

## **EE52. Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) – 2020 Expansion Plan Update**

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

The report set out details and feedback received from the consultation and assessment of the potential use of both Stenhousemuir and Kinglass Social Work Offices, and the nursery at Callendar Business Park. The proposals offered development opportunities to re-provision the early years' estate and allow an increase in capacity and improved facilities.

A summary of the Year 2 revised project implementation plans were set out in Appendix 1 to the report. This included details of proposals to accelerate 5 establishments earlier than previously planned, all within the resources available. It was envisaged that around 80 new posts would be created on completion of the work.

Information was provided on a number of larger and more challenging implementation projects scheduled for completion by August 2020, and the collegiate work which had been undertaken in relation to design, planning, location, and delivery models.

A summary of the capital and revenue funding associated with ensuring that all project plans were delivered on time and developed within the overall financial resource package, was provided. Officers were currently looking at the potential use of additional funding being used to help support providers in the private and third sector, including childminders, and how to utilise the funding to the best effect.

Councillor Meiklejohn, seconded by Councillor Murtagh, moved that the Education Executive note:-

- (1) the feedback from the consultation exercises and agree the three proposals as detailed in Section 4.1(i) to 4.1(iii) of the report; and in addition to declare the Stenhousemuir Social Work Office surplus to requirement subject to consultation with local members;
- (2) the update on Year 2 ELC Projects and agreed both the proposed accelerated projects and revised phased implementation plans as summarised in Appendix 1 of the report;
- (3) the progress on major projects as outlined in Section 4.3 and that the Director of Children's Services provide the Education Executive with a regular update on these;
- (4) the update on other associated workstreams contained in Sections 4.4 to 4.7 in the report, and
- (5) the additional revenue funding received (Section 6.2(i) and the update on the current years, 2018/19 financial position for revenue and capital funding as summarised in Sections 6. and 6.2 of the report.

By way of an amendment, Councillor Bissett, seconded by Councillor Nimmo moved that the Director of Children's Services revisit the proposed Early Years provision at Kinglass Social Work/Medical Practice instead of Kinneil Primary School and report back to the next meeting of the Education Executive, on the grounds of health and safety and security within the grounds of the property.

Having heard from officers that further consideration would be given to the concerns raised in relation to the viability of Kinglass Social Work Office, Councillor Bissett with the consent of his seconder, intimated that he wished to withdraw the amendment.

In terms of Standing Order 20.8, and with the unanimous consent of those present, the amendment was withdrawn.

### **Decision**

**The Education Executive agreed the motion.**