

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council

7th March 2019

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor Myfanwy Alexander, Portfolio Holder for Learning and Welsh Language

SUBJECT: Question from County Councillor Matthew Dorrance

The Welsh Labour Government is committed to providing 30 hours a week of government-funded early education and childcare for working parents of three and four year olds, for up to 48 weeks of the year.

Will the Cabinet make a statement on its preparations for the roll out the Welsh Government's funded childcare offer?

Response

The policy aim of providing 30 hours a week of early education and childcare for working parents of three and four year olds, for up to 48 weeks of the year, by the end of the current Welsh Assembly is undoubtedly one that will be popular with eligible families.

As an Authority we are working very closely with Welsh Government officials and neighbouring Authorities on roll-out plans to ensure access to provision in all parts of the County. However, professional advice is that there remain clear and significant roll out challenges to be overcome. They principally include the adequacy of resourcing, but also include practical administrative arrangements. These are of no surprise to the partners we are working with and we will continue to work with them to secure solutions to the benefit of local communities.