only workable when there is a balance in numbers of children coming in to and going out of the authority.
- 4.15 Edinburgh has explored a similar approach to the agreement set by local authorities in the west. The West Partnership Agreement, appendix 2. Different arrangements

- are in place across local authorities and not all local authorities will agree to a charging policy.
- 4.16 At a meeting held by Scottish Government representatives on 5 February 2024, it was made clear that there should be a no charging policy between local authorities for cross boundary places. Therefore, our only option in Edinburgh to ensure best value for our residents is to limit cross boundary funded places to local authority settings where we have vacancies.
- 4.17 We will continue to fund existing cross boundary places in private settings but will phase this option out from August 2024. Existing funded children who are not Edinburgh residents will continue to be funded. If they have a younger sibling who attends the setting and will be eligible for funding during session 2024-25, we will also fund this child to prevent the need for the parent to use more than one ELC setting. Parents who are not Edinburgh residents and require full day all year-round provision to work in the city will be able to access this in one of our full year 8am 6pm local authority settings. If they need additional hours beyond their funded entitlement, they will also be able to purchase these from a local authority setting.

### Requests from Private Businesses to enter into Partnership to deliver funded ELC.

- 4.18 The Scottish Government Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare Providers: Operating Guidance published in December 2023 states that providers must meet the National Standard for funded ELC and be able to offer funded hours in-line with the local authority early learning and childcare delivery plan.
- 4.19 Edinburgh's Early Years Delivery plan has been based on 35% of children receiving their funded hours in partner provider settings. Since implementing the expansion, the percentage of children accessing their funded hours in partner settings has increased to 42%. This increase has cost the council approximately £4.5 million.
- 4.20 The Early Years Expansion Progress and Risk report submitted to the Education, Children and Families Committee in October 2019 (appendix 3) highlighted the following risk for elected members to note
  - 6.2 The finance template detailing Edinburgh's estimated cost of delivering 1140 hours was submitted to the Scottish Government in March 2018. The estimated revenue cost took account of the flexibility for parents offered by partner providers and the fact approximately 35% of Edinburgh's children attend partner provision. Should the percentage of children receiving their funded hours in partner provision increase beyond 35%, there would be a risk to the council's commitment to deliver best value as the revenue cost of delivering 1,140 hours in partner providers is greater than local authority provision.
- 4.21 105 Providers are currently in partnership with the local authority to deliver funded early learning and childcare. 21 providers have 20 or fewer funded children and 6 providers have less than 10 funded children.
- 4.22 It is important that we protect the business sustainability of our partners as set out in Criteria 7 Business Sustainability, within the Funding Follows the Child and National

- Standard for Funded ELC Operating Guidance "A financial sustainable setting is important for the child, particularly in ensuring consistency and continuity of care."
- 4.23 The current contract with existing providers was due to end in August 2024. This has been extended for another year to allow the Commissioning Team within the Council to set up a new contract management process for private providers delivering funded ELC.
- 4.24 Communication with providers requesting contract with CEC to deliver funded hours is in place. Any new providers wishing to enter a contract with the local authority to deliver funded ELC will be notified when the Commissioning Team have the new contract process in place.

### **Compliance with National Policy and Guidance**

- 4.25 Meetings have taken place with both COSLA and Scottish Government representatives to discuss Edinburgh's 'in house' approach to providing funded ELC places for children who are not Edinburgh residents. Edinburgh's approach is compliant with national policy and guidance.
  - Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.
  - Scottish Government Early Learning and Childcare Statutory Guidance, July 2021.
  - Sottish Government Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare Providers: Operating Guidance, December 2023.

# 5. Next Steps

- 5.1 We will continue to liaise with COSLA and Scottish Government representatives to ensure we remain compliant with national policy and guidance.
- 5.2 We will continue to fund existing cross boundary places in private settings but will phase this option out from August 2024. Existing funded children who are not Edinburgh residents will continue to be funded. If they have a younger sibling who attends the setting and will be eligible for funding during session 2024-25 we will also fund this child to prevent the need for the parent to use more than one ELC setting.
- 5.1 The request for an additional audit has been submitted to the Head of Internal Audit, with a request for approval as an addition to the 2024/25 Internal Audit Plan being presented to the Governance, Risk and Best Value Committee on 7 May.

# 6. Financial impact

6.1 Limiting funded places to local authority settings for children who are not Edinburgh residents will save the council approximately £1.2 million. As noted above, the home authority receives the funding for children residing in their authority, with a further factor which takes account of the number of Early Years places collected from the annual September census. The City of Edinburgh Council is currently paying for Early Learning places for 174 children for who they receive limited

funding. There is also a corresponding benefit for those authorities who have children who attend Early Years centres in other areas. Many Parents/carers move their children from private to local authority settings when their child becomes eligible for funding and effective transition processes are in place to support children moving to new settings. Parents have a five month notice period to move their child to a local authority setting if they wish to.

- 6.2 The alternative to limiting funded places to our local authority settings for families who are not Edinburgh residents to change would be rationalising local authority provision and loss of jobs.
- 6.3 Below is a comparison of costs to fund places for children who are not Edinburgh residents.

| Setting  | Number of children | Number of settings | Cost excluding meals                           |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Local authority (if<br>no capacity within<br>existing staff<br>ratios) | 1                  | 1                  | £26,788-£30,751 additional practitioner salary |
| Local authority (if capacity within existing staff ratios              | 1                  | 1                  | £0   |
| Partner Provider   | 1                  | 1                  | £7,330   |
| Local authority (if<br>no capacity within<br>existing staff<br>ratios) | 8                  | 1                  | £26,788-£30,751 additional practitioner salary |
| Local authority (if capacity within existing staff ratios)             | 8                  | 1                  | £0. Within existing staffing                   |
| Partner Provider   | 8                  | 1                  | £58,641.60                                     |

# 7. Equality and Poverty Impact

7.1 Many Edinburgh residents move their children from private to local authority settings when their child becomes eligible for a funded place and effective transition processes are in place to support children moving to new settings.

### 8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications

8.1 There are no implications for the Climate and Nature identified as part of this report.

### 9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact

- 9.1 Continuing to allocate budget to provide funded early learning and childcare places in private and independent setting for to children who are not Edinburgh residents risks the council's ability to address budgetary challenges and identify savings and efficiencies as outlined in the Financial Strategy and Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) report June 2023.
- 9.2 We will continue to fund existing cross boundary places in private settings but will phase this option out from August 2024. Existing funded children who are not Edinburgh residents will continue to be funded. If they have a younger sibling who also attends the setting and will be eligible for funding during session 2024-25, we will also fund this child to prevent the need for the parent to use more than one ELC setting.
- 9.3 Parents who are not Edinburgh residents and require full day all year-round provision to work in the city will be able to access this in one of our full year 8am 6pm local authority settings. If they need additional hours beyond their funded entitlement, they will also be able to purchase these from a local authority setting.

# 10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 7.3 MTFP and Financial Update.pdf (edinburgh.gov.uk)
- 10.2 <u>Early learning and childcare: statutory guidance July 2021 gov.scot</u> (www.gov.scot)
- 10.3 Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (legislation.gov.uk)
- 10.4 <u>Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: operating guidance gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</u>

# 11. Appendices

| 11.1 | Appendix 1. Full Council 21 March 2024 |    |
|------|--|----|
| 11.2 | Appendix 2. West Partnership Agreemer  | nt |

11.3 Appendix 3 ECF Committee Report October 2019

### COUNCIL -21 MARCH 2024

# ITEM 8.19 - MOTION BY COUNCILLOR DAVIDSON - EARLY YEARS PROVISION AND OUT OF CATCHMENT

- 1) To note that the meeting of the Education, Children and Families Committee (ECF) on 23 January 2024 considered the Early Years Service (EYS) as part of reports and budget concerns.
- 2) To note that there was a reported £6m cut in funding from the Scottish Government for provision of EYS.
- To note that the report on the EYS set out a range of areas which were "being considered by the SPB (Strategic Programme Board)" to bring the EYS back within budget. These areas included:
  - 5.2.1 Maximise the use of local authority places by reducing the need to commission external provision and providing places for children from other local authorities whose parents/carers work in Edinburgh.
- 4) To note that since the ECF meeting, the SPB had met and made a determination on proceeding with the removal of including cross-boundary families in 1140 funded hours PVI provision. These families could continue to apply for space in CEC EYS settings where there was unused capacity.
- To note the decision by the SPB had not been referred back to ECF or another relevant committee such as Policy and Sustainability for agreement and therefore councillors have voted to "consider" but not to "implement".
- 6) To note that the Scottish Government was in discussion with local authorities on how cross-boundary placements should be funded /crosscharged.
- 7) To note that following the Education Committee approval, concerns had been raised with councillors about the potential impact on private/voluntary/independent (PVI) nurseries who might rely on funded hours placements from families outwith the Edinburgh Council area.
- 8) To note that that the EYS currently had available capacity for meeting its obligations for 1140 funded hours but the flexibility required by parents meant that a greater percentage were looking to PVI providers to meet their needs. There was therefore provision within CEC not being used and not being funded by the 1140 provision.
- 9) To further note that an Officer briefing note dated 20<sup>th</sup> Feb on the "Early Learning and Childcare Revised Delivery Programme" stated that the SPB plan had been shared with EC&J Committee in January.

- 10) To note that the SPB "Revised Delivery Plan" shared with EC&J Committee in January did not include mention of phasing out Cross Boundary Places in private providers from August 2024.
- 11) To note that PVI providers and social enterprises had been informed that no new providers would be recruited by the Council but it was unclear how this decision was made. To speak with any PVI provider impacted by this and those who were significantly impacted by cross-boundary placements and identify if any exceptions were required until the Scottish Government came to a determination."
- 12) To note that EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE STATUTORY GUIDANCE 2021 provided recommendations for funding of Cross Boundary Places Point 185: "It is recommended that education authorities meet on a regional or neighbouring basis to identify movement and places across boundaries and reach sustainable and mutually beneficial arrangements."
- To note that the West Partnership of Local Authorities (Glasgow, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire) had designed a Cross Boundary Funding protocol to support the implementation of Funding Follows the Child.
- 14) To note that the 2021 Statutory Guidance stated that:

"It is expected that for many education authorities their admissions policies will include cross-boundary arrangements. Under Funding Follows the Child the choice of setting available to families is not restricted to their own local authority boundary. Therefore, families should be able to access their child's early learning and childcare entitlement at any setting that meets the National Standard, has a space available and is willing to enter into contract with the education authority."

and that any suggestion as stated in

"5.2.1 Maximise the use of local authority places by reducing the need to commission external provision and providing places for children from other local authorities whose parents/carers work in Edinburgh."

Was likely to be in breach of this Statutory Guidance and the policy principle that the Funding Follows the Child.

15) To note that there should be no funding shortfall to the Council of this policy as the funding should be paid from the home local authority of each child either through a cross border funding arrangement or through a direct contract between the home authority and the EYP. To also recognise that some councillors from neighbouring Councils had suggested that funding already flowed in this way so no places should be removed in partner providers for out of authority children.

- To agree that the Chief Internal Auditor should commission an urgent audit of early years funding and cross boundary places to ensure that the arrangements met the Statutory Guidance and that the Council was ensuring that all funding due was being received or was otherwise offsetting the costs to the childrens' home authorities.
- To agree that the Director bring a Report to the April Education Committee reviewing the SPB's "Revised Delivery Plan" with particular focus on Cross Boundary Places and the overall requirements of the Statutory Guidance to provide parents with flexibility of provider by ensuring the principle in the legislation of "The Funding follows the Child" was complied with. The Report should consider the feasibility of a mechanism to claim funds from other Local Authorities for any Cross Boundary Places in future, what steps CEC had taken to date to agree a Cross Border Funding arrangement with neighbouring Authorities, and the cost to date for CEC of not having such a mechanism in place.
- 18) To agree to speak with any PVI provider who was significantly impacted by cross-boundary placements and identify if any exceptions were required until the Scottish Government came to a determination.

# West Partnership

# **Cross Boundary Funding Protocol**

**Session 2023-24** 



**Update: August 2023** 

# **Cross Boundary Inter - Authority Funding Protocol**

This protocol is designed to enable local authority officers to facilitate choice for parents/carers of children who are eligible for 1140 hours of Early Learning and Childcare and wish to access provision in a funded provider irrespective of the local authority the provider operates within.

### **Rationale**

"Funding Follows the Child" is 'provider neutral' and is underpinned by a National Standard that all settings – regardless of whether they are in the public, private or third sector, or childminders – will have to meet in order to be able to deliver funded ELC.

For families this means that they will be able to access high quality funded ELC with the provider of their choice – in the public, private, third sector or a childminder - if that provider meets the criteria set out in the National Standard, wishes to deliver the funded entitlement, has a space available, is able to offer the funded hours in-line with their local authority's ELC delivery plan (subject to the capacity of the setting), and is in contract with their local authority to deliver the funded hours."

(Funding Follows the Child, Scottish Government, July 2021)

# **Purpose of Protocol**

The statutory duty is to provide 1140 hours of early learning and childcare to all eligible children. Along with this duty is the expectation that local authorities adhere to the requirements of Funding Follows the Child.

Funding Follows the Child allows families access to high quality funded ELC with the provider of their choice (if that provider meets the criteria set out in the National Standard, wishes to deliver the funded entitlement, has a space available, is able to offer the funded hours in line with local ELC delivery plans subject to the settings overall capacity) and is willing to enter into a contract with the local authority.

The West Partnership Cross Boundary Funding Protocol is designed to support the implementation of Funding Follows the Child. As well as the 8 local authorities that make up the West Partnership (Glasgow, East Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, South Lanarkshire, North Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire), neighbouring local authorities in Argyll and Bute, East, North and South Ayrshire Councils operate in line with this protocol, however access and processes may differ.

The commitment to this approach allows all aforementioned local authorities to work together, where physical and financial capacity allows, to support the requirements of Funding Follows the Child.

The duty for providing early learning and childcare lies with the authority where a child lives. These authorities are referred to as **resident authorities**.

In delivering on the key requirements of Funding Follows the Child, families have greater choice in how they seek to access their child's funded entitlement; in particular where they are requesting early learning and childcare funding from a local authority that they are **not** resident in. For clarity of purpose we will refer to these authorities in which the nursery is located as **host authorities**.

Host authorities will continue to accept funding requests from non-residents and will be considered in line with the host authority's admissions priorities.

### **Procedure**

**Please Note:** 

**Resident Authority:** authority parent/carer and child live in.

**Host Authority:** authority in which your child attends/is seeking to attend Funded

Provider setting.

All Funded Providers: private, voluntary, third sector and childminders in contract with the host

authority to provide funded ELC

- 1. Parents/carers can ask a funded provider including a childminder working in partnership with any of the named authorities to make a request on their behalf to the host authority for a child to receive early learning and childcare funding. The funded provider must be in partnership with the host authority. The timing of this request should be considered to ensure it complies with existing host authority timelines for allocating funding to funded providers (details of which can be obtained from individual local authorities). Funded providers must ensure they are aware of their responsibility to apply on behalf of families and also the timeline for applications as outlined in this document.
- 2. The West Partnership Cross Boundary Admission Group inclusive of representatives from all participating local authorities will meet in May each year to review funding requests and agree levels of cross boundary funding for the new session commencing August. Funding requests will be granted in the first instance on a reciprocal basis, thereafter any requests over and above reciprocal numbers will be recharged.
- 3. The funded entitlement and application process to provide up to 1140 hours will be determined by the policy within the resident authority. It is therefore imperative that local authorities share their application timeline (along with the cross boundary timeline) with others, including families.
- 4. Where there is an imbalance of number of children placed between host and resident authorities; negotiation will take place to agree the level of cross boundary funding, with payment rates being invoiced at the rate of the host authority.
- 5. The National Entitlement for children Eligible 2 years and 3-5 years for meals, snacks and milk is 1 free meal, 1 free snack and 189 mls (1/3 pints) of milk daily for children with effect from August 2021. The new Scheme for milk and snacks is underpinned by the Milk and Healthy Snack Scheme (Scotland) Regulations 2021 which came into force on 21 March 2021. A cross boundary food funding rate has been agreed by all participating local authorities. Funding for food will be based on an hourly rate of £0.50 per hour to a maximum of 1140 hours (£570) per annum/pro rata. This rate will be provided irrespective of the funding rate set by the individual local authority.
- **6.** Inter Authority Cross Boundary Funding requests submitted to the host authority before their appropriate deadline, will be agreed at the Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admissions Group in May of each year for the following session commencing in August.
- 7. Late applications (closing date for applications as per host authority policy) for funding received by the host authority for sharing with the Resident authority will be considered from the first Monday following receipt of the application by the host authority or effective funding date if later.
- 8. To ensure all local authorities work to provide best value they will closely monitor the number of children attending their funded providers, ensuring careful management of both physical and financial capacity. Therefore it should be noted that there is no guarantee that late applications will be approved.

- **9.** Host authorities will notify their funded providers of the outcome of their request. After which, funded providers or local authorities (depending on resident authority local protocol) will notify parents/carers of the decision.
- **10.** Cross boundary funding cannot be guaranteed by the resident authority not participating in the West Partnership Cross Boundary Funding Protocol.
- 11. The application process for cross boundary funding will be subject to annual review.
- 12. The application process for returning children remaining with a funded provider for a new session will be determined by the host authority and subject to the host authority's admissions priorities. Funded providers must follow the host authority application process and ensure that information in respect of returning children is available for discussion at the Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admission Group meeting.

# **Funding Eligibility Dates**

In line with Scottish Government guidance, all eligible 2, 3 and 4 years olds become eligible for funding as follows:\*

| If your child is born between:        | They will be eligible for a funded early learning & childcare place from the term noted below |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 March to 31 August                  | Autumn term (August)  |  |  |
| 1 September to 31 December            | Spring term (January)   |  |  |
| 1 January to the last day in February | Summer Term (April)   |  |  |

In accordance with Scottish Government guidance, children become eligible to access their statutory entitlement from the beginning of the term following either their 2nd or 3rd birthday. Please note, individual authorities may provide early access to the entitlement, however, this should be confirmed with each individual authority in advance. Funded providers should contact the host authority to check the funding start date arrangements for all children requesting cross boundary funding and ensure this is communicated to parents.

Children aged 2 years that meet the Criteria for Eligible 2 Funding

Children who meet the criteria for Eligible 2 year old funding will receive their funding the term after their 2nd birthday or, the first term after the parent starts receiving those benefits.

# Under part 6 of the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, an entitlement was introduced in August 2014 for some 2 year olds.

Children aged 2 years are eligible for a funded place if a parent is in receipt of:

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance
- Any income related element of Employment and Support Allowance
- Incapacity or Severe Disablement Allowance
- State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, but not Working Tax Credit and income is £18,725\* or less
- Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit and income is £8,717\* or less
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Universal Credit where household take-home pay, is £726\* a month or less

Additionally, any child aged 2 or over is eligible for funded ELC where they are or have been looked after by the Council, or are the subject of a kinship care order or the subject of a guardianship order, along with children whose parents have been care experienced in the past.

\* This applies to children who have turned two on or after 1st March 2023. The income thresholds for Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit can vary annually, therefore you should check the following website for the most up to date information on eligibility for funded ELC <a href="https://www.mygov.scot/childcare-costs-help/funded-early-learning-and-childcare">https://www.mygov.scot/childcare-costs-help/funded-early-learning-and-childcare</a>.

The Resident authority will be responsible for identifying if a child meets the eligible 2 criteria in accordance with the resident authority eligible 2 application process.

# **Deferred Entry Cross Boundary Funding**

From 2023/24, all children not yet 5 years old at the beginning of the school session now have the right to access an additional year of funded ELC if they choose to defer entry to primary school. Any request for cross-boundary funding for a deferred child follows the existing cross-boundary protocol process, in that an application is made by the parent via the funded provider to the host authority. This is the established process for all funding requests.

Please note, where a child is choosing to access an additional year of funded ELC, it is essential they follow the resident authority process for deferring entry to school.

Any decision on whether a child's application to defer entry to school is granted (for example, for those children already 5 years old at the beginning of the school session) rests with the resident authority and it is only where such requests are granted that funding will be progressed.

# **Inter Authority Cross Boundary Process Timeframe**

| End of February/host authority:* | Closing date for new session applications  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| End of May/June:                 | <ul><li>Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admission Group</li><li>sharing funding request information</li><li>agreeing funding requests</li></ul> |
| End of June/July:                | Parents/carers informed of funding request outcome   |
| End January/Beginning February:  | Inter Authority Invoicing for Term 1 and Term 2 of current session (current financial year)  |
| August/September:                | Inter Authority Invoicing for Term 3 of current session (following financial year)   |

\* Cross Boundary Funding Applications should be submitted to host authorities within their appropriate deadlines if they differ from the date noted. Late applications can be forwarded to the host authorities throughout the Session for consideration and information will be shared with resident authorities for funding consideration at the end of each calendar month. All applications received after the above timeline will be considered in accordance with the resident authority Admissions Policy and within the confines of resident authority physical and financial capacity, therefore there is no guarantee that funding will be available throughout the Session.

# **Quality Assurance**

This National Standard will ensure families across the West Partnership can expect a consistent, high-quality approach to ELC provision, reflecting national policy priorities. To obtain partnership status within the West Partnership all funded providers must demonstrate meeting of the National Standard. In addition, Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate complement internal quality assurance systems within each local authority.

# **Partnership Status**

It is the responsibility of individual local authorities across the West Partnership to award partnership status. The timeline and length of agreements vary across all local authorities. When agreeing cross boundary funding it is important that applications considered at the Cross Boundary Admissions Group meeting in May/June of each year only include those ELC settings that have partnership status in line with the National Standard. If partnership status is granted after this meeting then applications for funding will be considered as late requests and there is no guarantee that physical or financial capacity will allow funding to be approved.

# **Financial Implications**

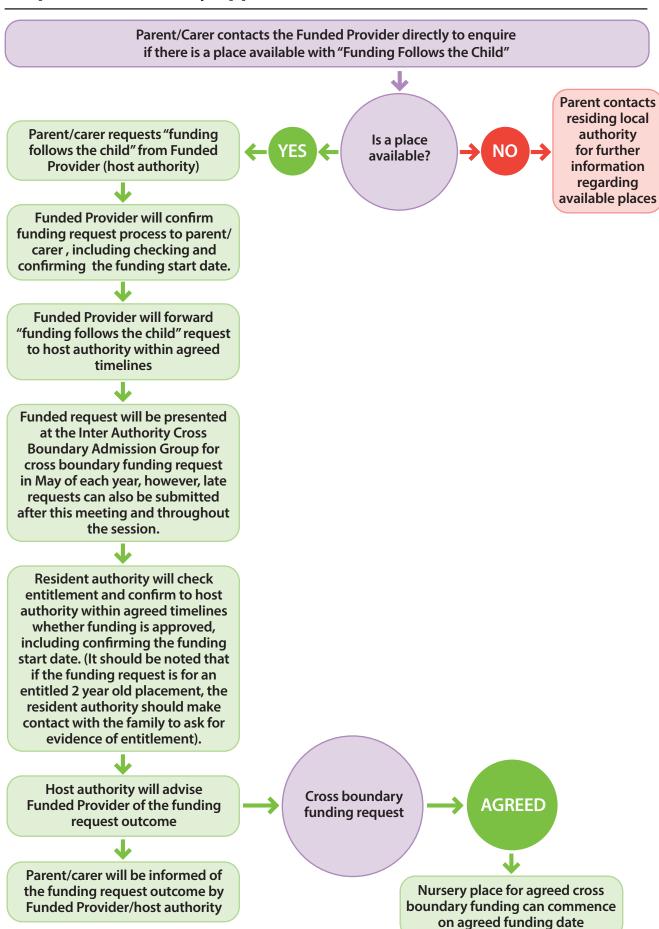
This Protocol is written in an attempt to minimise the administrative burden of Inter Authority Cross Boundary Funding whilst maximising parental choice in where a child is placed. Every attempt will be made to have reciprocal arrangements where there is a balance of children in and out of an education authority area. However, it is recognised that on occasions there may be an imbalance of funding requests between local authorities. This Protocol is designed to facilitate discussion and agreement and to ensure neither host nor resident authorities are held liable for funding. It should be noted that this agreement is made within the confines of resident authority budgets. No additional funding will be charged without this formal agreement and as such parents/carers and funded providers should be made fully aware of this Protocol.

# **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Host authorities will continually monitor the children attending funded provider settings, reporting any discrepancies to the resident authority immediately. Where it is apparent that parents/carers are receiving funded hours in both the resident and host authority, the parent/carer will be liable for any charges incurred by the host authority for any hours beyond their child's statutory entitlement. In order to review and continually improve the West Partnership Cross Boundary Protocol, The West Partnership Early Learning and Childcare Early Years Network will evaluate this protocol for each nursery session.

### **Appendix 1**

# Application Process for Cross Boundary Funded Providers (As per Host Authority Application Process)



### **Appendix 2**

# **Funded Provider Process for Cross Boundary Funding**

Funded Provider must communicate directly with parent/carer: the process and timeline for Cross Boundary Funding Follows the Child Requests





Local Authority takes cross boundary funding request to Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admission Group and informs Funded Provider of the funding start date.



Funded Provider communicates the outcome of cross boundary funding request to parent/carer in accordance with host authority process.



**APPROVED** 



Place allocated and must be in line with the Inter Authority Cross Boundary Funding Protocol.



All cross boundary funding requests must be presented at the Inter Authority Cross Boundary Funding Admissions Group.

### Please note:

Funded Provider should only start a child in setting when "funding follows the child" has been confirmed.

### **Appendix 3**

XXXX Nursery Parent/Carer's name and address Date

Cross Boundary Funding Request: "Funding follows the child" Session (insert session years) . . .

Early Learning and Childcare: Child's Name and Nursery

Thank you for your cross boundary funding request for Session (insert session years). I have passed on your request to XXXXX (insert Local Authority). Your request will be considered in accordance with their Cross Boundary Agreement with XXXXXX (insert Local Authority) and confirmation of your "funding follows the child" request will be communicated to you by end of June prior to the start of the new session.

Should you have any questions in respect of this request please do not hesitate in contacting me at the nursery.

Yours sincerely

# West Partnership



















# **Education, Children and Families Committee**

10am, Tuesday 8 October 2019

Early Years 1140 Expansion: Progress and Risk Update

Item number

Report number Executive/routine

Wards All

Council Commitments 32, 33

### **Executive Summary**

At present the Council is responding well to the challenge of expanding Early Years provision by 2020 and has already implemented extended services in several locations. However, due to the scale of the programme there are some high-level risks associated with delivery of the Council's Early Years 1140 expansion plan which need to be well managed by all those involved. These risks relate principally to the Council's ability to recruit the necessary staff, construct the level of infrastructure required on time to support the delivery of the expansion plan and the impact of the Scottish Government document published in December 2018 "Funding Follows the Child – National Standard for Funded Providers", on the supply of Early Years provision within Edinburgh.

# Report

# Early Years 1140 Expansion: Progress and Risk Update

### 1. Recommendations

The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 Note the content of this report.
- 1.2 Note the intention to return a report on the revised Early Years Admissions policy to Education, Children and Families Committee in March 2020.
- 1.3 Approve the continued distribution of funded ELC places 65% local authority provision and 35% partner provider provision.

# 2. Background

- 2.1 The city of Edinburgh Council's Early Years' Service provides Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) for approximately 10,000 children aged 3-4 years old and 650 eligible 2-year olds.
- 2.2 216 settings provide ELC in Edinburgh. Approximately 65% of children receiving funded hours attend local authority provision and 35% attend provision in partnership with the local authority. These include the Private, Voluntary and Independent sectors as well as childminders.
- 2.3 'A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland ELC Expansion Planning Guidance for Local Authorities' issued in March 2017 by the Scottish Government set out local authorities' responsibility for the implementation and delivery of an expanded entitlement of 1140 hours of free ELC in their area. The vision for expansion is underpinned by the principles of Quality, Flexibility, Accessibility and Affordability. The City of Edinburgh Council's Commitments 32 and 33 for this administration reflect the vision in the Blueprint:
  - 32. Double free early learning and child care provision, providing 1140 hours a year for all 3- and 4-year olds and vulnerable 2-year olds by 2020
  - 33. Make early years' provision more flexible to fit families' needs and provide additional resources to families in difficulty so that no children are educationally disadvantaged when they start formal schooling

- 2.4 A report outlining the key risks associated delivering the "<u>Expansion of Early Learning</u> and Childcare from 600-1140 hours by 2020 was approved by the Education, Children and Families Committee in December 2018.
- 2.5 In December 2018 the Scottish Government published *Funding Follows the Child The National Standard for Funded Providers*, which outlines the ten key criteria that must be in place for all providers of ELC to deliver funded places to children aged 3-4 years old and eligible 2-year olds. (appendix 1)

### 3. **Main report**

### **Progress**

- 3.1 Officers from the early years' service and school estate management service have fully engaged with national bodies to influence support for local authorities and to make effective use of data to support our delivery plans and make informed decisions based on lessons learned from our phasing in programme to date. The City of Edinburgh is represented on the National Workforce Project Board and the Scottish Government ELC Partnership Forum.
- 3.2 1,140 funded hour places are currently available in 47/97 local authority settings and 80/117 partner providers. In October 2019 an additional eleven local authority settings will begin phasing in and all remaining partner providers will again be invited to deliver the increased hours.
- 3.3 At present there are three intakes per year for children eligible for funded ELC and children are allocated a place the term following their third birthday or the term following their second birthday for eligible 2-year olds.
- 3.4 In August 2019, the number of three- and four-year olds accessing a funded place was 6,843 of which 2,737 were receiving 1,140 hours. Therefore, approximately 40% of eligible three- and four-year olds have early access to the increased hours.
- 3.5 In August 2019, the number of eligible 2-year olds accessing a funded place was 575 of which 138 were receiving 1,140 hours, approximately 24%
- 3.6 Approximately 35% of Edinburgh's children who are eligible for funded ELC receive their hours in settings that are in partnership with the local authority. Partner providers are currently delivering 1,140 places to 1,347 children and we aim to increase this to 3,500 children by January 2020 at the hourly rate of £5.31. This is an annual rate of £6,053.40 per funded child. Partners also receive £427.50 per year to deliver the meal entitlement element of the funded hours as set out in criteria ten of the National Standard for funded providers (appendix 1)

### **Delivery models**

3.7 We are on track to provide all eligible children with a 1,140 place from August 2020. Whilst a variety of delivery models will be available for parents across the city e.g.

Education, Children and Families - 8 October 2019

- forest kindergarten, childminder, full year or term time settings, parents may need to travel to access their preferred model.
- 3.8 Edinburgh is currently in partnership with 117 providers from the private, voluntary and independent sector and almost all these settings provide extended childcare for parents between the hours of 8.00am and 6.00pm, with some offering hours beyond this. Although seventeen local authority settings were open all year round, none of these provided ELC between 8.00am and 6.00pm. Following consultation, eleven local authority settings started delivering 1,140 hours of funded ELC all year round between 8.00am and 6.00pm in August 2019 and we plan to increase this to forty-seven settings by August 2020.
- 3.9 We have used our supply and demand data to determine the model of delivery that will be available for parents within local authority settings across the city. Where there is a high demand for local authority provision, but limited supply, the local authority provision will be delivered over a full year model. The report to the Education, Communities and Families Committee provided details on the settings identified to deliver 1,140 hours over a full year. Due to changes to the capital programme we will now increase the number of settings open full year to increase the capacity for 1,140 places in the local authority. See appendix 2 for the full list of local settings.
- 3.10 To increase flexibility for parents we are now working in partnership with twenty-three childminders across the city, delivering funded places to thirty-six children.
- 3.11 The forest kindergarten provision at Laurieston Castle, Cliftonhall and Cammo have been very popular with children and parents. Three additional sites will be operational in October 2019 at Craigmillar, Bonaly, and Newbattle Abbey.
- 3.12 We intend to publish a guide for parents at the end of October 2019 outlining the different models for the delivery of 1,140 hours and where the models will be available.

#### Workforce

- 3.13 The report to the Education, Communities and Families Committee in December 2018, noted an estimated additional 650 staff would be required by session 2020/21 to deliver 1,140 hours. During session 2016/17 and prior to the early years expansion programme, the early years' service employed approximately 670 FTE staff across a variety of roles including, manager, senior, practitioner and support worker posts. Since August 2017, we have gradually increased staffing across all roles and by August 2019 approximately 360 additional staff joined the early years service.
- 3.14 We estimate approximately one hundred and seventy-five staff will be recruited to meet the expansion requirements for academic session 2019-2020. This recruitment will be supported by national activity which will include a focus on over 25-year olds,

- career changers/returners to work and those from under-represented groups.
- 3.15 The final phase of the expansion for academic session 2020-21 will see an estimated further one hundred and seventy-five staff recruited across a variety of posts.

#### **National Standard**

- 3.16 The Scottish Government published the Funding Follows the Child National Standard in December 2018. This outlines ten criteria that all providers of funded ELC must meet (appendix 1).
- 3.17 94% of local authority and 90% of partner providers in Edinburgh meet the three quality criteria requirements of the national standard, which are 1. Staffing Leadership and Management, 2. Development of Children's Cognitive Skills, Health and Wellbeing and 3. Physical Environment. The Early Years Quality Improvement team have established action plans to support all settings to meet the quality requirements of the National Standard. The remaining seven criteria of the National Standard include payment processes, fair work practices and the delivery of food. 100% of local authority settings meet the remaining seven criteria however, the percentage of partners meeting the remaining criteria will be established following consultation in October 2019.

### Allocating 1,140 places

- 3.18 In December 2017 the Education Communities and Families Committee approved the criteria for identifying settings to begin phasing in the increase hours early and how the places were to be prioritised.
  - Capacity to expand within the existing local authority early years setting.
  - Children residing in areas of deprivation SIMD 1&2
  - Children living in households where the parent/carer is in receipt of one or more of the benefits.
  - The criteria within the Early Years Admissions policy.

We now need to review the Early Years Admissions Policy as we move toward universal entitlement to 1,140 hours from August 2020, taking account of cross boundary protocols to prioritise Edinburgh's children and the criteria within the Funding Follows the Child – National Standard for funded providers.

### **EY1140 Infrastructure Programme Update**

3.19 In May 2018 the "Early Years 1140 Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare from 600 – 1140 hours by 2020. Current progress and next steps" report approved by Committee stated that the projected shortfall in places across the city following the introduction of the 1140 hours entitlement would be "almost 3,000 places for 3-4 year olds and... 360 places for 2 year olds." The expansion plan approved by Committee and submitted to the Scottish Government to secure funding for the expansion was based on meeting much of this shortfall by changing the opening hours and

Education, Children and Families – 8 October 2019

management arrangements at existing facilities. The remaining 2,000 places would be provided through a £39.6m infrastructure investment programme made up of 13 refurbishment projects, 21 new build and replacement projects and the establishment of 7 Forest Schools.

However, since May 2018, a number of factors have reshaped the infrastructure programme:

- The capacities assumed for individual projects in the original plan have changed as a greater understanding of the expectations and regulations governing the expansion of Early Years has developed through discussions with the Scottish Government and Scottish Futures Trust.
- As some proposals have developed beyond the basic studies that informed the initial plan, the limitations and complexities of individual sites have become clearer and new opportunities have emerged.
- The tendering of new nursery buildings has highlighted that the £/m² metric used by the Scottish Government in determining each authorities funding allocation was optimistic and is a challenging target given current market conditions.
- Landscaping has proved particularly challenging due to a lack of contractors with the necessary expertise and very high quotes for work.
- Several projects have not progressed pending their involvement in the Council's Service Design process or are in a slower development process as part of a wider development scheme (such as a Housing lead project).
- 3.20 The revised programme is set out in Appendix 3. This shows that the infrastructure programme is now made up of 8 refurbishment projects, 18 new build and replacement projects, the relocation and reuse of 2 modular buildings and the establishment of 13 Forest Schools. This reshaped programme continues to deliver the 2,000 places required.
- 3.21 By August 2020 it is anticipated that all refurbishment projects will have been completed, all forest schools will have been established, the two temporary nursery facilities will be in place and 6 of the 18 new build and replacement projects will have been completed. This will provide 1,000 of the 2,000 places required. A further 650 places will be provided by August 2021. It is acknowledged that the three intakes per academic year for funded ELC will mean that not all places will be required in August.
- 3.22 However, the high costs returned as part of the recent tender of the 5 new nurseries are now being experienced across other projects and this presents a risk to the Council's ability to maintain a programme that delivers the necessary places within the available budget. The strategy being adopted remains to prioritise projects where alternative options to meet demand cannot be identified or are unreasonable and those in low SIMD areas. Accordingly, all projects will remain under review as the programme moves forward.

### 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, can 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 Feedback on the Council's commitments 32 and 33.
- 4.4 The delivery of the Council Early Years infrastructure expansion plan within allocated budgets.

# 5. Financial impact

- 5.1 Edinburgh currently has a baseline revenue budget of £30,000,000 to deliver 600 hours of ELC.
- 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:

Table 1: Edinburgh's revenue funding package

| Financial Year | Revenue Funding |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 2019-20        | £26,019,000     |
| 2020-21        | £17,035,000     |
| 2021-22        | £4,971,000      |

5.3 Edinburgh has been allocated a total capital funding of £39,480,000 to support the expansion.

Table 2: Edinburgh's capital funding package

| Financial Year | Capital Funding |  |  |
|----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| 2017-18        | £2,580,000      |  |  |
| 2018-19        | £12,400,000     |  |  |
| 2019-20        | £14,500,000     |  |  |
| 2020-21        | £10,000,000     |  |  |

Education, Children and Families – 8 October 2019

# 6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

6.1 This report sets out the risks associated with the delivery of Edinburgh's Early Years 1140 expansion plan. Principally these risks relate to the commitments made by the Council and the Scottish Government to deliver 1140 hours of funded ELC and to ensure that the new provision made is accessible and flexible to meet the needs of Edinburgh's families.

### **Delivery**

- 6.2 The finance template detailing Edinburgh's estimated cost of delivering 1140 hours was submitted to the Scottish Government in March 2018. The estimated revenue cost took account of the flexibility for parents offered by partner providers and the fact approximately 35% of Edinburgh's children attend partner provision. Should the percentage of children receiving their funded hours in partner provision increase beyond 35%, there would be a risk to the council's commitment to deliver best value as the revenue cost of delivering 1,140 hours in partner providers is greater than local authority provision.
- 6.3 Delivery models Whilst all children will receive their funded hours, parents may not be able to access their preferred model of delivery in their first choice setting. The changes to the capital build programme as outlined in this report will increase the number of local authority settings delivering 1140 hours over a full year amd reduce the availability of term time only options.

### Workforce

- 6.4 It is acknowledged 62 members of the early years workforce may be affected by the UK withdrawing from the European Union. It is not yet known what impact this could have on recruitment and retention of early years staff.
- 6.5 382 staff (excludes teachers) work in settings moving from term time to full year provision by August 2020. These staff have sessional terms and conditions and we are working with Human Resources and the Trade Union address the changes that may be required.

#### **National Standard**

- 6.6 Funded providers must meet all criteria within the National Standard. Should the number of providers unable to meet all criteria rise significantly above the current estimates, there is a risk that the supply of funded places may be reduced.
- 6.7 Eight of our current partner providers are from the Independent sector. Since publication of the National Standard in December 2019, two independent sector providers have formally notified the early years service of their intention to no longer Education. Children and Families 8 October 2019

provide funded ELC when their current contract ends in June 2020. This will create a potential shortfall of 80-100 places. Should the remaining six independent sector providers also decide to no longer continue partnership with the local authority, the shortfall of ELC places will increase to 450. There is a risk that there may be insufficient capacity within local authority and other providers should parents choose not to access non-funded ELC in the independent sector.

# 7. Equalities impact

7.1 The Council's Early Years 1140 expansion plan is designed to provide all families in Edinburgh access to choice and flexibility in the ELC they can access. The degree to which this can be offered will depend upon the availability of the staff and the infrastructure to support it. The impact on equalities groups of not delivering on this programme will relate to the restrictions some parents may face in the hours they can be offered and the locations where these can be provided. This may impact most on some working parents and would be counter to Council and Government policy to support parents returning to work.

# 8. Sustainability impact

- 8.1 This report outlines some of the risks associated with delivery of the Council's Early Years 1140 expansion plan. The plan offers parents choice and flexibility in the type and range of ELC that they will be able to can access. If the type of service that parents want to access is not available in a particular area, then this may lead to parents travelling further to access places that better suit their needs. This may increase the journeys that parents take, impacting on emissions arising from an increase in traffic and discouraging active travel.
- 8.2 In regard to the impact that new infrastructure may have on carbon outputs and sustainability, these will be considered as part of planning, design and of at 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.
- 9.2 Consultation will continue throughout the expansion programme.

# 10. Background reading/external references

- 10.1 <u>"Expansion of ELC from 600-1140 hours by 2020"</u>, Education, Children and Families Committee, 14 August 2018
- 10.2 "A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of ELC in Scotland"

#### Alistair Gaw

**Executive Director for Communities and Families** 

Contact: Lynn Paterson, Quality Improvement Education Manager

E-mail: <a href="mailto:lvnn.paterson@edinburgh.gov.uk">lvnn.paterson@edinburgh.gov.uk</a> | Tel: 0131 469 3131

Contact: Robbie Crockatt, Acting School Estate Planning Manager

E-mail: Robbie Crockatt@edinburgh.gov.uk Tel: 0131 469 3051

### 11. Appendices

### Appendix 1

10 National Standard criteria for all ELC settings to meet to be a funded provider, based on research and evidence of effective ELC. These are:

- 1. Staffing, leadership and management
- 2. Development of children's cognitive skills, health and wellbeing
- 3. Physical Environment
- 4. Self-Evaluation and Improvement
- 5. Parent and Carer engagement and involvement in the life of the setting
- 6. Inclusion
- 7. Business Sustainability
- 8. Fair Work Practices, including Payment of the Living Wage
- 9. Payment Processes
- 10. Food

Most criteria are supported by several sub-criteria and are also linked to Care Inspectorate quality evaluations.

Appendix 2 – Local Authority settings moving from term time to full year provision.

| North East      | North West                    | South East         | South West                       |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Greengables NS  | Ferryhill NC                  | Hope Cottage NS    | Ratho NC                         |
| Broughton NC    | Flora Stevenson's             | St Leonard's NS    | Currie NC                        |
| Leith Walk NC   | Granton NC                    | Liberton NS        | Juniper Green NC                 |
| Stanwell NS     | Corstorphine NC               | Prestonfield NC    | Nether Currie NC (new provision) |
| Duddingston NC  | Carrick Knowe NC              | Spinney Lane NS    | Longstone NC                     |
| Craigentinny NC | Kirkliston NS                 | St John Vianney NC | St Mark's NC                     |
| Leith NC        | Queensferry NC                | Taobh na Pairce    | Balgreen NS                      |
| Abbeyhill NC    | Davidson's Mains              |                    | Stenhouse NC                     |
| St John's       | Wardie NC                     |                    | Tynecastle NS                    |
|                 | Murrayburn Campus             |                    | Sighthill NC                     |
|                 | Gylemuir                      |                    | Bonaly                           |
|                 | Stockbridge                   |                    | Pentland                         |
|                 | Craigroyston NC               |                    |                                  |
|                 | Forthview                     |                    |                                  |
|                 | St David's                    |                    |                                  |
|                 | Pirniehall                    |                    |                                  |
|                 | St Cuthbert's (new provision) |                    |                                  |

Appendix 3

Revised 1,140
Infrastructure
Programme

|   |   | Grant              | Estimated           |                                       |                    | Revised               |  |
|---|---|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|
| PROJECT NAME  | PROJECT TYPE                            | Allocation         | Completion (at      | Project Status                        | Latest Cost        | Estimated             | Comments   |
|   |   | (£)                | August 2018)        | ,                                     | Estimate (£)       | Completion            |  |
| Projects in Original Expansion Plan   |   |                    |                     |                                       |                    |                       |  |
| Clifton Hall Forest School  | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2018/19             | Complete                              | 50,000             | 1-Aug-18              | -  |
|   |   |                    |                     |                                       |                    |                       | Operational but options for shelter being considered - including making use of facilities  |
| Laurison Castle Forest School   | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2018/19             | In Development                        | 50,000             | _                     | in Lauriston Castle.   |
| Dean Park PS Nursery Class  | Refurbishment Works                     | 215,000            | 2018/19             | Under Construction                    | 189,114            |                       | Complete with exception of landscaping.  |
| Moffat Early Years Centre   | Refurbishment Works                     | 65,352             | 2018/19             | Under Construction                    | 76,800             | 15-Aug-19             | Complete with exception of landscaping.  |
| Abbeyhill PS Nursery Class  | Refurbishment Works                     | 44,600             | 2018/19             | Complete                              | 25,000             |                       | Complete with exception of landscaping.  |
| Prestonfield Primary School Nursery Class<br>Brunstane Primary School Nursery Class | Refurbishment Works Refurbishment Works | 150,000<br>325,000 | 2018/19<br>2018/19  | Under Construction Under Construction | 213,058<br>335,853 | 12-Aug-19<br>1-Oct-19 | Complete with exception of landscaping.  |
| Queensferry Primary/Early Years Centre  | Refurbishment Works                     | 55,000             | 2018/19             | Complete                              | 157,000            | 1-Oct-19              | Complete with exception of landscaping.  Scope of works increased to provide greater capacity.   |
| Catering Equipment  | Catering for Early Years Expansion      | 90,000             | 2019/20             | In Development                        | 90,000             | - 1000 13             | Allocation to be confirmed.  |
| Refurbishment / reinstatement of  |   |                    |                     |                                       |                    | _                     |  |
| production kitchens   | Catering for Early Years Expansion      | 520,000            | 2019/20             | In Development                        | 520,000            | -                     | Location for new kitchen provision to be confirmed.  |
| Cammo Forest School   | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2019/20             | In Development                        | 70,000             | 1-Aug-20              | Operational - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.   |
| Nether Currie PS Nursery Class  | New Build                               | 1,518,507          | 2019/20             | Under Construction                    | 1,537,673          | 14-Apr-20             | On schedule. Scope reduced due to site limitations.  |
| Granton Primary School Nursery Class  | New Build - Replace Existing            | 2,296,901          | 2019/20             | Under Construction                    | 2,355,727          | 14-Apr-20             | On schedule.   |
| St Marks Primary School Nursery Class   | New Build - Replace Existing            | 1,776,908          | 2019/20             | Under Construction                    | 2,313,079          | 1-Jun-20              | On schedule.   |
| Craigentinny Primary School Nursery Class   | New Build - Replace Existing            | 2,205,634          | 2019/20             | Under Construction                    | 2,610,577          | 1-Jun-20              | On schedule.   |
| St John Vianny Primary School Nursery Class   | New Build - Replace Existing            | 2,043,275          | 2019/20             | Under Construction                    | 2,306,537          | 1-Jun-20              | On schedule.   |
| Echline Primary School Nursery Class  | New Build - Replace Existing            | 1,547,007          | 2019/20             | CANCELLED                             | _                  | _                     | Cancelled due to new provision at Builyeon Road Primary; increased capacity at   |
|   |   |                    |                     |                                       |                    |                       | Queensferry EYC; Forest School proposal and high cost compared to places provided.   |
| Hope Cottage Nursery School   | Refurbishment Works                     | 95,000             | 2019/20             | CANCELLED                             | -                  | -                     | No requirement.  |
| St Leonards Nursery School  | Refurbishment Works                     | 100,000            | 2019/20             | CANCELLED                             | -                  | -                     | No requirement.  |
| St Peters Primary School Nursery Class  | Refurbishment Works Refurbishment Works | 90,000             | 2019/20             | CANCELLED                             | 175.000            | -<br>15 A 20          | No requirement.  |
| Stanwell Nursery School Canal View Primary School Nursery Class                     | Refurbishment Works                     | 175,000            | 2019/20             | Commissioning<br>CANCELLED            | 175,000            | 15-Aug-20<br>-        | Scope of works to be confirmed.  |
| Clovenstone Primary School Nursery Class  | Refurbishment Works                     | 145,000<br>120,000 | 2019/20<br>2019/20  | Commissioning                         | 40,000             | 15-Aug-20             | No requirement.  Minor works to allow 1140 delivery.   |
| Mortonhall Forest School  | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2020/21             | CANCELLED                             | 40,000             | - 13-Aug-20           | Site not appropriate   |
| Hermitage Forest School   | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 70,000             | 9-Jan-20              | Shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.   |
| Meadow Field Forest School  | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 70,000             | 9-Jan-20              | Shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.   |
| Craiglockhart Forest School   | Forest School                           | 50,000             | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 70,000             | 9-Jan-20              | Shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.   |
| Craigmount HS Cluster   | New Build                               | 1,352,620          | 2020/21             | CANCELLED                             | -                  | 1-Aug-22              | No appropriate site identified; alternative delivery being introduced at cluster nurseries.  |
| Gracemount HS Cluster (St Catherine's)  | New Build                               | 1,279,246          | 2020/21             | ON HOLD                               | 1,279,246          | 1-Aug-22              | Additional capacity to be built as part of new St Catherine's RC Primary replacement following conclusion of Service Design.                                 |
| Gilmerton PS Nursery Class  | New Build - Extend Existing             | 1,013,979          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 1,751,636          | 1-Aug-21              | Progressing with design work.  |
| Kirkliston NS   | New Build - Extend Existing             | 1,706,303          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 2,526,997          | 1-Aug-21              | Progressing with design work.  |
| New South Edinburgh PS Nursery Class  | New Build - part of new PS              | 1,352,620          | 2021/22             | In Development                        | 1,352,620          |                       | Delivery as part of new school.  |
| New Broomhills PS Nursery Class   | New Build - part of new PS              | 1,279,246          | 2020/21             | Under Construction                    | 1,279,246          | 15-Aug-20             | Delivery as part of new school.  |
| New Victoria Primary School   | New Build - part of new PS              | 1,333,479          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 1,333,479          | 15-Aug-21             | Delivery as part of new school.  |
| Ratho Primary School Nursery Class  | New Build - Replace Existing            | 1,352,620          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 2,519,475          | 15-Aug-20             | Progressing with design work. Cost includes Rising Rolls - 3 new classrooms at Ratho PS.   |
| Broughton Primary School Nursery Class<br>(Powderhall)                              | New Build - Replace Existing            | 2,296,901          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 2,296,901          | 29-Jul-21             | Part of Powderhall Housing development - progressing with design work and consultation.  |
| Carrick Knowe Primary School Nursery Class  | New Build - Replace Existing            | 1,611,021          | 2020/21             | In Development                        | 1,446,375          | 1-Aug-21              | Progressing with design work.  |
| Royal High Primary School Nursery Class   | New Build - Replace Existing            | 1,528,627          | 2020/21             | CANCELLED                             | -                  | -                     | No appropriate site identified; alternative delivery being introduced at cluster nurseries.  |
| Sighthill Primary School Nursery Class  | New Build                               | 2,296,901          | 2020/21             | ON HOLD                               | 2,322,344          | 1-Aug-22              | Temporary Nursery expansion until Service Design in Wester Hailes complete.  |
| Leith Academy Cluster   | New Build                               | 2,296,901          | 2021/22             | ON HOLD                               | 2,322,344          |                       | No appropriate site identified - high priorty area.  |
| Craigroyston HS Cluster (Pennywell)   | New Build - Pennywell Housing           | 2,630,162          | 2021/22             | In Development                        | 3,272,227          | 1-Aug-21              | Part of Housing redevelopment of Pennywell - progressing with design work.   |
|   | Development                             |                    |                     |                                       |                    |                       |  |
| Calderglen NS   | New Build - Replace Existing            | 2,127,824          | 2021/22             | ON HOLD                               | 2,322,344          | 1-Aug-22              | On hold until Service Design in Wester Hailes complete.  |
| New Projects  |   |                    |                     |                                       |                    |                       |  |
| Hawkhill Forest School  | Forest School                           | =                  | -                   | In Development                        | 70,000             |                       | Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.  |
| Bonaly Forest School  | Forest School                           | -                  | -                   | In Development                        | 70,000             |                       | Development of existing facilities at Bonaly Scout Camp.   |
| Heriot Watt Forest School   | Forest School                           | -                  | -                   | In Development                        | 70,000             | 9-Jan-20              | Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.  |
| Newbattle Forest School   | Forest School                           | -                  | -                   | In Development                        | 25,000             |                       | Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.  |
| Corstorphine Hill Forest School Craigmillar Forest School                           | Forest School<br>Forest School          | -                  | -                   | In Development In Development         | 70,000<br>70,000   | 9-Jan-20<br>9-Jan-20  | Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.  Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed. |
| Queensferry Forest School   | Forest School                           | -                  | -                   | In Development                        | 70,000             |                       | Site appraisal under way - shelter, storage and wc provision being developed.  |
|   | Temporary Unit                          | -                  | -                   | Under Construction                    | 400,000            |                       | Awaiting necessary permissions to proceed.   |
|   | Temporary Unit                          |                    | -                   | Under Construction                    | 250,000            |                       | Complete with exception of landscaping.  |
|   |   |                    | Cost Estim          | nate Subtotal                         | 40 445 653         |                       |  |
|   |   |                    |                     |                                       | 40,445,652         |                       |  |
|   |   | Attrib             | utable to Rising Ro | lls Budget (Ratho PS)                 | 1,100,000          |                       |  |
|   |   |                    |                     | Total EY1140                          |                    |                       |  |
|   | Grant Allocation                        | 39,386,635         |                     | Infrastructure<br>Cost Estimate       | 39,345,652         |                       |  |
|   |   |                    |                     | 1                                     |                    |                       |  |
|   |   |                    |                     | Diff <b>l</b> <sup>2</sup>            | 40,983             |                       |  |