

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FAO: LOCAL REPORTERS

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**EARLY YEARS WORKFORCE EXPANSION TO BENEFIT COMMUNITIES IN FIFE
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT WELCOMED BY LOCAL MSP**



David Torrance MSP on a visit to PlaySpace in the Postings Shopping Centre last week.

The Scottish Government announcement that there will be an extra £1.5 million investment for more nursery teachers and graduates in deprived areas across Scotland has been welcomed by local MSP for Kirkcaldy Constituency, David Torrance MSP – with Fife set to receive 28 additional teachers or graduates.

The new staff in Fife, part of 435 nationwide, are part of the wider strategy of tackling the attainment gap and giving every child an equal start in life. The provision of extra high qualified childcare professionals will ensure that young people benefit from the highest quality care and early years education.

The Scottish Government is taking decisive action to improve early years learning and childcare, including expanding guaranteed free provision to 1140 hours by 2020 – which will have a positive impact for families across Fife.

Commenting, SNP MSP for Kirkcaldy Constituency, David Torrance MSP, said:

“This new funding is very welcome news for my constituents, as it will help to ensure that more children in our most deprived communities are able to benefit from specialised childcare and high quality early years learning.

“The Scottish Government is committed to closing the attainment gap, and targeting funding in this way, as well as expanding the guaranteed free childcare provision to 1140 hours by 2020, is important in making this happen, and to ensure that every child across the Kirkcaldy Constituency gets an equal start in life.

“The 28 new graduates or teachers that will be joining the Fife workforce will help improve childcare provision in local communities, and I look forward to seeing the Scottish Government continue to invest in our children’s futures.”

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR:

Table: Allocation of Additional Graduate Places by Local Authorities.

Local Authority	Number of Additional Graduates	Local Authority	Number of Additional Graduates
Aberdeen City	6	Inverclyde	8
Aberdeenshire	6	Midlothian	3
Angus	3	Moray	2
Argyll & Bute	3	North Ayrshire	24
Clackmannanshire	7	North Lanarkshire	40
Dumfries & Galloway	10	Perth & Kinross	2
Dundee City	21	Renfrewshire	26
East Ayrshire	15	Scottish Borders	3
East Dunbartonshire	2	South Ayrshire	12
East Lothian	3	South Lanarkshire	26
East Renfrewshire	1	Stirling	5
Edinburgh, City of	20	West Dunbartonshire	11
Falkirk	8	West Lothian	19
Fife	28	Eilean Siar	1
Glasgow City	112	Orkney	1
Highland	6	Shetland	1

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