

EE33. REPORT BACK ON THE FINDINGS OF THE CONSULTATION ON THE EXPANSION OF EARLY LEARNING AND CHILDCARE TO 600 HOURS PER ANNUM

The Education Executive considered a report by the joint Acting Director of Education which (a) informed of the results of the consultation exercise undertaken in relation to the expansion of early learning and childcare to 600 hours per annum, and (b) outlined the proposals and made recommendations for implementing the changes to existing service provision and delivery from August 2014.

As part of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Bill, the Scottish Government proposes to introduce an additional 125 hours per annum of early learning and childcare provision as from August 2014. The Education Executive, at the meeting on 29 October 2013, agreed that a consultation be undertaken by Education Services on the options for families and children to access these extra hours.

Decision

The Education Executive agreed:-

- 1) to note the contents of the responses contained within the consultation report attached as Appendix 1 of the report;**
- 2) to endorse the proposals of Education Services to implement option 2 as detailed in section 5.1 of the report;**
- 3) to note that the Nursery Education Admissions Policy will be reviewed and submitted to the Education Executive for approval in due course;**
- 4) that Education Services will provide a further report to Education Executive in April 2014 providing:**
 - an implementation update**
 - details of the proposed capital investment, and**
- 5) that Education Services will carry out a further consultation early in 2015 as set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report.**