

From:
To:
Subject: FW: Question
Date: 23 August 2022 16:02:48

Dear All

Response with detailed info below from SG colleagues re the question about the Service Improvement Period, for further discussion tomorrow.

Head of Education

East Lothian Council
John Muir House
Haddington EH41 3HA.

stakeholder-logo1 (1)



From:
Sent: 23 August 2022 15:54
To:
Cc:
Subject: RE: Question

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Hi

I asked colleagues your question and they said if the LA is of the view that the contract has lapsed and no contract is in place for the provision of funded ELC then there is no need for a Service Improvement Period (SIP). Even if a contract was in place the SIP would be at the discretion of the LA, and in line with the criteria set out below.

Service improvement periods should only be provided or extended where both the local authority and the Care Inspectorate are comfortable that the service: is fit to continue; is engaging or willing to engage in quality improvement work and it is anticipated, with support, has the ability to improve and

sustain improvement; and the local authority is satisfied that the setting meets all other aspects of the National Standard as set out in this Interim Guidance.

We talked in the meeting about where the National Standard mentions Improvement Periods, I've pulled out some detail contained in the Interim Guidance [funding-follows-child-national-standard-early-learning-childcare-providers-interim-guidance-update-requirements-early-learning-childcare-settings-local-authorities-august-2022.pdf](#). The text below is contained in the table which begins on page 14.

Key questions that settings must have 'good' or better evaluations:

1. How good is our care, play and learning?
 2. How good is our setting?
 3. How good is our staff team?
 4. How good is our leadership?
- Deliverability for a small number of providers may be affected by delays to routine Care Inspectorate inspections as a result of the pandemic, in particular if they were on a service improvement period
 - Where a setting is on a service improvement period and does not receive evaluations of 'good' or better at their next Care Inspectorate quality evaluation, the local authority may agree to extend the service improvement period until their next Care Inspectorate quality evaluation
 - Where a newly registered setting does not receive evaluations of 'good' or better at their first Care Inspectorate quality evaluation, the local authority may agree to place the setting in a service improvement period until their next Care Inspectorate quality evaluation. This is in recognition that the pandemic restrictions may have impacted on some settings' ability to access improvement support before the time of their next inspection
 - Service improvement periods should only be provided or extended where both the local authority and the Care Inspectorate are comfortable that the service: is fit to continue; is engaging or willing to engage in quality improvement work and it is anticipated, with support, has the ability to improve and sustain improvement; and the local authority is satisfied that the setting meets all other aspects of the National Standard as set out in this Interim Guidance.
 - Any settings on a service improvement period are expected to be drawing on the Care Inspectorate's additional improvement support programme that has been made available for funded provider settings who do not currently meet the quality evaluations

Thanks

From:

Sent: 23 August 2022 12:45

To:

Subject: Question

Hi

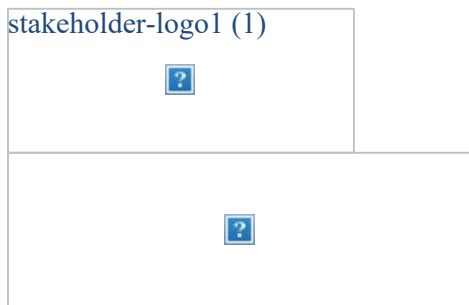
Thanks for your time this morning. My team is collating the information you requested.

Can I ask a further question that we are debating- if we take the view that we currently have no contract in place with Pear Tree Nurseries as the contracts have lapsed, is there a requirement for a service improvement period?

Thanks for considering.

Head of Education

**East Lothian Council
John Muir House
Haddington EH41 3HA.**



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