
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	22 January 2013
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/06/13/LW
Contact Officer:	Linda Wilkie	Contact No:	01475 712812
Subject:	Increase of Entitlement to 600 hours for children aged 3 and 4 years		

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- a. provide details on the proposal to increase the entitlement of nursery provision from 475 hours to 600 hours.
- b. provide details of the financial cost of the increase in entitlement.

2.0 SUMMARY

2.1 The report summarises the current provision and delivery of Early Education and Childcare.

2.2 It details Scottish Government's proposal to increase the current entitlement of nursery provision and provides details on the Government's preferred delivery option

2.3 It details 2 models:

Model 1

All 5 options are delivered in all establishments which meets the criteria proposed in the consultation on the Children and Young People Bill, but is difficult to deliver and expensive.

Model 2

A community model where all 5 options are available in a community. This does not meet the criteria proposed in the consultation on the Children and Young People Bill, but is easier to deliver and makes better use of financial resources

2.4 It provides information on a proposal for vulnerable 2 year olds.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- Note the content of this report and agree that a further report is submitted when the Children and Young People Bill and Financial Memorandum is published.

Albert Henderson
Corporate Director Education, Communities & Organisational Development

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The current consultation on the Children and Young People Bill states Scottish Government's intention to improve access to high quality, flexible and integrated early learning and childcare.

4.2 The Scottish Government's intention is to:-

- Increase the funded annual provision from 475 hour to a minimum annual provision of 600 hours.
- Establish a funded annual provision for looked after 2 year olds of 600 hours.
- Make early learning and childcare more flexible and seamless for the child, and better suited to family needs.

4.3 Current guidance to Local Authorities, in relation to the provision of Early Education and Childcare, is that the Authority:-

- Is required to secure education for prescribed pre-school children from the school term following their third birthday, should their parents wish a place;
- Is required to provide 475 hours over the school year commencing 1 August for 12 months, or a proportion of that according to the child's birth date;
- Is required to have regard to guidance issued by Scottish ministers when exercising their functions in relation to pre-school education;
- Is required to endeavour to secure improvement in all pre-school education centres, including partner providers;
- Is empowered to secure pre-school education beyond their statutory duties, for example, additional education for 3-and 4-year olds or earlier than the first term after the children's third birthday; and
- Is entitled to charge for services, which are provided out with their statutory duty.

4.4 The introduction of 412.5 hours annual funded pre-school education in 2002 was defined in guidance in general terms as 12.5 hours/weeks over three terms, totalling 33 weeks. This was subsequently increased to 475 hours annually as 12.5 hours/week over 38 weeks in 2007. In practice, this has translated into five 2.5 hour sessions each weekday during term time, embedded in the education system.

5.0 PROPOSALS

5.1 Scottish Government have made it clear that they wish parents to have flexibility in accessing the additional hours and it will not be solely based on a straightforward extension of nursery hours over 38 weeks.

5.2 Scottish Government has stated 5 options for the delivery of the provision of 600 hours:

1. 12.5 hours x 48 weeks per year
2. 15 hours per week x 40 weeks per year
3. 16 hours per week, compressed hours over 2 days x 38 weeks per year
4. 16 hours per week, 5 sessions x 3hrs 12 mins. x 38 weeks per year
5. 32.5 hours per fortnight, 5 sessions x 6hrs 30 mins. x 38 weeks per year

5.3 All five models have been investigated and fully costed. There are particular models which are

difficult and costly to deliver in certain types of establishments e.g. Options 1, 2, 3 in schools and classes which only operate a restricted day and year.

5.4 Scottish Government has stated that Local Authorities should consult with parents on delivery options. It is proposed that consultation will take place in Inverclyde when further information is available of the funding of the delivery options.

5.5 Two models have been investigated and costed for the provision for 3 and 4 year olds.

Model 1: All 5 options are delivered in all establishments – meets the criteria proposed in the consultation on the Children’s and Young People’s Bill, but difficult to deliver and costly.

Model 2: A community model where all 5 options are available in a community – does not meet the criteria proposed in the consultation on the Children’s and Young People’s Bill, but easier to deliver and better use of financial resources.

The preferred model of delivery will be dependent on what is prescribed in the Children and Young People Bill.

5.6 Model 1

All establishments regardless of type provide all 5 options.

Establishment	Nursery Classes				
	Provide part –time nursery education 38 weeks per year.				
	Option1 12.5 hours x 48 weeks per year	Option 2 15 hours per week x 40 weeks per year	Option 3 16 hours per week, over 2 days x 38 weeks per year	Option 4 16 hours per week, 5 sessions x 3hrs 12 mins. x 38 weeks per year	Option 5 32.5 hrs per fortnight, 5 sessions x 6hrs 30 mins x 38 wks per year
Aileymill Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Inverkip Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kilmacolm Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
King’s Oak Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Lady Alice Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Moorfoot Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whinhill Nursery Classes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wemyss Bay Nursery Class	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nursery Schools					
Establishment	Provide mainly part–time nursery education 38 weeks per year. A small number of wrapround places are available				
	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Blairmore Nursery School	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Newark Nursery School	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Children’s Centre / Family Centre					
Establishment	Provide a range part-time and full-time places, 50 weeks per year				
	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Binnie St. Children’s	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Centre					
Bluebird Family Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gibshill Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glenbrae Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillend Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kelly St. Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Larkfield Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wellpark Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Partner Providers					
Establishment	Provide mainly full-time placements for parents in employment, education and training.				
	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Enchanted Forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glencairn Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
James Watt College	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Madiera Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Tops Community Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wellington Pre 5 Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

5.4 Model 2

The 5 options are available across a geographical area rather than in individual establishments.

Establishment	Kilmacolm / Port Glasgow				
	Option1 12.5 hours x 48 weeks per year	Option 2 15 hours per week x 40 weeks per year	Option 3 16 hours per week, over 2 days x 38 weeks per year	Option 4 16 hours per week, 5 sessions x 3hrs 12 mins. x 38 weeks per year	Option 5 32.5 hrs per fortnight, 5 sessions x 6hrs 30 mins x 38 wks per year
Kilmacolm Nursery Class				✓	
Newark Nursery School				✓	✓
Rainbow Family Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
*Tree Tops Community Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greenock East					
Establishment	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Blairmore Nursery School				✓	
Gibshill Children's	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Centre					
Glenbrae Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hillend Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
King's Oak Nursery Class				✓	
*Enchanted Forest	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greenock Central					
Establishment	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Wellpark Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Whinhill Nursery Classes				✓	
*Wellington Pre 5 Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greenock West					
Establishment	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Kelly St. Children's Centre	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
*Madera Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
*Glencairn Nursery	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Greenock South West					
Establishment	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Aileymill Nursery Class				✓	
Bluebird Family Centre	✓	✓		✓	✓
Lady Alice Nursery Class				✓	
Larkfield Children's Centre	✓	✓		✓	✓
Gourock, Inverkip, Wemyss Bay					
Establishment	Option1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5
Binnie St. Children's Centre	✓	✓		✓	✓
Inverkip Nursery Class				✓	
Moorfoot Nursery Class				✓	
Wemyss Bay Nursery Class				✓	

* Partner Provider

6.0 ENTITLEMENT FOR LOOKED AFTER 2 YEAR OLDS

6.1 The allocation of funding for the provision of early learning and childcare for all Looked After 2 year

olds was announced by Scottish Government in April 2012.

- 6.2 Inverclyde Council is using its allocation of funding to develop a strategy to deliver 600 hours of provision for Looked After 2 year olds by 2015.
- 6.3 The key aim is that every looked after 2 year old benefits from high quality early learning and childcare; and that where possible work with parents to embed the benefits of formal early learning and childcare in the home.
- 6.4 The funding can also be used to ensure the Local Authority is in a position to deliver 600 hours of provision for Looked After 2 year olds by 2015.

7.0 PROVISION FOR LOOKED AFTER 2 YEAR OLDS IN INVERCLYDE

7.1 Within Inverclyde there is a range of services that provide placements for Looked After 2 year olds:

Area	Provision	Sector	Other information
Port Glasgow	Rainbow Family Centre	Local Authority	Provide services to children from Kilmacolm
	Tree Tops Community Nursery	Third Sector	
East Greenock	Glenbrae Children's Centre	Local Authority	
Central Greenock	Wellpark Children's Centre	Local Authority	
West Greenock	Larkfield Children's Centre	Local Authority	Provide services to children from Gourrock, Wemyss Bay and Inverkip
	Bluebird Family Centre	Local Authority	
Inverclyde	Daycarers	Private Providers	Daycarers are self-employed childminders who have undergone additional assessment by Inverclyde Council. They are contracted, as and when required, to deliver services on behalf of the Council.

- 7.2 There is capacity within these services to provide placements for all looked after children; however some children cannot be allocated their 1st choice of provision. There is a particular pressure in Glenbrae Children's Centre.
- 7.3 The Scottish Government intends to legislate that from 2015 all looked after 2 year olds should receive at least 600 hours of early learning and childcare. There is no information yet as to how this increase will be funded.
- 7.4 Not all children in this category currently receive 600 hours of provision as to date allocation has been provided according to individual need and on some occasions according to availability. Few children receive the individualised approach as specified in the Government's guidance and summarised in section 6.3 of this report.
- 7.5 A small increase in provision may be required to ensure every child receives their 600 hours of provision. The cost of 2 additional Early Years Education and Childcare Officers has been included in the response to COSLA.

8.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Scottish Government has not confirmed how this increase in entitlement will be funded.
- 8.2 Inverclyde Council has provided COSLA with details of cost of implementing Model 1.
- 8.3 Model 1 – All options delivered in all establishments

Options	Annual Cost
Option 1	£ 805,000
Option 2	£ 280,000
Option 3	£1149,000
Option 4	£ 100,000
Option 5	£ 76,000

8.4 Model 2

Option	Annual Cost
Community Model	£411,211*

- If this model is expanded to offer more options in specific geographical areas this figure will increase.

8.5 Looked After 2 Year Olds

Model	Annual Cost
Additional Staffing	£50,000

8.6 This development can only be implemented if it is fully funded by Scottish Government.

9.0 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Additional staffing will be required to deliver the increase in entitlement.

10.0 RECOMMENDATION

10.1 It is recommended that the Committee note the content of this report and agree:

- that a further report is submitted when the Children and Young People's Bill and Financial Memorandum is published