

Councillor Nicol left the meeting during discussion of the foregoing item of business.

EE26. CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE BILL 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) provided information on the Scottish Government's commitment to increase the entitlement to nursery provision for 3 and 4 year olds from 475 to 600 hours from August 2014; (b) informed of the requirements to consult with affected parents on their needs and their potential demand for childcare places, and (c) sought permission to consult parents and other stakeholders on the feasible options for the delivery of the 600 hours.

The report outlined the options available and the potential impact of the increase in provision, and outlined the possible future service delivery options and the proposed consultation arrangements.

Decision

The Education Executive agreed to:-

- (1) note the background information;**
- (2) note the current position and future challenge this change presents Education Services, and**
- (3) proceed with the consultation as outlined in Section 8 within the report, with a report on the findings and recommendations coming back to Education Executive on 4 February 2014.**