

EE14. UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF 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 provided an update on (a) plans for Phase 1 of the implementation strategy for the expansion of early learning and childcare to 600 hours per annum from August 2014, and (b) the plans to introduce Phase 2 of the implementation strategy as it affects 2 year olds from workless or job seeking households from August 2014.

The report provided an update on the implementation strategy for Phase 1 and outlined the work being undertaken to support the introduction of Phase 2. The report noted that the draft Statutory Guidance has been prepared, in relation to the early learning and childcare elements of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, and that the response to the guidance will be co-ordinated by the Children's Commission. Information was also provided on the workforce planning and development and the likely financial and resource implications along with a copy of the revised Early Learning and Childcare Admissions Policy for approval..

Decision

The Education Executive:-

(1) noted:-

- (a) the Phase 1 implementation update;**
- (b) the workforce planning and development implications set out in section 7;**
- (c) that the response to the statutory consultation will be co-ordinated by the Children's Commission, and**
- (d) the resource implications as detailed in section 8.2 of the report.**

(2) agreed:-

- (a) the revised Early Learning and Childcare Admissions Policy;**
- (b) the proposed implementation of Phase 2 as set out in section 5 of the report;**
- (c) the next steps / way forward as set out in section 10 of the report, and**
- (d) that a further report updating progress on Phase 1 and Phase 2 is brought to the Education Executive early next session.**