

ELC Expansion Programme Update (April 2019)

1. PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE

Head of Delivery Assurance

Simon Mair took up his post as Head of Delivery Assurance for the ELC Programme on Tuesday 16 April, having left a delivery role in East Dunbartonshire Council. His role is to work with Local Authorities to understand expansion progress, and put in place practical support to help Authorities deal with delivery challenges. Simon will also report to the Joint Delivery Board on delivery issues.

Simon will be making contact with all ELC leads in the coming days and weeks to discuss expansion programmes and support. Simon looks forward to meeting you all and working closely with you on the run up to 2020 and beyond.

Contacts: **Simon Mair** simon.mair@gov.scot / ELCDeliverySupport@gov.scot

Joint Delivery Board

The Joint Delivery Board for the expansion is due to meet again in June at the new Wallyford Primary School when they will consider updated local authority progress data and discuss the Scottish Study of Early Learning and Childcare (SSELC). More information on the Board can be viewed at <https://www.gov.scot/groups/early-learning-and-childcare-joint-delivery-board/>.

Contacts: *JDB secretariat:* **Sarah Duncan** sarah.duncan@gov.scot

Progress Reporting

Local authorities will shortly receive a request for data from the Improvement Service on the progress of delivery of the expansion. Following feedback from the first data collection, we have made small improvements to the template to ensure that the process is as straightforward as possible.

Adam Hall will be joining the Improvement Service in early May and replaces Heather Adams as ELC Business Analyst. A second business analyst will also be joining the Improvement Service over the coming weeks.

Contact: **Adam Hall** / ELC@improvementservice.org.uk

Local Authority ELC KHub Group

A new Knowledge Management Project Officer has been appointed by the Improvement Service. John Mitchell will start at the end of May and, as part of his role, he will help manage the local authority ELC expansion KHub group.

Contact: ELC@improvementservice.org.uk

2. SERVICE MODELS

Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers

[Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for early learning and childcare providers: Principles and practice](#) was published on 18 December, a joint Scottish Government and COSLA publication. We have also published supporting [Operating Guidance](#) and a [Question and Answer](#) document to further support the sector.

We are currently arranging for every ELC setting in Scotland to receive a copy of both the Principles and Practice document and the Operating Guidance. This includes local authority, private and third sector settings. We are working with the Scottish Childminding Association to enable childminder access to these resources.

A series of engagement events were held across the country in February 2019. We are looking to build on these by engaging in individual local authority areas, offering support and guidance on implementation of Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard from August 2020. These presentation and workshop sessions have been tailored to meet the needs of the local area and we would be more than happy to support further events over the coming months. Please contact us to register your interest and we will do our best to meet your request.

Contact: **Laura Hill** 07824 607496 / fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot

Update on Scotland Excel guidance from Scottish Government and COSLA

The Scottish Government, on behalf of the Service Models Working Group, commissioned Scotland Excel to develop a suite of supporting operational guidance and information that helps local authorities and providers in the private and third sectors, including childminders, implement Funding Follows the Child, and the underpinning National Standard, from August 2020.

This includes the following technical guidance notes which were published on 29 April and cover:

- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Guidance on Meeting Criteria 7 - Business Sustainability](#);
- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Guidance for Setting Sustainable Rates from August 2020](#); and,
- [Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for ELC Providers: Transition Options Guidance on Contracting](#).

This Guidance has been produced based on feedback gathered from local authorities, providers, provider bodies and other stakeholders (for example, Care Inspectorate). This has been through various focus groups and meetings, and a survey which was issued to all Care Inspectorate registered providers and to local authorities. Comments were also received from a smaller group of providers and local authorities, as well as provider bodies, on drafts of the guidance notes. Should you have any questions or queries about the documents, please contact us on the email address below.

Contact: **Laura Hill** 07824 607496 / fundingfollowsthechild@gov.scot

ELC Partnership Forum

In order to support and promote genuine partnership between providers and local authorities, the Scottish Government and COSLA have established the ELC Partnership Forum.

The Forum met on Tuesday 23 April in Glasgow, with the Minister for Children and Young People, Maree Todd, and COSLA Spokesperson for Children and Young People, Cllr Stephen McCabe, in attendance. This meeting marked six months since the Forum was established and offered the opportunity to take stock of the progress made so far and to focus on the sharing of good practice in partnership working, including recent developments in North Lanarkshire.

Any provider can apply to join the membership pool (via the email address below). Attendee numbers for each Forum are limited in order to enable small group discussions. Meetings are taken around the country using Regional Improvement Collaborative areas as a guiding principle and to help maximise local representation, wherever possible. The Forum's membership pool is steadily increasing with 145 members now having joined.

The next meeting of the Forum will take place in June in the Forth Valley and West Lothian Regional Improvement Collaborative area.

We are planning to facilitate a significant Forum event in late summer to involve all members of the pool, all local authorities and national organisations. More information about this will follow.

All information and supporting arrangements for the Forum's activities are available on the [Knowledge Hub](#). A guide to accessing the Knowledge Hub can be provided on request (again, via the email address below).

Contact: ELCPartnershipForum@gov.scot

3. UPTAKE, ELIGIBILITY AND ENGAGEMENT

Parental communication

Work continues on the dedicated ELC section within Parent Club website to help parents make informed choices. The first updates to the site are now live at <https://www.parentclub.scot/articles/how-elc-gives-your-kids-extra-tlc>.

The second phase of content is under development and will be live on Parent Club early May. We will advise you when these pages are live.

Work also continues with local authorities and partner organisations to consult with parents and test our parental engagement strategy, particularly around messages, mediums and timings. We will be sharing useful documents and messages on Knowledge Hub.

Our current focus is on developing a 'toolkit' for local authorities, providers and stakeholders to have access to resources and messages that they can share locally. If there are key documents that you would like to see on the Toolkit – please contact Laura or join in the conversation on Knowledge Hub.

We know that parents prefer to hear directly from other parents, so we are always on the lookout for case studies. Please contact Laura if you have anyone in mind.

Contact: **Laura Tooley** 0131 244 0743 / laura.tooley@gov.scot

Duty to consult parents

Some local authority colleagues have sought clarity about the status of the statutory duty to consult parents on the provision of Early Learning and Childcare every two years during the transition to 2020, and to publish plans in response to these consultations. The statutory duty remains in place. Effective local communication and consultation with parents are key to the transition to 1140 hours, and provide important evidence to inform local Equality Impact Assessments and Fairer Scotland Assessments.

Local authorities may discharge this duty differently during the transition depending on their approach to phasing – for example they may undertake more focused surveys with parents of children receiving 1140 hours to monitor impact and effectiveness of the offer; while working differently with parents who are not yet part of phasing (or those who are not currently using funded ELC) to prepare for August 2020. However it is important that the core principle of engaging and involving parents in service design and delivery continues to be met.

If you are carrying out your consultation at the moment, we'd be keen to hear about your experience.

Contact: **Katherine Tierney** 0131 244 0789 / Katherine.tierney@gov.scot

4. QUALITY

National Induction Resource

The national induction resource will be available on the SSSC website during the week beginning 6 May and we will publicise to the sector, via a flyer to all ELC settings.

Contact: **Luke McPherson** 0131 244 3840 / Luke.McPherson@gov.scot

National Directory of Continued Professional Learning (CPL)

A reminder that the National Directory of CPL (action 5 from the [Quality Action Plan](#)) is now live on the Care Inspectorate Hub.

<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/resources/directory-of-continuous-professional-learning-for-early-learning-and-childcare/>

The directory is searchable by local authority area and theme and will help ELC staff to identify relevant opportunities and to plan their professional learning.

Contact: **Luke McPherson** 0131 244 3840 / Luke.McPherson@gov.scot

ELC content on the National Improvement Hub

Education Scotland have now built a new dedicated 'landing page' for the ELC sector on the National Improvement Hub, completing action 14 from the Quality Action Plan. They have also (and will continue to) strengthen content to ensure it provides a more accessible summary of key information, policy, resources, and exemplification relating to early learning and childcare.

<https://education.gov.scot/improvement/practice-exemplars/a-summary-of-elc-resources>

Contact: **Liz Levy** 0131 244 2652 / liz.levy@gov.scot

Quality Summit

The Quality Summit is scheduled to take place in early September 2019. This whole day event will allow Local Authorities to share examples of how they are embedding and strengthening quality in ELC across their funded settings. The six settings of innovation and impact will also present their journey to innovation and talk about the barriers and how they have addressed these, as well as their successes.

Contact : **James Niven** 0131 244 7373 / james.niven@gov.scot

Development of the national online programme of CPL

We have issued contracts for the development of five of the modules to be included in the online CPL programme (action 4 of the Quality Action Plan). The University of the West of Scotland has been commissioned to develop the modules on: understanding the social factors which may impact on children's outcomes in the early years; supporting parents to further engage in their children's development; supporting the development and progression of children's early language and literacy; and staff skills, knowledge and confidence in delivering learning in STEM subjects. The Open University has been commissioned to develop the module on building confidence in identifying and responding to additional support needs. We are exploring options for the procurement of the remaining modules.

Contact: **Carole Campariol-Scott** 0131 244 5324 / Carole.Campariol-Scott@gov.scot

Transitions as a Tool for Change Conference

This two day Conference taking place on 7 & 8 May in Strathclyde University is being run by the ELC Transitions group and supported by the Scottish Government. The Conference will look at relating research to impact on policy and practices and will bring together research, policy and practices. Full details about the conference including the two day programme and speakers can be found here -

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/schoolofeducation/transitionsasatoolconference/>

Contact: **Caroline Marley** caroline.marley@strath.ac.uk

5. WORKFORCE

Recruitment Marketing Campaign

Our recruitment campaign has two main audiences: school leavers and parents/career changers. The roadshow visiting schools has now come to an end having visited every local authority area.

The career changers roadshows have also now come to an end with the last events taking place in April. We will evaluate and consider next steps for the campaign in the coming year.

In the meantime, the campaign website contains resources which can be used for local recruitment activity. We'd encourage everyone to make use of these resources to ensure a consistent approach across the country. We are very happy to discuss how we can support local recruitment/marketing efforts. Campaign resources can be found at:

<https://childcarecareersscotland.scot/resources/>

Contact: **Scott Sutherland** 0131 244 9890 / scott.sutherland@gov.scot

MyJobScotland website

Scottish Government have agreed with COSLA, that they will open up the myjobscotland recruitment site for private and third sector ELC providers registered with the Care Inspectorate to post jobs on free of charge, to support providers with their recruitment needs in the period leading up to 2020.

Anyone wishing to advertise vacancies should visit www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/recruiter

Contact: **Kathryn Chisholm** 0131 244 0274/ kathryn.chisholm@gov.scot

6. EVIDENCE AND ANALYSIS

Transformation of the ELC Census

The high level requirements for the new ELC management information system have been finalised, and the tender evaluation process is ongoing for awarding a contract for developing the new system as SEEMiS are contracting out the technical development of this system.

Contacts: **Keira Gore** 0131 244 1690 / keira.gore@gov.scot

Scottish Study of Early Learning and Childcare (SSELC)

We are currently holding information sessions with local authorities and settings to share more information about the study and encourage participation. Phase 2 data collection will take place in May and June 2019 and is focused on four and five-year-olds who are starting Primary 1 in August 2019.

Contact: **Catriona Rooke** 0131 244 7203 / catriona.rooke@gov.scot

7. INFRASTRUCTURE

Whole Life Cost Assessment of ELC Reference Designs

To support the on-going development of local authority Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Plans, SFT continued its engagement with East Ayrshire Council to produce a whole life cost assessment of each of the three reference designs that were concluded in May 2018.

The whole life cost summaries have been prepared in accordance with SFT's Whole Life Appraisal Tool for the Built Environment which consists of an online excel workbook that offers a clear and consistent method of reporting whole life outcomes for a project. For further information on SFT's Whole Life Appraisal Tool please follow the link below.

Whole Life Appraisal Tool:

The whole life cost assessment reports, along with links to the relevant excel workbooks, provide a useful summary of the anticipated operating, energy, maintenance and life cycle replacement costs for each of the three reference designs. This information will be a helpful reference point for local authorities looking to undertake a whole life cost assessment as part of the development of business cases to support their decision making for future projects.

The whole life cost assessment reports, along with links to the relevant excel workbooks are available via the link below.

<https://www.scottishfuturetrust.org.uk/page/early-learning-and-childcare>

Contact: **Alastair Young** – 07775 665427 / alastair.young@scottishfuturetrust.org.uk

ELC Programme

Date Published	Document Link
23/03/2017	A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland - 2017–18 Action Plan
23/03/2017	A Blueprint for 2020: Early Learning and Childcare Expansion Planning Guidance for Local Authorities
23/03/2017	A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland – Next Steps - Analysis Report
15/10/2016	A Blueprint for 2020: Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare Consultation

Learning, Attainment and Wellbeing

Date Published	Document Link
22/12/2017	Daily Mile Guidance
31/10/2017	A Blueprint for 2020: The Expansion of Early Learning and Childcare in Scotland: Quality Action Plan
	Additional Graduate Commitment

Out of School Care / Outdoor Learning

Date Published	Document Link
21/12/2018	Out to Play: practical guidance for creating outdoor play experiences in early learning and childcare

Service Models

Date Published	Document Link
29/04/2019	Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: transition options guidance on contracting
29/04/2019	Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance for setting sustainable rates from August 2020
29/04/2019	Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance on criteria 7 - business sustainability
19/12/2018	ELC providers: delivery support plan
18/12/2018	Funding Follows the Child and the National Standard for early learning and childcare providers: Principles and practice
18/12/2018	Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: operating guidance
18/12/2018	Funding follows the child and the national standard for early learning and childcare providers: guidance for local authorities
31/10/2018	Early learning and childcare service model for 2020: consultation analysis
29/03/2018	Early Learning and Childcare Service Model for 2020: Consultation Paper

Trials

Date Published	Document Link
22/05/2018	Early Learning and Childcare Expansion delivery trials: evaluation

Workforce

Date Published	Document Link
03/2017	The Skills Investment Plan Prospectus

2 Year Old Offer

Date Published	Document Link
07/03/2017	Drivers and Barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds

Evaluation and Data Transformation Project

Date Published	Document Link
29/06/2013	Early childhood education and care provision: international review of policy, delivery and funding
23/03/2016	Early Learning and Childcare Data Consultation Findings
15/06/2016	Early learning and childcare trials discussion paper: analysis of responses
27/09/2016	Financial review of early learning and childcare in Scotland: the current landscape
27/09/2016	Cost of early learning and childcare provision in partner provider settings
07/03/2017	Drivers and barriers to uptake of Early Learning and Childcare amongst 2 year olds
19/06/2017	Evaluability assessment of the expansion of early learning and childcare (NHS Health Scotland)
19/06/2017	Provision of early learning and childcare and parents outcomes - an evidence brief (NHS Health Scotland)
03/08/2017	Recommendations for Early Learning and Childcare Data report
28/09/2017	Early Learning and Childcare Data Transformation Project - May 2017 Data Trial
31/10/2017	Rapid evidence review: childcare quality and children's outcomes
22/12/2017	Changes in early learning and childcare use and outcomes at age 5: compared two Growing up in Scotland cohorts
22/12/2017	The expansion of Early Learning and Childcare: evaluation report 2017
22/05/2018	Evaluation of the Early Learning and Childcare delivery trials
07/08/2018	Parents' views and use of early learning and childcare: report
27/11/2018	Early Learning and Childcare Data Transformation Project - June 2018 Data Trial

Infrastructure

Date Published	Document Link
30/06/2017	Space to Grow design guidance

Related SG Policies

Date Published	Document Link
04/09/2018	Programme for Government 2018
06/06/2018	Seat Belts on School Transport (Scotland) Act 2017 – Guidance
29/03/2018	Every Child, Every Chance: The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-22

16/11/2017	Education Governance Review
22/08/2017	Report of the Barclay Review of Non-Domestic Rates
	Scottish Attainment Challenge