

To: Education and Children's Services Policy Board

On: 17 January 2019

Report by: Director of Children's Services

Heading: Early Learning and Childcare Entitlement - 1140 Expansion Plan

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Scottish Government has indicated that the hours of funded early learning and childcare will increase from the present 600 hours per annum to 1140 hours by August 2020. The policy objective for the increase is to give children the best start in life and to close the poverty related attainment gap.
- 1.2 A report detailing Renfrewshire Council's plan for delivering the expansion of funded early learning and childcare provision from the present 600 hours to 1140 hours by 2020 was presented to the education and children's services policy board on 23 August 2018.
- 1.3 The Scottish Government has released additional funding to local authorities to support the phasing of expansion from 2017/18 to 2020/21. Renfrewshire has been allocated £14,013,000 of capital funding to deliver the infrastructure projects outlined in section 4 of this report, with the recurring revenue funding for Renfrewshire rising to £22,528,000 in 2021/22.
- 1.4 The Scottish Government committed £18 million to provide additional graduates to work in Scotland's most deprived areas. £12 million of this funding was previously distributed for financial year 2018/19. Renfrewshire received £717,241 to allocate 26 additional graduates. This is included as part of the £22,528,000.
- 1.5 The Scottish Government wrote to councils on 2 November 2018 to advise that the remaining balance of £6 million additional graduate funding for 2018/19 was being allocated to councils. Renfrewshire's share of this balance of funding is £200,409. In the letter to councils, the Government provided guidance on the spend of the additional funding. In light of this guidance, Renfrewshire Council will support providers in the private and third sectors, including childminders in the transition towards the 1140 expansion.

- 1.6 This report provides the detail of the infrastructure developments to support the expansion of early learning and childcare in Renfrewshire and includes the engagement of Senior Officers from Children's Services with private and third sector providers to explore options for allocating additional funding to support them in the transition towards 1140 expansion.
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2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The education and children's services policy board is asked to:
- (i) agree the planned infrastructure developments as outlined in section 4 of this report; and
 - (ii) approve the further engagement of senior officers from children's services with private and third sector providers to explore options for allocating additional funding to support them in the transition towards 1140 expansion.
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3. Background

- 3.1 Currently, under The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, children aged 3 and 4 years and eligible 2 year olds are entitled to 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare per annum. Renfrewshire Council has fulfilled this duty. The Scottish Government is committed to increasing the level of entitlement from the current level to 1140 hours per annum by 2020. A phased approach to delivering the increased entitlement over the next three years is to be progressed. The plan also offers parents a range of options for accessing their child's free early learning and childcare entitlement across each geographical area.
- 3.2 Councils submitted draft expansion plans to the Scottish Government at the end of September 2017 and in early March 2018. Renfrewshire's revised plan was approved by the education and children's services policy board on 15 March 2018, with further detail presented to the same policy board on 23 August 2018.
- 3.3 In terms of the phasing of 1140 hours of early learning and childcare, in line with Scottish Government guidance, children and families living in low SIMD areas will be given priority. Throughout the phasing period the Council will continue to ensure that the legislative requirement to provide children with 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare is maintained.
- 3.4 The agreed governance structure and workstreams, including workforce, infrastructure and implementation continue to operate to plan and oversee the delivery of the expansion of funded early learning and childcare.
- 3.5 There continues to be a number of significant risks in achieving the expansion within the timescale set that will require to be proactively managed by the council during the expansion period, including: ensuring the infrastructure developments are in place by 2020; securing sufficient qualified staff; and future sustainability of the independent and third sector providers. Officers will continue to progress the implementation in relation to the 1140 expansion whilst remaining alert to and proactively managing the identified key risks.

4. Renfrewshire Council's 1140 Infrastructure Expansion Plan

- 4.1. This section provides detail of the capital works to be undertaken on an establishment by establishment basis. This is detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.
- 4.2. The reporting format for infrastructure development has been established by the Scottish Futures Trust, which categorises works as “refurbishment”; “extension”; or “new build” and the undernoted update is aligned to this reporting format.
- 4.3. The following provides the detail of the location of the infrastructure work to be undertaken on an establishment by establishment basis.

(i) Refurbishments:

Refurbishment works to various levels are scheduled for the following establishments:

- Ralston Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Bridge of Weir Early Learning and Childcare Class
- West Johnstone Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Auchenlodment Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Glenfield Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Mossvale Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Todholm Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Gallowhill Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Paisley Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Heriot Early Learning and Childcare Class
- St Anne's Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Moorpark Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Ferguslie Early Learning and Childcare Centre.
- East Fulton Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Hollybush Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Glenburn Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Lochwinnoch Early Learning and Childcare Class

(ii) Extensions

Extensions are planned at the following establishments:

- Inchinnan Primary School to accommodate an extended Inchinnan Community Nursery.
- St Margaret's Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Williamsburgh Early Learning and Childcare Class
- St Catherine's Early Learning and Childcare Class
- Glendee Early Learning and Childcare Centre
- Kilbarchan Community Nursery

(iii) New builds

New builds are planned at:

- Houston Early Learning and Childcare Class. At this time the Council's property services are developing designs which will provide for the full range of learning activities both internally and externally. The works to be undertaken will include construction of a single storey early learning centre with associated external learning and covered play areas, parking and servicing provisions.
- A new build Early Learning and Childcare Centre is planned for the Renfrew Area. Council officers are currently working with the strategy and place team to identify a suitable site for this provision and property services are developing designs which will provide for the full range of learning activities both internally and externally. The works to be undertaken will include construction of a single storey early learning centre with associated external learning and covered play areas, parking and servicing provisions.
- A new build Early Learning and Childcare Centre is planned for the Dargavel area in Bishopton. Council officers are currently working with the strategy and place team to identify a suitable site for this provision and property services are developing designs which will provide for the full range of learning activities both internally and externally. The works to be undertaken will include construction of a single storey early learning centre with associated external learning and covered play areas, parking and servicing provisions.

- A new build Early Learning and Childcare Centre is planned for the Hawkhead area in Paisley and a suitable site within the area is still to be identified. Property services are developing designs which will provide for the full range of learning activities both internally and externally. The works to be undertaken will include construction of a single storey early learning centre with associated external learning and covered play areas, parking and servicing provisions.

4.4 The proposed range of provision and infrastructure developments across each geographical area are detailed in appendix 1. The phasing plan will continue to be refined on a year on year basis, in terms of establishing the exact places available to enable 1140 hours of early learning and childcare to be allocated. The Council has a duty to ensure that the legislative requirement to provide children with 600 hours of funded early learning and childcare is maintained.

5. Additional Graduate Commitment and Work with Partnership Providers

5.1 The Scottish Government committed £18 million within the 1140 expansion funding to provide additional graduates to work in Scotland's most deprived areas. £12 million of this funding has been distributed to Councils in 2018/19. Renfrewshire received £717,241.

5.2 The Scottish Government wrote to councils on 2 November 2018 to allocate the remaining balance of £6 million. Renfrewshire's share of this is £200,409. In the funding letter, the Government noted that providers in the private and third sectors, including childminders, are currently facing challenges as they work towards the expansion. This additional funding provides an opportunity to build on existing partnership working across the sector to support the needs of local providers.

5.3 Senior officers from Children's Services will be writing to providers to inform them of the engagement process and to agree options for allocating additional funding to support them in the transition towards the 1140 expansion of early learning and childcare. It is proposed that the funding will span financial years and will be allocated through a grant process. Local authorities will use the additional funding to support providers as they transition towards the statutory roll-out of 1140 hours of early learning and childcare.

Implications of this report

1. Financial

Renfrewshire Council's delivery of the expansion plan will require to be in line within the Government funding throughout the phasing period, culminating in the additional £22,528,000 revenue in 2021/22 and total capital funding of £14,013,000.

2. HR and Organisational Development

As outlined in the report presented to the education and children's services policy board in August 2018.

3. Community/Council Planning

Our Renfrewshire is thriving	- Ensuring the best start in life for children and young people.
Our Renfrewshire is well	- Early intervention will lead to healthier outcomes for children and young people.
Our Renfrewshire is safe	- Local services will benefit children, young people and members of the community.
Building strong, safe and resilient communities	- The quality of community life is enhanced by supporting parents, children and young people.
Tackling inequality, ensuring opportunities for all	- Effective governance arrangements ensure that the organisations receiving funding comply with legislative requirements.
Creating a sustainable Renfrewshire for all to enjoy	Support to families and flexible childcare placements will support parents into and sustain employment, training or enter education.

4. Legal

The Council will require to comply with any change to support for early learning and childcare in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

5. Property/Assets

The development of individual infrastructure projects is informed, as appropriate, by officers from children's services; finance and resources; communities, housing and planning services; and environment and infrastructure services.

6. Information Technology

Information and technology will be required to be set up for new services.

7. Equality and Human Rights

The recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations.

8. Health and Safety

It is integral to the Council's aim of securing the health and wellbeing of employees and those affected by its undertakings and without this continued effective focus, there is a risk that will adversely impact on the Council both financially and in terms of service delivery.

9. Procurement

As outlined in the report presented to the education and children's services policy board in August 2018.

10. Risk

There is a significant risk, given the expansion across Scotland, that the infrastructure programme will not be deliverable. There will be a demand on the construction industry which could result in insufficient providers being available to build and deliver the adaptations required.

Other risks are as outlined in the paper presented in the education and children services policy board in August 2018.

11. Privacy Impact

Personal information will only be held as required to deliver the service. This will be done in accordance with data protection legislation.

12. COSLA Policy Position

COSLA has been involved in the negotiations with the Scottish Government regarding the expansion of 1140 hours of early learning and childcare. The Renfrewshire plan reflects the COSLA position.

List of Background Papers

- (a) A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland, the Scottish Government, 2017.
- (b) Early Learning and Childcare Entitlement Expansion Plan, Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 24/08/17.
- (c) Early Learning and Childcare Entitlement – 1140 Expansion Plan, Education and Children's Services Policy Board, 2/11/17.

- (d) A blueprint of 2020: the expansion of early learning and childcare in Scotland – early learning and childcare service model for 2020 consultation paper, The Scottish Government 2018.
- (e) Early Learning and Childcare Entitlement – 1140 Expansion Plan, Education and Children’s Services Policy Board, 23/8/18.

The foregoing background papers will be retained within children’s services for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting.

The contact officer within the service is Kathleen McDonagh, Education Manager, 0141 618 7196, kathleen.mcdonagh@renfrewshire.gov.uk

KMcD/JT/SQ/LG/LMcA
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Authors: Ian Thomson, Education Manager, ian.thomson@renfrewshire.gov.uk
and Kathleen McDonagh, Education Manager, 0141 618 7196,
kathleen.mcdonagh@renfrewshire.gov.uk

1140 Expansion – Proposed Expansion in Geographical Areas

Geographical Panel Areas	Provision	Infrastructure Developments	Revised 1140 registered Capacity for 3-5 year olds
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Johnstone / Lochwinnoch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 local authority extended year 1 local authority Term Time 2 partner provider extended year service 1 current non-partner extended year service Includes childminder provision 	<p>Refurbishments: West Johnstone ELCC Auchenlodment ELCC</p> <p>Refurbishment: Lochwinnoch ELCC</p> <p>Extension: St Margaret's ELCC</p>	<p>64 56</p> <p>48</p> <p>72</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Erskine/Inchinnan/Bishopton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 local authority extended year 4 partner provider extended year service 3 partner providers Term Time 1 new build extended year service 1 current non partner extended year service 	<p>Refurbishments: St Anne's ELCC</p> <p>Extension: Inchinnan Community Nursery (Inchinnan Primary School)</p> <p>New: Dargavel (Bishopton)</p>	<p>80</p> <p>40</p> <p>40</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renfrew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 local authority extended year 4 partner provider extended year service 2 current non partner extended year service Includes childminder provision 1 new build extended year service 	<p>Refurbishment: Moorpark ELCC</p> <p>Extension: Glendee ELCC</p> <p>New: Kirklandneuk area</p>	<p>112</p> <p>104</p> <p>56</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Houston/Bridge of Weir/Kilbarchan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 local authority extended year 3 partner provider extended year service 1 partner provider Term Time 1 new build extended year service 	<p>Refurbishment: Bridge of Weir</p> <p>Extension: Kilbarchan Community Nursery</p> <p>New build: Houston ELCC</p>	<p>48</p> <p>56</p> <p>60</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linwood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 local authority extended year 1 local authority extended year (ASN) 1 local authority Term Time 1 partner provider extended year service 	Refurbishment: East Fulton ELCC	64
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glenburn/Foxbar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 local authority extended year 3 local authority Term Time 1 partner provider extended year service Includes childminder provision 	Refurbishments: Hollybush building (Glenfield ELCC) Glenfield ELCC Glenburn ELCC	40 32 48
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paisley West 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 local authority extended year 2 local authority Term Time 1 partner provider extended year service 1 partner provider Term Time 	Refurbishment: Heriot ELCC	40
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paisley West 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 local authority extended year 2 local authority Term Time 4 partner provider extended year service 	Refurbishments: Mossvale ELCC Ferguslie ELCC	40 64
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paisley Central 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 local authority extended year 2 local authority Term Time 4 partner provider extended year service 1 new build extended year service 1 current non-partner extended year service 	Refurbishments: Ralston ELCC Todholm ELCC Paisley ELCC New build: Early Learning and Childcare Centre (Hawkhead)	56 48 56 64
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paisley Central 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 local authority extended year 2 local authority Term Time 3 partner provider extended year service 1 current non-partner extended year service 1 current non-partner Term Time service 	Refurbishment: Gallowhill ELCC Extensions: Williamsburgh ELCC St Catherine's ELCC	40 64 56

Note: Extended Year Service – This is a service which operates 51 weeks of the year and opens between 8am and 6pm.
Term Time Service – This is a service which operates 39 weeks of the year and opens during a school day.

NB: In terms of providing suitable dining facilities further infrastructure work is required to be undertaken in some establishments.