

## **ECYE17. Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) – 2020 Expansion Plan Update**

The Education, Children & Young People Executive considered a report by the Director of Children's Services providing an update on the progress of the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Expansion plans, together with additional information on new and individual projects and work stream proposals which support the overall ELC Expansion and Implementation Plans.

Information was provided on the work undertaken by officers on the design and expansion plans for the 9 major projects. This included details on the reasons for the additional costs incurred at the Kinnaird ELC Campus, which were expected to be off-set from anticipated savings from the Phase II and Phase III expansion plans for this school. The procurement and tendering process for the Woodburn ELC was underway, and to allow for demolition of the existing nursery building, it was proposed that current staff and children be decanted to Queen Street Nursery by the October 2019 mid-term break.

Progress information on the current plans for each educational establishment in the Phase 3 programme was set out. Progress on the infrastructure improvement work planned for each project, on a ward by ward basis, was provided as Appendix 1 to the report.

As the new ELC centres would operate outwith the traditional school term, have separate management structures, and be subject to separate inspection by both the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland, it was proposed that they be given individual names. It was proposed that, if agreed, that this be the subject of a consultation exercise.

It was proposed that 2fte staff be recruited to the Central Support Team on a temporary basis. These professional support posts would help assist with the significant workload and infrastructure challenges in the final year of the expansion project.

### **Decision**

#### **The Education, Children and Young People Executive:-**

- (1) noted the overall content of the progress report;**
- (2) noted the updates given on the projects outlined in Sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the report;**
- (3) agreed that the Director of Children's Services progresses with the decant arrangement at Woodburn ELC Centre as outlined in Section 4.1(v) of the report;**
- (4) noted the reasons provided in Section 4.1 (ii) of the report for the additional costs incurred in the Kinnaird ELC Centre project and to agree the proposals outlined to address this;**

- (5) agreed that the Director of Children's Services progresses with the consultation exercises outlined in Section 4.10, regarding naming the new ELC Centres and that a report summarising the findings and making suitable recommendations is brought to a future meeting of the Education, Children and Young People Executive, and**
- (6) agreed that the Central Support Team can recruit the additional temporary posts as detailed in Section 4.12 of the report.**