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Scottish  
Childminding  
Association

*committed to quality childcare*

# Early Learning and Childcare Report

August 2018

Report on the current state of childminding services in Scotland to deliver funded Early Learning and Childcare to eligible two, three and four-year olds.



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# Key facts

The aim of this report is to assess the current use of childminding services in Scotland in relation to the delivery of funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC).

Funded Early Learning and  
Childcare (ELC) entitlement  
from August 2014

Funded ELC  
entitlement from  
August 2020

Eligible three and  
four-year olds  
receiving funded ELC  
with childminders

600  
hours

89  
children

1,140  
hours

119  
childminders

Approved to deliver  
funded ELC  
for eligible  
three and  
four year  
olds

5,124  
childminders

Operating  
professional  
businesses  
in Scotland

144  
children

Eligible two-year olds  
receiving funded ELC  
with childminders

639  
childminders

Approved to deliver  
funded ELC for  
eligible two-year olds

11,000  
potential  
places

For funded ELC for  
eligible two to five  
year olds in Scotland



Potentially thousands of high-quality childminding places are not being considered as an option for parents.



**Nicola Sturgeon,**  
First Minister  
of Scotland

“Childminders play a vital role in children’s development, which helps to reduce social inequality and close the attainment gap. They will be central to our ambitions for a massive expansion of early learning and childcare in the years to come.”



# Introduction by Maggie Simpson Chief Executive, SCMA

**F**unded hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) is not new. Children and parents have been enjoying this for many years first for their four-year olds and then expanded to include three-year olds. As a community-based service, this largely meant childminders providing a wraparound service to ensure the children in their care were able to access their funded hours.

The more recent expansion included in the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act has brought about significant changes in the ELC landscape. Funded hours increased to 600 hours per year, eligibility increased to include eligible two-year olds and local authorities were encouraged to increase flexibility and choice - including commissioning places with quality ELC providers including childminders.

In November 2015, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said: ***“Childminders play a vital role in children’s development, which helps to reduce social inequality and close the attainment gap. They will be central to our ambitions for a massive expansion of early learning and childcare in the years to come.”***

The longer-term intention is to increase funded hours to 1140 hours per year by 2020 and for “Funding to Follow the Child” so that parents can choose their ELC place, so long as the provider meets a national quality standard.

SCMA started collecting information about the commissioning of childminding services to deliver funded ELC at the start of the expansion to 600 hours. We have since produced regular ELC reports and visited all local authorities to offer our assistance in working together.

This latest report comes at the start of another school year and follows local authorities having completed their expansion plans which should include how they will include childminding in the delivery of funded ELC.

Much of the information in this report may begin to sound more hopeful and there is an increase in the number of local authorities who are beginning to engage with their childminding services. At its best, local authorities are recognising that childminding is not

just for working parents. They are making full use of childminding services for families at times of difficulty and then offering continuity of care with the same childminder for the child’s funded hours.

However, before I let my optimism get the better of me, let’s look at the actual numbers. The stark reality is that there are potentially thousands of high-quality childminding places that are not being considered as an option for parents. This report highlights some local authorities that are still not even giving childminding as an option for parents, which in my view is unacceptable.

The original and still the main aim of the ELC expansion plan is to make Scotland the best place to grow up and to achieve a transformational change in the way that ELC is delivered. The primary focus is on improving outcomes for children and to concentrate on eligible two-year olds who are thought will be the main beneficiaries of this change. I hadn’t anticipated the change would be at the expense of professional childminding services or that parents are being denied childminding as an option for their funded ELC. Currently tens of thousands of parents choose a childminding service for their children and it is vitally important that this continues in the future.

2020 is not far away yet substantial progress needs to be made if First Minister’s expectation of childminders being central to the expansion is to be realised.

**Maggie Simpson**  
Chief Executive, SCMA







This report  
draws together  
a national  
picture on the  
current use of  
childminding  
services.



# Summary



1. This report draws together the available information on the current state of childminding services in Scotland to deliver funded Early Learning and Childcare (ELC). It is a factual report, originally commissioned by the Scottish Government.
2. By contacting every local authority in Scotland to obtain data, the report draws together a national picture on the current use of childminding services. The report then compares the current use of childminding figures with those obtained in July 2017.
3. The Scottish Government is committed to encouraging high quality, flexible ELC which is accessible and affordable for all families. It has pledged to increase the provision of funded ELC from 600 hours to 1,140 hours per year by 2020, with a focus on narrowing the poverty related attainment gap.
4. Childminders provide essential ELC services for children and their families, tailored to meet the individual needs of a child. Working from their own homes they provide an unrivalled continuity of care, offering unique and flexible approaches to professional childcare whilst looking after small groups of children in a family setting.
5. Local authorities are responsible for the implementation and delivery of ELC to their local communities. On analysis there is very little to help parents choose childminding services for their funded hours, so considerable work needs to be done to raise awareness of what childminding can really offer - and not just for working parents.
6. SCMA firmly believe that different types of childcare services can really complement one another and should not be seen to be in competition. The ELC expansion should embrace the whole range of childcare services so that we work together to ensure the best start in life for children.
7. SCMA is receiving reports of childminders who are going out of business because funded provision can only be accessed at nursery, forcing parents to move their children.
8. From analysing statistics, it appears that few childminders are registering each year.

***The ELC expansion should embrace the whole range of childcare services to ensure the best start in life for children.***





# Background



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**Childminders have a very low adult-to-child ratio with one childminder to three pre-school children.**

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The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) is the national voice of childminding in Scotland and the only organisation dedicated to supporting childminders in Scotland.

Founded in 1985, SCMA is a national charity and membership organisation that promotes childminding as a quality childcare service, through its Vision for childminding, which is: "Quality childminding... building confident children within a family childcare experience". This vision was developed by SCMA's Elected Members, who are all current active childminders.

SCMA has over 4,500 members, which represents around 83% of childminders in Scotland. As members, childminders become part of something bigger than their own business, joining a well-established networking organisation that provides access to wide range of services and benefits. In addition to a social and business event calendar, membership also provides access to a range of professional services to suit childminders in Scotland.

Working on behalf of its membership, SCMA helps to improve the wellbeing and outcomes for Scotland's children and plays a big part in influencing change at Scottish Government level to ensure new legislation is proportionate and fits with the needs of childminders.

Childminding benefits from the advantage of having a very low adult-to-child ratio with one childminder to three pre-school children. Being responsive and flexible is a normal part of the service. There are few challenges for them in ensuring children have access to outdoor play. They are skilled at adapting activities for difference ages of children and that includes from babies to school age.

You can find out more about the work of the Scottish Childminding Association on our website [childminding.org](http://childminding.org).





ELC in Scotland is changing. The Scottish Government is committed to encouraging high quality, flexible ELC which is accessible and affordable for all families. It has pledged to increase the provision of funded ELC to 1140 hours per year by 2020, for children who are three or four years old, as well as for two-year olds whose parents/carers are on qualifying benefits and are eligible for the 600 hours free entitlement through the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014.

Children receive ELC services in a range of settings including childminders, nurseries in schools, stand-alone nurseries, early years centres, and playgroups. It is delivered by providers working in the public, private and third sectors, and the term funded ELC refers to the hours of ELC that local authorities fund either providing it themselves, with a partner provider from the third or private sector, or a combination of both local authority and partner provision.

According to the Early Learning and Childcare report prepared by Audit Scotland in February 2018, there were about 96,000 registrations of children for funded ELC services across Scotland in 2017. About 1,570 local authority run settings, 962 partner-provider settings and about 119 childminders delivered this funded ELC. In addition to funded ELC, parents may pay privately for ELC in the same or a different setting to meet their childcare needs. Some local authorities fund community childminders to deliver ELC to families at times of difficulty. In a few local authorities, integrated community childminding services are funded

Both the Care Inspectorate and Education Scotland externally assess the quality of ELC. The Care Inspectorate inspects all day care of children and childminding services while Education Scotland inspects pre-school services that provide funded ELC. The Scottish Government recently announced that a shared inspection framework will be introduced by the end of 2018 (Education Governance: Next Steps, Scottish Government, June 2017). The details of how this will work in practice have still to be confirmed.

As part of the proposed National Standard, the Scottish Government is currently considering the quality required for childcare providers to deliver funded ELC, including whether childminders will need to be qualified to the same level as staff providing funded ELC in other settings, such as nurseries. Childminding services are constantly assessing the service they provide and making the information available for the Care Inspectorate. SCMA trusts that the information provided for these assessments can also be used as part of the quality assurance for local authorities.

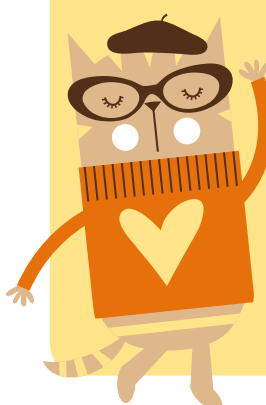
## ***Risks to the sustainability of ELC providers could have a considerable impact on the ability of local authorities to deliver 1,140 hours successfully.***

90% of over 5,000 childminders in Scotland have Care Inspectorate grades of good or better according to the Care Inspectorate Early Learning and Childcare Statistics 2016 published on 19 September 2017. There are potentially thousands of places for eligible children within high-quality, childminding services.

Risks to the sustainability of these providers could have a considerable impact on the ability of local authorities to deliver 1,140 hours successfully. In addition to providing funded ELC, childminders and private and third sector settings may provide ELC for younger children, not yet eligible for funded ELC, or after-school care for older children. Any risk to the future of these businesses as a result of the expansion could negatively impact on parents using these services for younger or older children and therefore their ability to take up training or employment.

SCMA acknowledge that funded ELC places are a big help for families. They are good for children, giving them the chance to learn and play with other children. They also help families financially as free places can contribute towards other ELC commitments and support parents to work, train or study. It is anticipated by SCMA that for most children we will see a model of blended services being developed to meet the needs of children and families as recommended in the report 'Shifting the Curve' (Independent Advisor on Poverty and Inequality Shifting the Curve, A report to the First Minister).

### **90% of childminders have Care Inspectorate grades of good or better**



The Care Inspectorate ensures that the childminder focuses on the child's needs and that their home is suitable for caring for other people's children.

# Analysis of information



**The information collected from Scottish local authorities on the current state of childminding services in Scotland to deliver funded ELC is shown in Appendix 1. SCMA contacted every local authority in Scotland in July 2018 to obtain this data that draws together a national picture.**

## Key Findings

- 600 hours of funded ELC entitlement has been available to parents from August 2014.
- 1,140 hours of funded ELC entitlement will be available to parents from August 2020.
- There were 96,000 registrations of children for funded ELC services across Scotland in 2017. (Early Learning and Childcare report prepared by Audit Scotland in February 2018)
- 5,124 childminders currently operate professional childminding services in Scotland. This is a drop of four per cent from 2017 (5,365 childminders).
- There are potentially 11,000 funded ELC places for eligible two to five year olds in Scotland. (Care Inspectorate Early Learning and Childcare Statistics 2016, published 19 September 2017)
- Over 90 per cent of childminders in Scotland have Care Inspectorate grades of good or above. 8,000 three and four-year-old children are registered with these childminders as at December 2016. (Care Inspectorate Early Learning and Childcare Statistics 2016, published 19 September 2017)
- 12 per cent (639) of the childminding workforce in Scotland have been approved by local authorities to deliver funded ELC places for eligible two-year olds. Some local authorities will only make these places available if there are no places left at nursery.
- 144 eligible two-year-old children are currently receiving funded ELC with childminders.
- Just over two per cent (119) of the childminding workforce in Scotland have been approved to deliver ELC for eligible three and four-year olds.
- 89 eligible three and four-year-old children are currently receiving funded ELC with childminders.





Only four local  
authorities  
in Scotland  
have carried  
out an Impact  
Assessment.



**Appendix 2 is a comparison of the current state of childminding services in Scotland to deliver funded ELC – July 2018 compared to July 2017.**

## Key Findings

- The total number of childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible two-year olds has increased to 639 (453 reported in July 2017).
- The total number of eligible two-year olds who are currently receiving funded ELC with these childminders has increased to 144 (114 reported in July 2017).
- The total number of childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible three and four-year olds has increased to 119 (49 reported in July 2017).
- The total number of eligible three and four-year olds who are currently receiving funded ELC with approved childminders has increased to 89 (5 reported in July 2017).
- Only four local authorities (City of Edinburgh, Dumfries and Galloway Council, East Lothian Council and Perth and Kinross Council) have carried out an Impact Assessment which details what effect their expansion of ELC will have on childminding services in their local authority area.
- Midlothian Council has experienced the largest growth in childminding services in their local authority area at just over ten per cent (94 childminders in 2018 compared to 85 in 2017).
- The Scottish Borders has seen the largest drop in childminding services in their local authority area at just over 16 per cent (110 childminders in 2018 compared with 131 in 2017).
- North Ayrshire is commissioning childminding services. There are 88 childminders approved to delivering funded ELC for eligible two-year olds. 44 children are actually placed with these childminders.
- Six local authorities: East Renfrewshire Council, Falkirk Council, Fife Council, Perth and Kinross Council, Renfrewshire Council, and West Dunbartonshire Council have no childminders approved as partner providers to deliver funded ELC for eligible two-year olds. This is about to change in Falkirk Council who is now working closing with SCMA.

# Recommendations



## SCMA recommend that:

1. Professional childminding businesses operating in each local authority area in Scotland are given due consideration in ELC expansion and delivery plans and in on-going services developments so that parents can access a childminding service for part or all of their funded entitlement. SCMA recommend that the 28 local authorities who haven't yet carried out an Impact Assessment do so with urgency in order to gauge what effect their expansion of ELC will have on childminding services in their area.
2. The Scottish Government ELC Delivery Team engages with local authorities, SCMA and individual childminding businesses to identify the barriers to commissioning childminding services for funded ELC. We recommend working together to address and remove those barriers, building on learning from the national programme of 1140 hours trials and from examples in areas who have successfully engaged with childminding services.
3. The Scottish Government develops better links between the increase in funded hours and programmes to support parents, at a local and national level, that include childminding as an option for ELC.
4. The Scottish Government and local authorities provide clearer information on the "Funding Follows the Child" approach for parents to help them understand how funded ELC is provided locally. This information should highlight childminding as a quality, professional option.
5. Local authorities should ensure that the factors considered for any commissioning arrangement are clear, transparent, fair and proportionate both for the childminder and the local authority.
6. The Scottish Government and local authorities should ensure that parents, especially those already using a childminding service, should have the right to be able to continue with that service for their funded hours of ELC, with that cost being financed by the local authority. This would assume childminding services meet the national standard for funder provider status.





# Feedback from local authorities

Whilst contacting local authorities we asked if there was anything else they would like to add to the full report on the current state of childminding services in Scotland. This information is detailed in Appendix 3: Additional information. Key information to highlight is as follows:

*“What we are definitely seeing is very positive outcomes for those children who are utilising the 1140 hours, particularly in a blended model. They are benefiting greatly from having time in the home environment, with huge developmental progress in their overall development and social/emotional wellbeing.”*

**Midlothian Council**

*“Angus Council is committed to developing partnerships, relationships and up skilling childminders to ensure they are ready to act as contracted settings from August 2020.”*

**Angus Council**

*“Falkirk Council is now working closely with SCMA and childminders are being invited to apply for partnership to provide funded places.”*

**Falkirk Council**



# APPENDIX 1:

## THE CURRENT STATE OF CHILDMINDING SERVICES IN

<i>Local authority area</i>	<i>Current number of childminders in each local authority.</i>	<i>How many childminders in your local authority are partner providers, approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible two-year olds?</i>	<i>How many eligible two-year olds are currently placed with these childminders?</i>	<i>Do you give parents the option of a childminding place for their eligible two-year old?</i>
Aberdeen City	165	32	10	YES
Aberdeenshire	349	22	2	YES
Angus (Trial)	158	27	1	YES
Argyll & Bute (Trial)	75	24	5	YES
Clackmannanshire	60	13	4	YES
Dumfries & Galloway	121	38	4	YES
Dundee (Trial)	155	2	2	NO
East Ayrshire (Trial)	180	39	9	YES
East Dunbartonshire	134	11	0	YES
East Lothian	126	2	2	YES
East Renfrewshire	144	0	0	NO
Edinburgh City	348	7	2	YES
Falkirk	197	0	0	NO
Fife	447	0	0	YES
Glasgow City (Trial)	166	39	9	YES
Highland	275	8	9	YES
Inverclyde	58	10	0	YES
Midlothian (Trial)	94	10	4	YES
Moray	117	18	5	YES
North Ayrshire (Trial)	181	88	44	YES
North Lanarkshire	337	82	13	YES
Orkney	30	3	0	YES
Perth & Kinross	167	0	0	NO
Renfrewshire	90	0	0	NO
Scottish Borders	110	30	6	YES
Shetland Islands (Trial)	15	2	3	NO
South Ayrshire	100	1	1	YES
South Lanarkshire (Trial)	289	1	4	NO
Stirling	110	39	3	YES
West Dunbartonshire	45	0	0	NO
Western Isles	27	11	0	YES
West Lothian	254	80	2	YES
	<b>5124</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>144</b>	



# SCOTLAND TO DELIVER FUNDED ELC – JULY 2018

<i>Is this an open choice (OPEN) or only if there are no nursery places available (NNPA)?</i>	<i>How many childminders in your local authority are partner providers, approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible three and four-year olds?</i>	<i>How many eligible three and four-year olds are currently placed with these childminders?</i>	<i>Do you give parents the option of a childminding place for their eligible three and four-year old?</i>	<i>Is this an open choice (OPEN) or only if there are no nursery places available (NNPA)?</i>
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
PART OF PILOT	1	1	YES	OPEN
OPEN	4	7	YES	OPEN
OPEN	13	0	YES	OPEN
OPEN	6	11	YES	OPEN
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	11	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	2	6	YES	OPEN
NURSERY ONLY	0	0	NO	NURSERY ONLY
NNPA	7	6	YES	PART OF PILOT
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	NNPA
OPEN	7	4	YES	OPEN
NNPA	0	0	NO	N/A
PART OF PILOT	10	8	YES	PART OF PILOT
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	3	10	YES	OPEN
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	8	15	YES	OPEN
NNPA	2	8	NO	PART OF PILOT
OPEN	1	0	YES	OPEN
N/A	5	3	YES	N/A
OPEN	39	10	YES	OPEN
N/A	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
OPEN	0	0	NO	N/A
	<b>119</b>	<b>89</b>		

## APPENDIX 2: A COMPARISON OF THE CURRENT STATE OF CHILDMINDING SERVICES IN SCOTLAND

Local authority area	Number of childminders in each local authority as at July 2017	Number of childminders in each local authority as at July 2018	Percentage change of childminders in each local authority	Childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible two-year olds July 2017	Childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible two-year olds July 2018
Aberdeen City	164	165	1%	17	32
Aberdeenshire	348	349	0%	0	22
Angus	173	158	-9%	10	27
Argyll & Bute	77	75	-3%	30	24
Clackmannanshire	65	60	-8%	4	13
Dumfries & Galloway	131	121	-8%	41	38
Dundee	163	155	-5%	2	2
East Ayrshire	194	180	-7%	0	39
East Dunbartonshire	143	134	-6%	0	11
East Lothian	129	126	-2%	0	2
East Renfrewshire	144	144	0%	0	0
Edinburgh City	367	348	-5%	0	7
Falkirk	202	197	-2%	0	0
Fife	486	447	-8%	0	0
Glasgow City	183	166	-9%	25	39
Highland	296	275	-7%	3	8
Inverclyde	62	58	-6%	0	10
Midlothian	85	94	11%	15	10
Moray	121	117	-3%	10	18
North Ayrshire	177	181	2%	78	88
North Lanarkshire	353	337	-5%	93	82
Orkney	30	30	0%	2	3
Perth and Kinross	171	167	-2%	0	0
Renfrewshire	96	90	-6%	0	0
Scottish Borders	131	110	-16%	39	30
Shetland Islands	16	15	-6%	2	2
South Ayrshire	110	100	-9%	0	1
South Lanarkshire	294	289	-2%	0	1
Stirling	123	110	-11%	0	39
West Dunbartonshire	50	45	-10%	0	0
West Lothian	256	254	-1%	82	80
Western Isles	25	27	8%	0	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5365</b>	<b>5124</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>639</b>



# TO DELIVER FUNDED ELC – July 2017 v July 2018

Childminders delivering funded ELC to eligible two-year olds July 2017	Childminders delivering funded ELC to eligible two-year olds July 2018	Childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible three and four year olds July 2017	Childminders approved to deliver funded ELC for eligible three and four year olds July 2018	Childminders delivering funded ELC to eligible three and four-year olds July 2017	Childminders delivering funded ELC to eligible three and four-year olds July 2018
5	10	0	0	0	0
0	2	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	0	1
21	5	1	4	0	4
0	4	0	13	0	0
9	4	8	6	1	6
2	2	0	0	0	0
2	9	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	11	0	0
1	2	0	2	0	2
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	2	0	7	0	6
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
9	9	25	0	0	0
3	9	2	7	0	4
0	0	0	0	0	0
5	4	10	10	0	8
1	5	0	0	0	0
49	44	0	0	0	0
3	13	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	3	1	3
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
2	6	0	8	0	8
0	3	2	2	2	2
2	1	0	1	0	0
0	4	1	5	1	3
0	3	0	39	0	10
0	0	0	0	0	0
0	2	0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>114</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>57</b>

## APPENDIX 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Local authority area	If you are not currently commissioning places with childminding services, when do you anticipate these will start?	Have you carried out an Impact Assessment that your expansion of Early Learning and Childcare will have on childminding services in your local authority area?
Aberdeen City	N/A	NO
Aberdeenshire	We are developing this at the moment.	NO
Angus (Trial)	Angus Council has been developing partnership working with childminders through a Shared Care Pilot in Forfar. We are now in a position to place children with a small number of childminders for funded ELC. We plan to reflect on learning and trial this in another area of Angus before the end of this year. Community Childminders have provided ELC places for a small number of children for the last three years.	NO
Argyll & Bute (Trial)	N/A	NO
Clackmannanshire	N/A	NO
Dumfries & Galloway	Tender expected for two five-year olds ELC in September 2018 following completion of an Independent Financial Review into sustainable hourly rates for ELC provision.	YES
Dundee (Trial)	Two childminders are involved in our 1,140 hours trial.	NO
East Ayrshire (Trial)	N/A	NO
East Dunbartonshire	Pilot August 2018 for two three-year olds. Plan to expand to three five-year olds by 2020.	NO
East Lothian	To be determined once trials are completed and evaluated although there is some flexibility to review as future trials and phasing evolve.	YES
East Renfrewshire	August 2019	NO
Edinburgh City	N/A	YES



*If so can you share this information?*

*Is there anything else you would like to add to the full report on the current state of childminding services in Scotland?*

N/A	The local authority is very supportive of childminders and is working with SCMA to make sure they are involved in their plans.
N/A	N/A
N/A	Angus Council is committed to developing partnerships, relationships and up skilling childminders to ensure they are ready to act as contracted settings from August 2020.
In our Delivery Plan we have included childminders. We have also carried out consultation meetings with childminders around each local area informing them of the possibility of becoming partners to deliver funded ELC.	Further phasing of the expansion to 1140 hours will take place in October 2018 and we have had an increased interest from childminders to deliver funded ELC.
N/A	Re question 2b, this availability has only just been implemented. We anticipate an uptake of eligible three and four-year olds during session 18/19. Our website will be updated during the summer to further promote our partnership with childminders.
Agreement to use childminders to deliver two five-year-old ELC provision within a parental choice model once tender process is complete.	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
An integrated impact assessment of the draft Implementation Plan submitted to Scottish Government was undertaken in 2017. However, East Lothian Council is currently amending its 1140 plan in light of the funding allocation.	We would like to see more childminders offering the level of flexibility that parents require e.g. beyond 5 pm, Fridays or full summer holiday periods and/or pick up/drop off arrangements. Some childminders tell us that they are reluctant to engage in contractual arrangements for the entitled hours as they view it as detracting from their offer of a 'home based' service, making it too formal and creating additional paperwork which could encroach on their own time. Opportunities to consult/ share information and network often have a very low attendance, with only around 10% of the childminding community choosing to engage.
N/A	N/A
The Council is now looking more into working in partnership where they are piloting 1140 hours and a parent has requested a childminder in a blended model or where there is a large waiting list. SCMA is in the process of working with the Council on a geo mapping exercise to assess where there may be a need to grow childminders in areas of limited nursery capacity.	N/A

## APPENDIX 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Local authority area	If you are not currently commissioning places with childminding services, when do you anticipate these will start?	Have you carried out an Impact Assessment that your expansion of Early Learning and Childcare will have on childminding services in your local authority area?
Falkirk	This is planned for August 2018 for the areas where Falkirk will be delivering 1140 hours. Childminders in these local areas have been invited to apply for partnership to provide funded places. This will continue for other areas as the phased expansion plan is implemented.	NO
Fife	We are currently running a trial procurement process for childminders to offer two-year-old placements in a small number of areas in Fife. This has been open since March 2018 and one childminder has very recently submitted an application which is currently being evaluated. The procurement process is open for applications throughout the continuing trial period (Aug 2018 – Jun 2019). Evaluation of this trial will take place during the next academic year and will help inform future procurement processes and partnership working with childminders.	NO
Glasgow City (Trial)	Nine childminders are involved in the Scottish Government trial offering a blended approach with a new nursery. A further 30 childminders are approved to work in partnership across the City to deliver services to eligible 2's. At present we are working with SCMA to develop a pilot this year to deliver funded services to 3 & 4 year olds.	NO
Highland	N/A	NO
Inverclyde	2020 when expansion plan is implemented	NO
Midlothian (Trial)	N/A	NO
Moray	N/A	NO

*If so can you share this information?*

*Is there anything else you would like to add to the full report on the current state of childminding services in Scotland?*

N/A	Falkirk Council is now working closely with SCMA and childminders are being invited to apply for partnership to provide funded places.
It is integral to our delivery plans for 1140 hours that childminders will be able to offer placements for ELC in partnership with Fife Council. As with all providers, they will be expected to meet the requirements set out in the National Quality Standards currently being developed. Until the National Quality Standards are finalised it is difficult to undertake an impact assessment on the sector as we do not know who will be eligible for partnership funding at present.	We are running a trial offering the SVQ3 Social Services Children and Young People qualification to childminders within Fife. This is facilitated by Fife Council's SQA Centre in line with the qualification being offered to our own staff. We have 10 childminders currently on the trial working through the qualification.
N/A	N/A
Childminders are seen as part of the early years workforce in the Highlands.	N/A
N/A	We have started a pilot for using childminders within Inverclyde Council. This will be increased.
We are now in the process of taking more childminders into partnership to deliver core 600 hours of ELC in Penicuik area starting in August. This will be for delivering the full 600 and only with childminders. This will be open to those parents who request a childminder over a nursery or where a place may not be available in a convenient locality. In addition, from Sept we are looking at running another pilot of blended model in another Midlothian area. Details to be finalised.	What is becoming apparent is childminders are needing support to deliver ELC particularly around learning outcomes, extending the learning and in the use of the curriculum for excellence, something they haven't had to focus on before, so there is some nervousness. What we are definitely seeing though is very positive outcomes for those children who are utilising the 1140 hours, particularly in blended model. They are benefiting greatly from having time in the home environment, with huge developmental progress in their overall development and social/emotional wellbeing.
N/A	Moray Council work closely with childminders in the area and it is hoped the future will see childminders able to also offer three and four-year olds ELC places in partnership.



## APPENDIX 3: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Local authority area	If you are not currently commissioning places with childminding services, when do you anticipate these will start?	Have you carried out an Impact Assessment that your expansion of Early Learning and Childcare will have on childminding services in your local authority area?
North Ayrshire (Trial)	2020	NO
North Lanarkshire	Childminders will have the opportunity to tender to become an early learning and childcare provider in 2019, if they meet the requirements of the statutory guidance for 1140 hours, which is due to commence in 2020.	NO
Orkney	N/A	NO
Perth & Kinross	Perth and Kinross Council is currently engaging with childminders and have had an initial information gathering exercise to establish which of the 172 registered childminders in Perth and Kinross would be interested in delivering funded ELC. Implementation of funded ELC delivered by childminders is dependent on the new National Standard (expected October 18), which will outline the requirements of funded providers. PKC will continue to work with childminders in the lead up to this being released in regard to establishing a contract equitable for all.	YES
Renfrewshire	The current framework agreement ends at the end of Summer 2019. All independent providers, including childminders will be invited to apply to become a registered provider of Early Learning and Childcare for the start of the school session 2019. The timescale for opening up the process is still to be determined.	NO
Scottish Borders	N/A	NO
Shetland Islands (Trial)	We will be rolling this out as part of the phasing for the expansion of ELC.	NO
South Ayrshire	N/A	NO
South Lanarkshire (Trial)	N/A	NO
Stirling	N/A	NO
West Dunbartonshire	2018/2019	NO
Western Isles	As soon as a parent makes the choice to use a childminder for their two-year-old.	NO
West Lothian	N/A	NO

*If so can you share this information?*

*Is there anything else you would like to add to the full report on the current state of childminding services in Scotland?*

N/A	North Ayrshire Council are currently consulting with childminders and are included in a workstream and are provided with ELCEP updates. We plan to trial blended childcare models 19/20. We are supporting childminders to access qualifications and ongoing CPD.
We have mapped all childminders in North Lanarkshire to identify their locality. Allocation to childminders, for entitled two-year olds, three and four-year olds, will be by parental choice. Ongoing meetings take place with a representative of SCMA	N/A
N/A	N/A
What impact will the proposal have in encouraging business creation and development? There are further opportunities for childminders in line with the Scottish Government Blueprint for 2020. It is planned that further flexibility and choice over ELC provision will be offered to families through the introduction of childminders for delivery of 1140 hours. Further consultation is needed to assess demand and potential availability.	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	N/A
N/A	We surveyed our parents with regard to entitlement with a childminder. Only one parent said that they wanted to take their child's entitlement with a childminder (possibly because our nursery service is easily accessible in all communities throughout the council area). However, we plan to include this choice from 2018/19 for parents that want a childminder.
N/A	N/A
N/A	West Lothian Council are working on proposals with SCMA for a pilot scheme with childminders to deliver 1140 hours in the area from August 2019.



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