

**Supplementary Table 1:****Number of Scottish Child Payment applicants (with approved applications only) by month**

<b>Month of the application decision date</b>	<b>Number of applicants</b>
November 2020	5,235
December 2020	9,305
January 2021	17,865
February 2021	18,580
March 2021	22,250
April 2021	14,725
May 2021	5,030
June 2021	6,940
July 2021	4,080
August 2021	3,260
September 2021	2,785
October 2021	1,965
November 2021	2,745
December 2021	1,705
January 2022	2,340
February 2022	2,160
March 2022	2,165
April 2022	2,360
May 2022	3,760
June 2022	3,990
July 2022	4,135
August 2022	5,675
September 2022	5,235
October 2022	4,195
November 2022	13,540
December 2022	43,265
January 2023	16,235
February 2023	17,570
March 2023	13,110
April 2023	6,650
May 2023	4,630
June 2023	4,770
July 2023	3,840
August 2023	4,045
September 2023	3,115
October 2023	3,010
November 2023	2,760
December 2023	2,155
January 2024	2,650
February 2024	2,860
March 2024	3,005
April 2024	2,980
May 2024	2,580
June 2024	2,700
July 2024	3,025
August 2024	2,905
September 2024	2,480
October 2024	2,555
November 2024	2,210
December 2024	1,730