

EE43. Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) – 2020 Expansion Plan Update

The Education Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services which provided an update on the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) 2020 Expansion Plan.

Year 1 had realised 8 planned projects, and 2 further projects being successfully delivered and fully operational. Review and re-assessment of Year 2 projects implementation dates and proposed phasing arrangements was currently ongoing.

Following work undertaken by the Strategic Property Review, 3 properties had been identified for consideration as potential early years use. It is proposed that consultation exercises be undertaken to assess whether the alternative property options set out offer best value, and meet the suitability and capacity requirements. Any informal consultation would involve groups and stakeholders, including parents, parent councils, staff and local elected members.

Information was provided on the partnership work with the Scottish Child Minding Association, with some children now receiving part of their provision via this blended approach between a local authority provider and a childminder.

Decision

The Education Executive:-

- (1) noted the successful delivery of the Year 1 (2018) projects;**
- (2) noted the plans to review and re-asses the delivery timeframes for Year 2 projects;**
- (3) agreed that the Director of Children's Services can progress consultation with parents and other stakeholders on the plans to consider and utilise alternative properties, and**
- (4) agreed that the Director of Children's Services continues to provide Education Executive with progress updates on the ELC expansion plans and the feedback from the consultations agreed at (3) above.**