

East Lothian Council
9 December 2025

**Item 5: Delivery of Early Learning and Childcare
Amendment (Amendment 2)**

Proposed by Cllr Lyn Jardine

Seconded by Cllr Lee-Anne Menzies

Delete the recommendations and replace with:

Members are recommended to:

2.1 Note the report and the pressures facing early learning and childcare, and agree the following to strengthen transparency, equity and scrutiny of implementation:

- i) Requests that the updated Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA), together with proposed mitigation measures, is published on the Council's website following completion of the January engagement exercise.
- ii) Requests that a draft Early Learning and Childcare Sufficiency Statement for 2024–2030 is prepared, setting out the balance of 38- and 48-week provision by locality, projected demand, and any identified risks to equitable access
- iii) Asks officers to review their criteria for admissions, taking into consideration feedback from families across the 7 affected settings.
- iv) Requests that officers identify and report options to mitigate disproportionate impacts on low-income households, single-parent families, and those without local support networks — including any transport or time-poverty impacts arising from changes to local provision.
- v) Calls for strengthened engagement with affected families and providers, with a public “What We Heard / What We’re Doing” summary published before the committee cycle in March 2026.
- vi) Requests that progress on all of the above is reported for scrutiny to the Education & Children’s Services Committee in March 2026.

2.2 Council further requests assurance that the implementation of these changes maintains clear line of sight to the core purposes of the national 1140 hours policy, within allocated resources — including flexibility, accessibility, equity of access, and support for parental employment.