

[redact out of scope]

PfG commitments	Key 2021-22 deliverables by grouping	Key outcomes
[redacted – out of scope]		
SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES, MAKING SURE SCOTLAND IS THE BEST PLACE TO GROW UP		
[<p>We will work with local authority and other partners to deliver a new milk scheme to primary and special schools in Scotland by August 2022</p> <p>Policy developed in 21-22 with full delivery by August 2022 Do we have more information on specific actions and deliverables in 21/22 which will contribute to the final policy delivery?</p> <p>We will work with local authority and other partners to consider and pilot arrangements for the provision of free milk in secondary schools during 21/22, and bring forward a new approach during the course of the Parliamentary Term.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve long term health by making milk available for free to any pupil in attendance at primary, secondary or special schools by August 2022. Universal scheme to ensure children & young people from families on low incomes don't encounter barriers to receiving milk at school.¹ • Improve long term health by considering the best approach to introducing the provision of free milk in secondary schools.
[redact – out of scope]		

¹ The following comment was made on this bullet point: 'I've suggested that we split this into a 2/3 phased approach with primary/special begin completed by August 2022 to align with FSM expansion. But, have suggested we pilot and consider the approach for secondary's. We currently have 20% uptake of free milk which suggests a lack of response and we may need to deliver different approach to achieve the outcomes sought here. This would also allow us to spread the £41m+ per year financial commitment. Primary and special schools estimated at £23.6 (but cost of milk now increasing so needs revised upwards).' 3 August 2021.

Universal Free School Meal Expansion

Background

1. Universal free school meal provision has been delivered during term-time for all children in primaries 1 to 5, and in special schools. During the 2023-24 budget statement, we announced that the next phase of expansion will be to P6 & 7 pupils in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment and that this will be supported by £16 million revenue. The arrangements for this and wider expansion on a universal basis will be supported by £80 million capital funding in 2023-24.

2. Once expansion has been delivered to P6 & 7 pupils in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment, we will then expand further to all P6 & 7 pupils, fulfilling our commitment to deliver universal provision to all pupils in primary schools during the course of this parliament. There has not been public commitment made yet to a specific timescale for the delivery of this expansion. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

3. We have also committed to deliver a pilot of universal free school meals in secondary schools and to deliver universal free milk in primary schools. The First Minister has previously indicated that priority should be given to expansion of free school meals within primary schools in term time, followed by a pilot in secondary schools, and then delivery of universal free milk in primary schools. [redacted (section 30(b)(i))]

Next Steps

4. Governance structures will be stood up in early 2023 to start refreshing our plans for expansion of free school meals, to take account of the phased approach announced at the budget. The governance structure is included at annex A.

5. We will also begin discussions with COSLA to establish a funding agreement for the distribution of the 2023-24 budget allocation.

[redacted – out of scope]

Annex A - [redacted – out of scope]

Annex B - [redacted – out of scope]

Document 3

From: **Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills**

To: **First Minister**

CC: **Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning**

[redacted – out of scope]

Background

1. Free School Meals have been provided on a universal basis to primary 1 to 3 pupils since 2015. The provision of free school meals is aligned to stringent nutritional standards which support the achievement of Scotland's dietary goals and therefore wider wellbeing strategy. In 2020-21 it was announced that there would be an expansion of Free School Meals in term time on a universal basis to all primary pupils and a pilot of universal meals in term time in secondary schools. In addition it was agreed that a new scheme for the universal provision of milk in primary schools would be established (following the conclusion of an EU scheme to subsidise milk provision in schools) and this provision piloted in secondary schools.
2. There has been significant progress on the work to provide universal free school meals in primary schools: these are now offered to primary 1 to 5 pupils on a universal basis and to all pupils in special schools. There has been significant work undertaken in preparation for the expansion to primary 6 and 7, which has established that very significant capital and resource investment is required, as result of the need to expand dining and kitchen capacity [redacted (section 30(b)(i))]
3. [(section 30(b)(i))] The SG has provided £30m capital in support of primary 5 expansion and initial projects in support of primary 6 and 7 expansion. There have been significant challenges in securing the necessary capital and revenue for expansion which has delayed progress. The 2023-24 budget provided a further £80m of capital funding in support of universal expansion to primary 6 and 7. Given the significant challenges already encountered it was agreed with Ministers in December 2022 that, as a first step, that we will expand on the basis of eligibility for Scottish Child Payment this will be delivered during 2023-24. This is supported by £16m of funding in 2023-24.
4. The estimated costs associated with this commitment will continue to grow each year. There are significant inflationary increases in the cost of food, building supplies and services which are unlikely to reduce, and therefore the commitment to universal free school meal provision in primary schools and any other associated commitments will continue to rise each year. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

[redacted – out of scope]

5. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]. We are currently committed to piloting universal provision of free school meals and milk in secondary schools. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

[redacted – out of scope]

[redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

FREE SCHOOL MEAL EXPANSION

BACKGROUND

Universal Commitment – Phase 5

- The 2022 PfG included the commitment to begin to roll out the provision of universal free school meals to Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils, subject to agreement with COSLA. [by the end of the Parliamentary Term]

[redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

- The 2023-24 budget included £80m of capital funding. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

Targeted Commitment – Phase 4

- In December 2022, we announced that the next step **towards** universal expansion in primary schools would be to P6 & P7 pupils in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment. This is supported by £16m of revenue funding.
- Officials are working with local authorities to establish timescales for delivery for this next phase of the expansion.
- The £80m of capital funding in 2023-24 was to support any projects required for the P6/P7 SCP eligibility and initial projects in support of universal FSM in primary 6/7.

Work completed – phases 1-3

Universal FSM has been available to primary 1 to 3 pupils since 2015 (Phase 1).

Universal FSM has been available to primary 4 pupils since August 2021 (Phase 2)

Universal FSM has been available to primary 5 and special schools since January 2022 (Phase 3).

Other related commitments

- We have also committed to establish a pilot of universal free school meals within secondary schools within the parliamentary term.
- A similar commitment has also been made to pilot and consider universal milk provision. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

[redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

TOP LINES

[redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

- All primary school pupils in primaries one to five, children in funded early learning and childcare, and eligible pupils in Primary 6 through to S6 can benefit from free meals in Scotland – the most generous provision. anywhere in the UK, and saving parents £400 per eligible child per year.
- Our additional investment announced in December 2022, will continue to fund the expansion of free school meals for all Primary 6 and 7 pupils in receipt of the Scottish Child Payment. This will be the next step in fulfilling our commitment to universal provision in primary schools.
- Local authorities have indicated that they face challenges in planning for the substantial expansion of free school meals, particularly around the kitchen and dining facilities required to support this.
- We are continuing to work in partnership with local government to better understand the infrastructure requirements to deliver our commitment.
- The Scottish Budget for 2023-24 has made provision for £16 million in revenue funding and £80 million in capital funding in support of this.
- This is in addition to £30 million of capital funding provided in the last financial year (22/23) to support expansion of catering and dining facilities.

If pressed on timescales for SCP or Universal expansion

- It is important that we undertake the necessary planning work required for our free school meal expansion programme, which includes working with delivery partners to establish appropriate timescales for expansion, acknowledging the need to overcome the challenges faced around infrastructure.

PILOT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS

- We remain committed to delivering a pilot of universal free school meals in secondary schools, and continue to work closely with key delivery partners on our free school meal expansion programme.
- It is important that we undertake the necessary planning work required for our free school meal expansion programme, which includes working with delivery partners to establish appropriate timescales for expansion.

Document 5

From: **Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills**

To: **First Minister**

CC: **Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance
Minister for Local Government Empowerment and Planning**

1. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]

Background

2. Free school meals are now offered to primary 1 to 5 pupils on a universal basis and to all pupils in special schools. In 2020-21 we announced an expansion of universal provision to P6 and P7 and a pilot of universal free school meals in secondary schools. Significant preparations indicate that expansion to P6 and P7 and will cost £206m of capital in total, £144m of revenue in the first year, and at least £133m p.a. thereafter [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
3. The 2023-24 budget included £80m of capital funding in support of universal expansion to primary 6 and 7. It was agreed with Ministers in December 2022 that, as a first step, we will expand on the basis of eligibility for Scottish Child Payment, to be delivered during 2023-24. This is supported by £16m of revenue funding in 2023-24.
4. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
5. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
6. We can continue to commit to piloting expansion in secondary schools by ensuring we contain costs for that exercise.
7. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
8. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
9. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]
10. [redacted - (section 30(b)(i))]