



2 March 2021

To all registered Daycare of Children services,

## **TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS FUND UPDATE**

This notice provides information about details of Round 2 of the Temporary Restrictions Fund (TRF) covering the four week period from 1 February – 26 February 2021.

As a reminder, applications for Round 1 of the TRF (4-29 January) closed on 1 March 2021.

### **TRF Round 2 Eligibility**

We have carefully considered how to maximise the use of the available funding across the two months of restrictions. We want to do all we can to mitigate the reduction in income resulting from operating below capacity while remaining open for vulnerable children and / or those of key workers only.

In Round 2 of the Temporary Restrictions Fund:

- Eligible services can claim for each of the weeks they remained open in February (over the four week period 1 February – 26 February)
- If settings were previously closed and have decided to reopen during February they will be able to claim a pro-rated grant for each of the weeks they were open, including w/c 22 February.
- This includes ELC settings, regardless of the fact that from 22 February those settings can reopen to all children under school age.
- To be eligible for the Fund settings need to be registered with the Care Inspectorate as being either:
  - a 'day care of children' and a 'Private' or 'Voluntary or Not For Profit' service; or
  - a 'childminding service' which is registered to care for more than 12 children, and which would currently be caring for 12 or more children at a time were it not for the restrictions.

### **Grant levels**

Grant amounts will vary according to the number of Care Inspectorate registered places in settings, as set out in the table below:



Registered Capacity	4 week period Grant Value*
1-10 places	£575
11-25 places	£1,250
26-50 places	£1,900
51-75 places	£2,350
76-100 places	£2,600
101+ places	£2,800

\*Grants will be pro-rated for settings which were not open for the full 4 week period

### Additional Support Grant

We recognise that this is a very difficult time for all childcare providers. We also know that not all settings have been able to claim support through the Temporary Restrictions Fund, as they remained closed during the two months of restrictions.

That is why, in the light of anticipated unused funding from the Temporary Restrictions Fund, all day care of children's services, out of school care providers, and childminders registered as caring for 12 or more children at a time will be able to apply for the Additional Support Grant.

**This additional support will be available irrespective of whether childcare providers were able to open in February or not.**

Making the Additional Support Grant available to all providers in this way allow us to use all of the estimated unspent funds from the current fund and provide some support also to those services which cannot yet open. We recognise that this is only a small additional amount of money at this stage and we set out further below in this notice what work we are doing on further support for the sector.

The Additional Support Grant amounts will vary according to the number of Care Inspectorate registered places in settings, as set out in the table below:

Registered Capacity	Additional Support Grant Value
1-10 places	£190
11-25 places	£410
26-50 places	£630
51-75 places	£780
76-100 places	£860
101+ places	£920

Further information will be provided on the Scottish Government's [information pages on the financial support](#).

Applications will open on the 5 March, you will receive a notification with the link to that application when it is available.

## Temporary Restrictions Fund – Round 3

In the light of the lifting of restrictions on the ELC sector from the 22 February we are considering how best to utilise the TRF funding that has been identified for March to support those in greatest need, in particular responding to the impact of continued restrictions for school age childcare settings.

Further details on the approach to Round 3 of the Temporary Restrictions Fund will be made available as soon as possible following the next review of restrictions.

### Further support for the sector

The childcare sector, including school age childcare and childminders, has a vital role to play in Scotland's economic recovery, and in achieving our ambition of improving children's outcomes.

We remain committed to working with the whole childcare sector to respond to the challenges brought about by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of this engagement, we will be reviewing support needs across the sector through the work of the Sector Recovery Group and wider engagement.

This may include a further sector-wide survey to inform our understanding of the impact of different levels of restrictions over the last year, a look-ahead to how we stabilise and strengthen the sector to deliver the 1,140 hours expansion programme, and our vision for future school age childcare, securing positive outcomes for children and families across Scotland.

In March we will publish a progress report on our school age childcare policy development which reiterates our commitment to school age childcare. This will highlight our consultation response, recognise the impacts of Covid and the challenges for the sector, and will detail the actions we are taking to develop our policy further.

Yours sincerely,

**ALISON CUMMING**  
Interim Director for Early Learning & Childcare  
Scottish Government

