



Glasgow City Council

Contracts and Property Committee

Report by Director of Legal and Administration

Contact: Maureen Fitzpatrick Ext: 76437

Item 2

6th August 2026

The Provision of Funded Early Learning and Childcare Services

Tender Reference :- GCC006424CPU

Purpose of Report:

To submit details of the tenders received to be appointed to the flexible procurement agreement (Framework) for the provision of funded early learning and childcare provision services and recommend acceptance of the tender as detailed in this report.

Recommendations:

The Contracts and Property Committee is requested to approve the award of a flexible procurement agreement (Framework) for the provision of funded early learning and childcare services and to appoint the providers as set out in Appendix A.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes ☐ No ☐ consulted: Yes ☐ No ☐

1 Background and Tender

- 1.1 Glasgow City Council's ("the council's") budget for the provision of funded early learning and childcare services is £38,000,000 per annum.
- 1.2 In Scotland, the statutory entitlement to early learning and childcare (ELC) is up to 1140 hours per year for all 3 and 4-year-olds, and eligible 2-year-olds. This entitlement includes the provision of food for eligible children.
- 1.3 Funding follows the child was introduced in August 2020 and this allows parents and carers to access their child's funded entitlement from any setting in the public, private or third sector who meet the national standards, has a place available and is willing to enter into a contract with the council.
- 1.4 This framework will support parents access to the ELC entitlement and provide high quality, flexible early learning and childcare that is accessible and affordable for families. The offer of 1,140 hours will help give children the best start in life and contribute to closing the poverty related attainment gap.
- 1.5 A commodity team consisting of stakeholders from Education Services and the Corporate Procurement Team (CPU) was formed to develop the sourcing strategy and deliver a new framework.
- 1.6 It was agreed that the light touch regime, as set out in the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, would be the most appropriate method to deliver this service due to its flexibility and openness. The opportunity was advertised via UK Find a Tender Service and Public Contracts Scotland.
- 1.7 The duration of the flexible framework is for 5 years with the option to extend for up to an additional 3 years.
- 1.8 The framework will be utilised by Education Services.

2 Evaluation

- 2.1 116 providers expressed an interest and 108 submitted a bid. Of the 8 providers that failed to respond, 1 cited that it was not aligned with their core business.
- 2.2 The evaluation was based on the providers confirming and accepting the following:-

Question	Scoring
Do you have a Care Inspectorate evaluation of 4 or above? (Do you meet the minimum requirements of the National Standard for Early Learning and Childcare)	Pass / Fail

If you have answered 'No' to question 2, are you a current contracted supplier with GCC for the delivery of Funded Early Learning and Childcare?	Pass / Fail
Is your nursery located within the Glasgow boundary?	Pass / Fail
Do you accept the commercial hourly rate of £6.70 for the delivery of provision to eligible children aged 3 and 4 years?	Pass / Fail
Do you accept the commercial hourly rate of £7.94 for the delivery of provision to eligible children aged 2 years?	Pass / Fail
Do you accept the rate of £3.00 per serving for the provision of food?	Pass / Fail

2.3 Of the 108 bids, 98 providers are being recommended for award, and 10 suppliers have been unsuccessful as they have failed to meet the minimum criteria. Further details are noted in Appendix A.

2.4 The unsuccessful providers can re-apply to be appointed to the framework once they are able to evidence that they meet the minimum criteria, as set out in the tender and contract award notice.

3 Contract implementation and Supplier Management

3.1 The outcome of our Contract Management Assessment Tool (CMAT) has deemed this contract to be categorised as a medium. Contract Management will be conducted by Education Services.

3.2 The agreed community benefit outcome commitments will be monitored via Cenefits which is a web based monitoring tool. We will also capture sustainable commitments within the CPU Sustainable Register.

3.3 The Purchase to Pay route is via the Nursery Application Management System.

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial:

The estimated annual value is £38,000,000 and it is expected that there will be an approximate 3.75% increase per annum totaling approximately £347,000,000 over the 8 year duration of the contract. This will be met by Education service's revenue budget.

Bidders were asked to agree to specific rates set by the Scottish Government.

Legal: The report raises no new legal issues.

The Director of Legal and Administration will be responsible for concluding the framework.

Personnel: No direct personnel implications.

Procurement: A light touch regime as detailed in Section 1.6

Council Strategic Plan: This supports Grand Challenges 1, 2 and 4.

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2025-29? Please Specify. Yes - the Sustainable Procurement Duty requires that before a contracting authority buys anything, it must think about how it can improve the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the area in which it operates, with a particular focus on reducing inequality.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report? An EQIA was not required for this contract as there is no impact.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage. Fair Work First was included for information only.

The providers recommend for appointment to the framework Fair Work First tender submissions are set out in Appendix B.

Community Benefits was included as part of the tender process with the following thresholds:

Threshold Level	Threshold Value	Threshold Points
Threshold 1	£50k-£100k	80
Threshold 2	£100k-250k	120
Threshold 3	£250k-500k	160
Threshold 4	£500k-£1m	200
Threshold 5	£1m-£3m	160
Threshold 6	£3m-£5m	80
Threshold 7	£5m-£10m	40

Community Benefit Menus will be issued as each threshold is reached and the providers have confirmed that they will deliver outcomes to the value of the points assigned to each threshold.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

Yes - action 27 is supported via this contract

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

This will provide high quality, flexible early learning and childcare that is accessible and affordable for families.

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

Nursery providers are focused on safer practices, including using wooden furniture/equipment/toys, to ensure they are using less plastic. Also creating green spaces for growing flowers and fruit and vegetables and observing and learning about associated wildlife.

Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

Are there any potential data protection impacts as a result of the report
Y/N

Yes

If Yes, please confirm that a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) has been carried out

As part of the procurement process a data protection impact assessment was completed. Each successful Bidder will be required to sign a Data Sharing Agreement.

5 Recommendations

The Contracts and Property Committee is requested to approve the award of a flexible procurement agreement framework for the provision of funded early learning and childcare services and appoint the providers as set out in Appendix A.

Appendix A - Recommended Providers to be appointed to the Framework

Nursery Providers	Nursery Trading Name	Companies House No.
Acorn Park Nursery and Kindergarten **	Acorn Park Nursery	SC114653
Alexandra Childcare Limited **	Primrose City	SC572434
Alltots Nursery **	Alltots Nursery	SC376983
Amcol Scotland Limited	Meiklewood Nursery	SC162633
Baltic Street Adventure Playground **	Baltic Street AP	SC048684
Barrachnie Childrens Nursery	Barrachnie Nursery	SC409254
Bright Beginning **	Bright Beginnings (Hampden)	SC232686
Bright Stars	Victoria Park Kindergarten	SC409704
Buddies Nursery	Buddies Nursery	SC163352
Busy Bees Nurseries (Scotland) Limited **	Busy Bees Heritage	SC118818
Busy Bees Nurseries Scotland Limited **	Busy Bees Kelvin	SC118818
Butterfly Nursery	Butterfly Nursery	SC448878
Carbon Property solutions Ltd	Flying Start Darnley	SC371817
Carmunnock Nursery **	Carmunnock Nursery	SC000543 (Scottish Charity Number)
Cassiltoun Stables Nursery **	Cassiltoun Stables Nursery	SC423689
Cherrytree Glasgow Ltd	Cherry Tree Nursery	SC726422
Childcare Scotland - Caledonia University Nursery	Childcare Scotland - Caledonia University Nursery	SC470018
Childcare Scotland - Glasgow University Nursery	Childcare Scotland - Glasgow University Nursery	SC470018
Childcare Scotland - Strathclyde University Nursery	Childcare Scotland - Strathclyde University Nursery	SC470018
Clarence Nursery Ltd	Clarance House Nursery	SC184732
COLLIN CARE LTD CARDONALD NURSERY	Cardonald Private Nursery	SC335906
Community Central Hall **	Happy Days Community Nursery	SC105891
Cosmic Coppers Childcare	Cosmic Coppers Cardonald	SC337815
Cosmic Coppers Childcare Ltd	Cosmic Coppers Merrylee	SC337815
Crosshill Care Ltd	Smiley Stars Crosshill	SC734805
Debison Albie Ltd t/a Woodland Outdoor Kindergartens (Southside)	Woodlands South	SC357158
Debison Albie Ltd t/a Woodland Outdoor Kindergartens (West End)	Woodlands West End	SC357158
Dornal Childcare Limited **	Ivy Kindergarten	SC667027
Evergreen Outdoor Nursery **	Evergreen Outdoor	SC300345
Flying Start Nursery	Flying Start Barmulloch	SC371817
Forward Steps Nursery Ltd	Forward Steps Nursery	SC235287
Glasgow Clyde College **	Cardonald College Nursery	SC021182
Glasgow Clyde College **	Treasure Trove Nursery	SC021182
GREEN ACRES NURSERY	Green Acres Nursery	SC248408
Healthy Steps Organic Nursery Ltd	Healthy Steps Organic	SC471172
Heathdene Nurseries Ltd	Heathdene Nursery	SC188562

Heron House Early Years	Heron House Nursery	N/A (Business Partnership)
Hyde 'n' Seek Ltd **	Hyde N Seek Templeton	SC225238
Hyde 'n' Seek Ltd **	Hyde N Seek Kinning Park	SC225238
Hyde n Seek Nursery Prospecthill **	Hyde N Seek Prospecthill	SC355163
Hyde n Seek Redan Street **	Hyde N Seek Redan Street	SC225238
Hyde n Seek Rowantree **	Hyde N Seek Rowantree	SC225238
Hyde n Seek Springburn **	Hyde N Seek Springburn	SC355163
Ivy in the Park	Ivy in the Park (Hogarth)	SC667027
Jeely Piece Club	Jeely Nursery	SC260116
Kellycare Ltd - Drumover Nursery **	Kirktonholme Drumover	SC177568
KellycareLtd - Broomhill Nursery **	Kirktonholme Broomhill	SC177568
Kelvinside Academy Nursery **	Kelvinside Academy Nursery	SC011734
Kirktonholme Childcare Ltd – Govan	Kirktonholme Govan	SC556651
Kirktonholme Nursery - Wellshot	Kirktonholme Wellshot	SC556651
L & D Nurseries Ltd **	West End Nursery	SC450475
Little Me Nursery Ltd – Maryhill	Little Me Maryhill	SC290067
Little Me Nursery Ltd - Temple	Little Me Temple	SC396870
Little Stars ELCC	Little Stars Nursery	SC290067
Look Who's Learning Nursery	Look Who's Learning Nursery	SC365590
LSL Daycare Ltd - Enchanted Tree	Enchanted Tree Nursery	SC534125
Lullaby Lane Nursery	Lullaby Lane Nursery	SC562698
Mackin Childcare Ltd - Munro House Nursery	Munro House Nursery	SC376983
Marfern Ltd - Smiley Stars Pollokshaws	Smiley Stars Pollokshaws	SC261775
Maryhill Childcare Limited **	Primrose Maryhill	SC406999
Maryhill Mobile Children's Services **	Tree Top Nursery	SC300345
McGraw and McGraw Ltd	Buttons and Bows	SC344515
Mulberry Bush Montessori	Mulberry Bush Montessori	SC258836
MULBERRY KINDERGARTEN	Mulberry Kindergarten	SC767723
My Little Fishes Nursery Ltd	My Little Fishes	SC311676
My Second Home Nursery	My Second Home	SC517923
Nerlana Ltd – Ibrox	Smiley Stars Ibrox	SC374750
Nerlana Ltd – Mansewood	Smiley Stars Mansewood	SC374750
Nightingales Nursery	Nightingales	SC156944
Oganan Ghlaschu	Oganan Ghlaschu	SC718348
Orchard Grove Kindergarten	Orchard Grove Kindergarten	SC045461
Petals & Bows Nursery Ltd **	Just Be Kids Nursery	SC634873
Poppins Kindergarten **	Poppins Kindergarten	SC828532
Pride & Joy Nursery Ltd	Pride and Joy Nursery	SC473448
Puddleduck Nursery LTD	Puddleduck Nursery	SC554344
Quarriers	Quarriers Ruchazie	SC014361
Rainbow Dreams Day Nursery **	Rainbow Dreams	SC419026
Rockmount nursery	Rockmount	SC427951
Rosemount Lifelong Learning **	Rosemount Lifelong Learning	SC190521
Sinclair Nursery (Bright Stars) **	Sinclair Nursery	SC243359
St Aloysius' College Kindergarten	St Aloysius Kindergarten	SC042545

St Roch's Childcare Service **	St Roch's Childcare	SC238421
St.Thomas' Playgroup **	St.Thomas' Playgroup	N/A - Non for profit Unincorporated Association
Step by step Private Nurseries Ltd	Step by Step Maryhill	SC168149
Stepping Stones for Families	SSFF Keppoch	SC114228
Summerston Childcare Ltd **	Summerston Childcare	SC256231
Task Childcare Service **	TASK Childcare	SC263085
The Centre Playgroup	The Centre Playgroup	SC018857
The Glasgow Academy **	The Glasgow Academy	SC011313
The Glasgow Academy War Memorial Trust **	The Glasgow Academy Dairsie House	SC011313
The Governors of Hutchesons' Educational Trust **	Hutcheson's Grammar Nursery	SC002922
The Indigo Childcare Group Castlemilk **	Indigo Castlemilk	SC265660
The Indigo Childcare Group Garrowhill **	Indigo Garrowhill	SC265660
The Park Nursery and Kindergarten **	The Park Nursery	SC229583
Thrive Childcare and Education Baillieston	Happitots Baillieston	SC192599
Treasure Tots Nursery	Treasure Tots Nursery	SC505214
VL Kinder, Gowanlea Nursery	Gowanlea Nursery	SC464966
Westbourne Gardens Nursery **	Westbourne Gardens Nursery	N/A - Non for profit Unincorporated Association

** Subject to the council's Insurance Levels and or Financial requirements being confirmed.

Appendix B - Fair Work First Outcomes

Nursery Providers	Pay Real Living Wage	Employee Voice	Investment in Workforce Development	No Zero Hours	Gender Pay Gap / Inclusive Workplace	Flexible & Family Friendly	Oppose Fire & Re-Hire
Acorn Park Nursery and Kindergarten	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Alexandra Childcare Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Alltots	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Amcol Scotland Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Baltic Street Adventure Playground	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Barrachnie Childrens Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bright Beginning	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bright Stars	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Buddies Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Busy Bees Nurseries (Scotland) Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Busy Bees Nurseries Scotland Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Butterfly Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Carbon Property solutions Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Carmunnock Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cassiltoun Stables Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cherrytree Glasgow Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Childcare Scotland - Glasgow University Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Childcare Scotland - Strathclyde University Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Childcare Scotland -	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Caledonia University Nursery							
Clarence Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
COLLIN CARE LTD CARDONALD NURSERY	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Community Central Hall	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cosmic Coppers Childcare	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cosmic Coppers Childcare Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Crosshill Care Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Debison Albie Ltd t/a Woodland Outdoor Kindergartens (West End)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Debison Albie Ltd t/a Woodland Outdoor Kindergartens (Southside)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dornal Childcare Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Evergreen Outdoor Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Flying Start Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Forward Steps Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Glasgow Clyde College	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Glasgow Clyde College	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
GREEN ACRES NURSERY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Healthy Steps Organic Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Heathdene Nurseries Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Heron House Early Years	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hyde 'n' Seek Ltd - Templeton	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hyde 'n' Seek Ltd - Kinningpark	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Hyde n Seek Nursery Prospecthill	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hyde n Seek Redan Street	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hyde n Seek Rowantree	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hyde n Seek Springburn	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Ivy in the Park	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Jeely Piece Club	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
KellycareLtd - Broomhill Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kellycare Ltd - Drumover Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kelvinside Academy Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kirktonholme Childcare Ltd - Govan	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Kirktonholme Nursery - Wellshot	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
L & D Nurseries Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Little Me Nursery Ltd - Maryhill	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Little Me Nursery Ltd - Temple	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Little Stars ELCC	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Look Who's Learning Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
LSL Daycare Ltd - Enchanted Tree	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Lullaby Lane Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mackin Childcare Ltd - Munro House Nursery	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Marfern Ltd - Smiley Stars Pollokshaws	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Maryhill Childcare Limited	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Maryhill Mobile Children's Services	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

McGraw and McGraw Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Mulberry Bush Montessori	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
MULBERRY KINDERGARTEN	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
My Little Fishes Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
My Second Home Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nerlana Ltd - Ibrox	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nerlana Ltd - Mansewood	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Nightingales Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Oganan Ghlaschu	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Orchard Grove Kindergarten	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Petals & Bows Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Poppins Kindergarten	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pride & Joy Nursery Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Puddleduck Nursery LTD	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Quarriers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Rainbow Dreams Day Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Rockmount nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Rosemount Lifelong Learning	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sinclair Nursery (Bright Stars)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St.Thomas' Playgroup	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Aloysius' College Kindergarten	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Step by step Private Nurseries Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Stepping Stones for Families	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
St Roch's Childcare Service	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Summerston Childcare Ltd	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Task Childcare Service	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Teasure Tots Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

The Centre Playgroup	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Glasgow Academy	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Glasgow Academy War Memorial Trust	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Governors of Hutchesons' Educational Trust	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Indigo Childcare Group Garrowhill	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Indigo Childcare Group Castlemilk	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
The Park Nursery and Kindergarten	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Thrive Childcare and Education Baillieston	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
VL Kinder, Gowanlea Nursery	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
WESTBOURNE GARDENS NURSERY	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Note - The above is based on the information provided in the bidder's tender submission and may not be reflective of its Policy.