

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- Q** My child has attended a private provider since he was 1 year old. The provider is out with the local authority area where I live. He will turn 3 in March, will be entitled to a funded place. How do I access funding?
- A** Any application for a Cross Boundary Place will not be confirmed unless it has been presented at the Inter-Authority Cross Boundary Admission Meeting. The flow chart on the previous page explains the process.
- Q** If there is a ballot for places, when will the ballot take place, and when will I be informed of the decision?
- A** If appropriate within the host authority, the ballot will take place in May at the Inter-Authority Cross Boundary Admission Meeting and you will be informed of the decision in June.
- Q** If I am successful in applying for a cross boundary ELC place - when will my child start?
- A** A child can start in an ELC provider when a place becomes available or date agreed with the provider however when Cross Boundary funding is granted, funding will start the term after a child's 3rd birthday re-gardless of your residing authority funding dates.
- Q** If I am unsuccessful in my 1st choice Cross Boundary Application can I make a 2nd application for the same authority in a different ELC provider?
- A** NO. Only one Cross Boundary Funding Request will be considered for each child in any given school session. The original application will be retained within your 1st choice of Partner Provider.

## LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTACT DETAILS

<b>NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Education and Skills, Cunninghame House, IRVINE, KA12 8EE, Tel: 01294 324459, Email: <a href="mailto:frodman@north-ayrshire.gov.uk">frodman@north-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL</b>	Early Learning and Childcare Services, City Chambers East Building, 40 John Street, GLASGOW, G1 1JL, Tel: 0141 287 4887, Email: <a href="mailto:gfis@glasgow.gov.uk">gfis@glasgow.gov.uk</a>
<b>EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Economy and Skills, Education Service, Council Headquarters, London Road, KILMARNOCK, KA3 7BU, Tel: 01563 576004.
<b>INVERCLYDE COUNCIL</b>	Education Services, Wallace Place, GREENOCK, PA15 1JB, Tel 01475 717171, Email: <a href="mailto:admin.educationhq@inverclyde.gov.uk">admin.educationhq@inverclyde.gov.uk</a>
<b>EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	ELC Administration Team, 211 Main Street, BARRHEAD G78 1SY. Tel: 0141 577 3288, Email: <a href="mailto:earlylearningandchildcare@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk">earlylearningandchildcare@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Education Resources, Almada Street, HAMILTON, ML3 0AE Tel: 0303 123 1023 Email: <a href="mailto:earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk">earlyyears@southlanarkshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>EAST DUMBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Education Service, Early Years Business Support, Tel : 0300 123 4510 extension:8707, Email: <a href="mailto:earlyyears@eastdunbarton.gov.uk">earlyyears@eastdunbarton.gov.uk</a>
<b>SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Early Years Team, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr, SOUTH AYRSHIRE, KA7 1DR, Tel: 01292 612602, Email: <a href="mailto:Learning.RaisingStandards@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Learning.RaisingStandards@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a>
<b>RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Children's Services, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, PAISLEY, PA1 1TZ Tel: 0300 300 0170,
<b>WEST DUMBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Early Years & Childcare Team, Council Offices, Garshake Road, DUMBARTON, G82 4PR Tel: 01389 737318, Email: <a href="mailto:childcareinformationservice@west-dunbarton.gov.uk">childcareinformationservice@west-dunbarton.gov.uk</a>
<b>NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	Education, Youth & Communities, Intervention & Inclusion, Municipal Building, Kildonan Street, Coatbridge, ML5 3BT.
<b>ARGYLL &amp; BUTE COUNCIL</b>	Community Services: Early Years, Argyll House, 91 Alexandra Parade, Dunoon, PA23 8AJ 01369 708503

# Inter- Authority Cross Boundary Funding Leaflet



## Purpose of Protocol

The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 placed a duty on local authorities to increase the entitlement of all eligible 3 – 5 year old children to 600 hours of early learning and childcare. The Act also asked local authorities to provide an appropriate level of flexibility to allow parents / carers some choice when deciding to access services.

A significant number of parents / carers are opting for this level of flexibility and choice to meet childcare and family requirements; in particular they are requesting early learning and childcare funding from a local authority that they are not resident in. For clarity of purpose we will refer to these authorities as **host authorities**.

The duty for providing early learning and childcare lies with the authority where a child lives. These authorities are referred to as **resident authorities**.

While it is clear there is no legislation requirement for local authorities to accept funding requests from non-residents; **Glasgow City Council, East Renfrewshire Council, Renfrewshire Council, Inverclyde Council, East Dunbartonshire Council, West Dunbartonshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council, North Lanarkshire Council, North Ayrshire Council, South Ayrshire Council, East Ayrshire Council and Argyll & Bute Council** have collaborated to produce clear guidelines and protocol that would support the spirit of the Act and provide parents and families with the opportunity to make such a request.

## Procedure

Parents / carers can ask a Private and Voluntary Provision working in partnership with any of the named authorities to make a request on their behalf to the host local authority of a child for early learning and childcare funding. The timing of this request should be considered to ensure it complies with existing host local authority timelines for allocating funding to partner providers (details of which can be obtained from individual local authorities).

A Cross Boundary Admission Panel will meet in **May** each year to review funding requests and agree levels of funding for cross boundary purposes. **Levels of funding will be agreed within resident local authority budgets.** To ensure equity and fairness funding requests will be approved according to the published **Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admission Criteria**. Funding will be granted to requests banded 1 – 5, with 1 having the highest priority.

## Inter Authority Cross Boundary Admission Criteria

1. Any child in need of protection, Looked After, Kinship Care and ASN (must be supported by either single or multi-agency referral).
2. Children granted deferred entry by local authority (excluding parental choice to defer).
3. Four year old children returning.
4. New applicants (three year old children).
5. Other.

Host local authorities will notify their partner providers of the outcome of their request for funding. Thereafter, providers or local authorities (depending on resident authorities existing protocols) will notify parents of the decision. If requests received exceed the level of funding available, a ballot may be necessary to determine who is successful. Private and Voluntary Providers will be supported by host local authorities to carry out the ballots. **Cross boundary funding is granted for two years, returning children remaining with a partnership provider would not be required to make a further request for funding.**

Parents will be notified of the funding outcome by June each year. If their funding request is not successful, parents should contact their resident authority regarding their entitlement to Early Learning and Childcare.

## APPLICATION PROCESS FOR CROSS BOUNDARY PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

