

Partner Commissioning Arrangements – Proposals agreed – Reference to City Administration Committee.

4 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Education Services regarding a proposed rate for funded providers within Early Learning and Childcare from April 2025, advising that

- (1) the Scottish Government's Funding Follows the Child Guidance and National Standard had set out the principles and practice for funded early years providers seeking to enter or maintain partnership status with a local authority;
- (2) guidance for setting sustainable rates for the delivery of funded early learning and childcare in 2025-26 had been issued in February 2025 and outlined the criteria which councils should follow in setting a sustainable rate; and
- (3) in addition to the rate per hour all funded children were also entitled to a free meal each day the child attended as part of their statutory entitlement, which was payable daily over and above the hourly rate per child.

After consideration, the committee agreed that the report be referred to the City Administration Committee, proposing an increase to the commissioning rate to

- (a) £6.70 per child per hour from April 2025 for 3–5 year olds; and
- (b) £7.94 per child per hour from April 2025 for 2–3 year olds.