

55724

ELC Child placement information

I would like the number of children from other councils that are attending ELC settings in the CEC and the number of CEC children that attend ELC settings in other councils. These numbers should be for 2024/25 as well as the projection for 2025/26 (at time of processing). I also would like any further projection of these numbers that the CEC hold for years beyond 2026.

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Unfortunately, we are unable to provide you with the information requested regarding 2025/26 and beyond because it is not held by the Council.

Furthermore, I would like to have the cost per child to the council of a funded hours ELC place in the CEC. Does it differ between CEC and non-CEC children? If so, why? What are the assumptions made for marginal cost per child and what considerations are being taken into account?

The information you have requested is available at the following location:

<https://democracy.edinburgh.gov.uk/documents/g7287/Public%20reports%20pack%2021st-Nov-2024%2010.00%20Education%20Children%20and%20Families%20Committee.pdf?T=10>

Please refer to pages 130-131 - Early Years Cross Boundary Places - Item 17 - Rolling Actions Log.

Please also share any information at all that relates to assessing the impact to restrict funded ELC hours for non-CEC children - how and when is CEC assessing the actual financial savings (including the calculations in detail), and how and when is the CEC assessing the impact on those children affected and other CEC children (e.g., settings at capacity, etc.)? What are the mechanisms in place to assess the potential impact on children?

Very often children who are Edinburgh residents move from private provider settings to local authority settings when they become eligible for funded Early Learning and Childcare. This is supported through a high quality transition process. Children from other local authorities in private provider settings who move to a local authority setting are supported in the same way.

Finally, please share the key points from the external legal opinion referenced in the Education, Children and Families committee, 3rd September 2024 (4.7 of the Public

Pack '4.7 the Council has also taken external legal advice on this matter and has satisfied itself that its proposed approach is reasonable and lawful.') in regards to cross-boundary funded ELC places - in particular the points that reassured councillors that the CEC was acting lawfully and legally. This does not have to be verbatim but can be in summary.

This information is legally privileged and therefore has not been disclosed.