

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Paul Givan, Minister
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Bangor, BT19 7PR

Cathy Mason MLA
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
Stormont


4 March 2025
AQW 22698/22-27

Cathy Mason MLA has asked:

To ask the Minister of Education to detail (i) the number of times the Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Stakeholder Engagement Forum has met; (ii) the stakeholders that make up the ELC Stakeholder Engagement Forum; and (iii) the number of times he has met with the ELC Stakeholder Engagement Forum.

ANSWER

- i. The Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) Stakeholder Engagement Forum (SEF) has met on six occasions.
- ii. The stakeholders that make up the ELC Stakeholder Engagement Forum is set out in a table, which I have deposited in the Assembly Library.
- iii. I have met with the SEF on 2 occasions.



Paul Givan MLA
Minister of Education

TAB A

Organisations invited to attend the Early Learning and Childcare Stakeholder Engagement Forum

The SEF has around 50 members representing providers; regional early learning and childcare voluntary organisations; unions; parents; statutory services, officials from other Departments and allied health professionals.

Action for Children	Equality Commission for Northern Ireland
Altram	Federation of Small Businesses
Ashton Centre	Health and Social Care Trusts - Early Years
Autism NI	Independent Early Years Specialist
Barnardos	Make the Call
Childcare Employers Forum	Melted Parents NI
Childcare Partnerships	MENCAP
Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership	Migrant Centre
Children in Northern Ireland	National Children's Bureau
Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta	NI Rural Women's Network
Controlled Schools' Support Council	Northern Ireland Childminding Association
Council for Catholic Maintained Schools	Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People
Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment	Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education
Daycare Forum	Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action
Daycare Owners Forum	Parenting NI
Department for Communities	PlayBoard NI
Department for the Economy	Public Health Agency
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs	Save the Children
Department of Education (Chair)	Sólás
Department of Finance	School Age Childcare Forum
Department of Health	Stranmillis University College
Early Years Organisation	The Executive Office
Education and Training Inspectorate	Unite Union – Childminding Branch
Education Authority	Women's Resource and Development Agency
Employers for Childcare	Women's Support Network

*Other Government Departments/ ALBs, not listed here, may attend also by request.