

# Provision of Out of School Care in Tillicoultry

**Research Report and Feasibility Study** 

Clackmannanshire Economic Regeneration Trust

January 2024



# Contents

<ol> <li>Introduction</li> <li>1.1 Background</li> <li>1.2 Methodology</li> <li>1.3 About the organisation</li> <li>1.4 CERT's motivation for this project</li> </ol>	3 3 4
<ul> <li>2. Policy Context for Childcare Provision</li> <li>2.1 Health and Social Care Standards</li> <li>2.2 Legal requirements for childcare provision</li> <li>2.3 Childminders</li> <li>2.4 Out of School Care</li> <li>2.5 Space to Grow</li> <li>2.6 Ratios</li> <li>2.7 Staff qualifications</li> </ul>	7 7 8 9 10
<ul> <li><b>3. Research</b></li> <li>3.1 About Tillicoultry.</li> <li>3.2 Demographics and statistics.</li> <li>3.3 Stakeholder conversations.</li> <li>3.4 Surveys</li> </ul>	11 11 11 15
<ul> <li>4. Supply</li> <li>4.1 Childminders</li> <li>4.2 Breakfast clubs / before school care</li> <li>4.3 Out of School Care</li> <li>4.4 After school activities</li> </ul>	18 18 19
<ul> <li>5. Challenges</li> <li>5.1 Variables in planning</li> <li>5.2 Affordability</li> <li>5.3 The need to estimate demand</li> </ul>	21 21
<ul> <li>6. Operating Models</li> <li>6.1 Childminders</li> <li>6.2 Existing Care Inspectorate registered providers of OS</li> <li>6.3 New Care Inspectorate registered providers of OSC</li> <li>6.4 Activity based</li> <li>6.5 Provision for children with ASN</li> </ul>	24 C24 27 27
<ul> <li>7. Funding Landscape</li> <li>7.1 The Scottish Government approach</li> <li>7.2 The Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership</li> <li>7.3 Funding for parents and carers</li> <li>7.4 Funding for activity based after school clubs</li> </ul>	29 32 32
8. Financial Viability and Cost	
9. Sites 10. Summary of Findings	
11. Conclusion and Recommendations	
Appendices Appendix 1: Demographics Appendix 2: Survey Analysis Appendix 3: Funding for Parents / Carers Appendix 4: Financial Model	59 66 72

# **1. Introduction**

# 1.1 Background

Clackmannanshire Economic Regeneration Trust (CERT)<sup>1</sup> are working with Tillicoultry Primary School, Alva Play Pals, and other partners, to support the establishment of a more extensive network of after school child care for primary school aged children across Clackmannanshire.

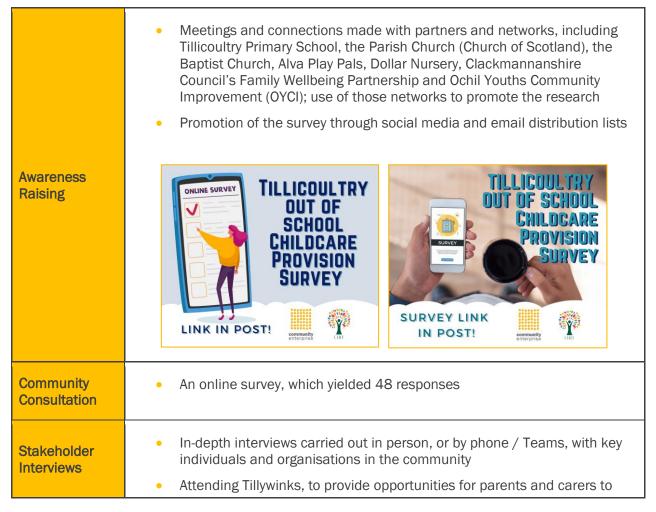
CERT commissioned Community Enterprise to carry out a high level assessment of the viability of setting up after school care facilities in Tillicoultry. This was to include:

- stakeholder consultation
- market research
- identification of suitable venues, and a high level assessment that any premises and / or service delivery partners are compliant with Care Inspectorate requirements
- identification of potential sources of funding

This research report covers these aspects, recommends a preferred operating model, and provides a high level financial model to assess the financial viability of the project.

# 1.2 Methodology

The stages of the research were:



<sup>1</sup> <u>Helping Clackmannanshire Flourish | CERT (clacksregen.org.uk)</u>



	<ul><li>contribute to the research</li><li>1:1 Conversations with parents and carers</li></ul>
Site Visits	Visits to potential venues for after school care
Desk-based Research	<ul> <li>Demographic study</li> <li>Review of national childcare policy frameworks</li> <li>Review of legal requirements relating to childcare</li> <li>Review of funding opportunities</li> <li>Site specific analysis</li> <li>Case studies</li> </ul>

# **1.3 About the organisation**

Name	Clackmannanshire Economic Regeneration Trust SCIO (CERT)
Registered address	CERT, e-centre, Cooperage Way Business Village, Alloa, FK10 3LP
Contact	01259 272 017 <u>info@clacksregen.org.uk</u>
Website	Helping Clackmannanshire Flourish   CERT (clacksregen.org.uk)
Social media links	Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/Clacksalloa</u> Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/CERTClacks</u> YouTube: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeOCLBJjDg3C3xSROg2hUPw</u> LinkedIn: <u>https://www.linkedin.com/company/cert-clackmannanshire-economic-regeneration-trust/</u>
Charity details	Registered charity from 27 July 2020 Charity number: SC050327 OSCR profile: <u>OSCR   Charity Details</u>
Charitable purposes	<ul> <li>4 The organisation's purposes are:</li> <li>4.1 the prevention or relief of poverty</li> <li>4.2 the advancement of citizenship or community development</li> <li>4.3 the relief of those in need for reasons of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage</li> <li>4.4 any other purpose that may reasonably regarded as analogous to any of the preceding purpose</li> </ul>
Vison, Mission and Objectives	Our Vision



	Clackmannanshire is a vibrant place to live where people are happy, healthy and where opportunities, connections and support are available for all.	
	Our Mission	
	Working alongside the community and in partnership with others, we will influence positive change and create opportunities for the people of Clackmannanshire which will enable them, their communities and the economy of Clacks to thrive.	
	Our Objectives	
	It is recognised that the barriers and constraints to achieving our vision are complex and multiple, and CERT will work alongside other organisations to address the full range of these barriers. Although not exclusive, these are expected to include:	
	Helping young people to find employment	
	<ul> <li>Addressing skills gaps including literacy, numeracy, digital skills, personal and social skills</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Supporting young people, during school, to help prepare them better for the world of work</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Supporting young people with mental and physical health barriers</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Supporting those who have a protected characteristic and face particular barriers including for gender, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Addressing wider social barriers such as transport, housing, debt, digital inclusion, addiction, care experienced, experience of criminal justice<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>	
Governance	Our Trustees   CERT (clacksregen.org.uk)	
Annual Accounts	cert-accounts-july-22-with-ie-cash-basis-redacted-217e2627-606a-ed11-81ab- 000d3a870a1c.pdf (oscr.org.uk)	

# **1.4 CERT's motivation for this project**

CERT was established in July 2020 and has been actively working alongside the community and in partnership with others, to influence positive change and create opportunities for the people of Clackmannanshire.

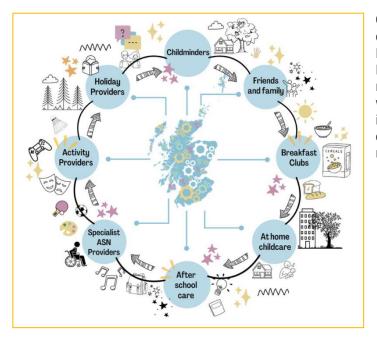
During the pre-employability programme (PEC) which ran in 2022, the lack of affordable and flexible childcare provision was identified as a one of three major barriers to progressing to employment (childcare, transport and mental health).

CERT's motivation is also about helping parents increase their working hours.

CERT's objective is to work with others to ensure that access to appropriate childcare is not a barrier to economic growth, employment, and increased income to residents of Clackmannanshire.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Our Vision and Approach | CERT (clacksregen.org.uk)





Childcare needs to ensure that children are Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included<sup>3</sup>. This research has also considered the wider needs of children and families in Tillicoultry, and how after school childcare can help to meet those needs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As articulated in current Scottish Government policy, and abbreviated to 'SHANARRI': <u>Wellbeing</u> (SHANARRI) - Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)



# 2. Policy Context for Childcare Provision

# 2.1 Health and Social Care Standards

The Health and Social Care Standards set out what people should expect when using health, social care or social work services in Scotland<sup>4</sup>. They were published in 2017, and updated in 2022. They take a human rights based approach to care, and are articulated in the first person:

- 1. I experience high quality care and support that is right for me
- 2. I am fully involved in all decisions about my care and support
- 3. I have confidence in the people who support and care for me
- 4. I have confidence in the organisation providing my care and support
- 5. I experience a high quality environment if the organisation provides the premises

The Introduction explains that "The Standards are underpinned by five principles:

- 1. dignity and respect,
- 2. compassion,
- 3. be included,
- 4. responsive care, and
- 5. support and wellbeing.

The principles themselves are not standards or outcomes but rather reflect the way that everyone should expect to be treated."

### 2.2 Legal requirements for childcare provision

The Care Inspectorate<sup>5</sup> is the statutory body responsible for assessing whether childcare settings meet legal requirements, including compliance with the Health and Social Care Standards. This is done via a detailed Quality Framework<sup>6</sup>. Policies and resources are available at the Care Inspectorate Hub<sup>7</sup>.

The categories which are relevant to this report are:

- 1. Childminder
- 2. School aged childcare / Out of School Care

### **2.3 Childminders**

The legal definition of a childminder is a person who works with children for more than two hours a day in the childminder's own home for reward<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>6</sup> This 75 page document was most recently updated in February 2022:

https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/6585/Quality%20framework%20for%20early%20le

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Register a childminding service (careinspectorate.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Health and Social Care Standards: my support, my life - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Welcome to the Care Inspectorate</u> and <u>View Resources | Care Inspectorate Hub</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Early learning and childcare (ELC) | Care Inspectorate Hub

The Care Inspectorate publish an overview of being a childminder<sup>9</sup>. There is an online resource dedicated to "Your Childminding Journey"<sup>10</sup>, as well as guidance<sup>11</sup> though the The Scottish Childminding Association<sup>12</sup>, an organisation dedicated to supporting childminders in Scotland.

The basic requirements of registration are:

- An application form including details of training, experience, premises and an overview of service provision
- The annual registration fee (currently £28 in the first year, £17 in subsequent years)
- Compliance with fire safety requirements
- Membership of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme and criminal records checks<sup>13</sup>; this must be progressed via the Care Inspectorate

No formal qualifications are required. The Care Inspectorate aim to assess applications for a childminding service within three months. A childminder can employ an assistant; this will bring with it the additional responsibility of being an employer.

If the application is granted, the ongoing requirements of a childminder are to:

- Keep required records<sup>14</sup>
- Comply with relevant legal requirements, such as fire safety, food standards<sup>15</sup> etc.
- Be inspected<sup>16</sup> the purpose of the inspection is: to monitor the quality of care; confirm good practice; protect the children who are cared for; identify any poor practice and ensure that this improves; and provide information about quality of care to the public
- Carry out the administration associated with being self-employed / running a small business, such as insurance, accounting and tax returns

The total maximum number of children a childminder can care for is 6 under the age of 12 years; out of those 6, a maximum of 3 can be pre-primary school, and a maximum of 1 under the age of 12 months. The maximum *includes the childminder's own children*, whether they are present or not. There is the potential for these ratios to be varied in specific circumstances<sup>17</sup>.

# 2.4 Out of School Care

Out of School Care (OSC) is also known as 'wraparound' care, and covers:

- 1. Before school
- 2. After school
- 3. Holidays

Regulated childcare in this context is "defined as a daycare of children service and registered and inspected by the Care Inspectorate. Daycare of children's service applies to services whose

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> p.3, Guidance on adult to child ratios in Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings: <u>ELC adult-child ratios - final 29.3.18.pdf (careinspectorate.com)</u> and <u>Guidance for childminders on applying to increase capacity.pdf (careinspectorate.com)</u>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/157/Registering%20and%20running%20a%20chil dminding%20service%20-%20what%20you%20need%20to%20know%20-%20Oct%2013.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Your Childminding Journey

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> <u>Become a Childminder (childminding.org)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Welcome to the Scottish Childminding Association website

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Disclosure Scotland - mygov.scot

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup><u>https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/2609/Rcds%20cm%20services%20must%20keep%20and%20notification%20reporting%20guidance%20C0VID-19%20(100320).pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Childminders | Food Standards Scotland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup><u>https://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/1432/Cl%20Childminders%20what%20to%20expect%20when%20we%20inspect.pdf</u>

primary function is childcare and who operate for 2 hours or more in any one day and for more than 6 days in any one calendar year (as defined in the Public Reform (Scotland) Act 2010)."18

The Scottish Out of School Care Network<sup>19</sup> has a wide range of resources about setting up and running out of school care.

### 2.5 Space to Grow

'The Space to Grow' principle sets out the design guidance for early learning and childcare (ELC) and out of school care (OSC) settings<sup>20</sup>. It "aims to maximise the positive experiences for children by encouraging providers to think innovatively and flexibly about design and about the impact the environment can have on the quality of a child's care, development, learning, health and wellbeing."

Rather than a statutory square footage per child (which was the case previously), the emphasis is on the quality of the space and how it is used. There is a renewed emphasis on outdoor space<sup>21</sup>, and the ease of moving from indoors to outdoors. The Care Inspectorate has retained the previous spatial frameworks, but these are now 'expectations' rather than statutory requirements.

There are four different categorisations of space<sup>22</sup>:

- 1. Indoor setting which can include adjacent outdoor space
- 2. Outdoor setting e.g. forest school
- 3. Dispersed setting e.g. use of nearby locations
- 4. Indoor / Outdoor setting where both the indoor and outdoor locations are designed for continual access, and to a high specification for learning and play

The Scottish Government has responded to **Number of toilets** comments from providers and planners, who requested a list of key principles for all early learning and child care and out of school care settings.

#### Space

Current Care Inspectorate Expectations:

For children under two years - a minimum **Outdoor play space** of 3.7 square metres, per child For children aged two years to under three safe outdoor space adjacent to the years - a minimum of 2.8 square meters, per child For children aged three and over - a minimum of 2.3 square meters, per child.

#### Natural light

Natural light should be available within playrooms used by children.

For children aged over two years, one w.c. for every 10 children, or part thereof, not less than four. For example a service registered for 34 children, three toilets would be sufficient. A service registered for 35 children four toilets should be provided.

Children should have access to suitable. accommodation.

19 SOSCN

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> delivering-play-and-learning-environments-outdoors-practice-note.pdf (careinspectorate.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 3. Out of School Care Background and Evidence - Out of school care in Scotland - draft framework: consultation - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Space to Grow | Care Inspectorate Hub

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> <u>supporting-outdoor-childcare-provision-example-table.pdf (careinspectorate.com)</u>

# 2.6 Ratios

Previously, there were statutory requirements for ratios of adults to children in ELC and OSC settings. Under the Health and Social Care Standards, these ratios are now described as guidance / expectations, and are set out as follows<sup>23</sup>:

"The Care Inspectorate expects that the following ratios will apply children's daycare settings, including out of school care.

Age range	Ratio
0 to under 2 years	1 adult to 3 children
2 to under 3 years	1 adult to 5 children
3 to under 8 years	1 adult to 8 children *
Over 8 years	1 adult to 10 children

\* Where children aged 3 and over attend settings fewer than four hours in one any day the adult: child ratio can be 1 adult to 10 children.

The Care Inspectorate recommends that two adults be present in the premises when children are being cared for. If a staff member is working on their own, providers must ensure systems are in place to enable them to access support if required."

There is a degree of flexibility: "The Care Inspectorate may agree to vary the ratios up or down where warranted"<sup>24</sup>.

# 2.7 Staff qualifications

Staff providing Out of School Care (OSC) have to have appropriate qualifications, which are set out by the Scottish Government<sup>25</sup>. OSC staff have to be registered with, and are regulated by, the Scottish Social Services Council<sup>26</sup>. There are three SSSC categories, which have the following qualification requirements:

- 1. Support worker in a day care of children service
  - have or to be working towards a relevant Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 6, which is the same level as a Scottish Higher
- 2. Practitioner in a day care of children service
  - have or to be working towards a relevant SCQF level 7 qualification
- 3. Lead Practitioner/ manager in a day care of children service
  - have or to be working towards a relevant SCQF level 9 qualification (a degreelevel qualification)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> The Scottish Social Services Council - Scottish Social Services Council (sssc.uk.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Pages 2-3, Guidance on adult to child ratios in Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings: <u>ELC adult-child\_ratios\_- final\_29.3.18.pdf (careinspectorate.com)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Page 3, Guidance on adult to child ratios in Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) settings

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> <u>Qualification Requirements - Early learning and childcare: induction resource - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</u>

# 3. Research

# **3.1 About Tillicoultry**

Tillicoultry is a town in Clackmannanshire. It is one of the Hillfoots Villages on the A91, which runs from Stirling to St. Andrews. Tillicoultry is situated at the southern base of the Ochil Hills. It has an industrial history of textile mills and coal mining. Alloa lies 4 miles southwest<sup>27</sup>. Tillicoultry Primary School has a roll of 253<sup>28</sup>. The nearest High School is Alva Academy.



# **3.2 Demographics and statistics**

A demographical analysis of Tillicoultry was carried out. The full results are set out at Appendix 1, with the key points in relation to children, families and economic activity highlighted here:

- There is a lower proportion of young people aged under 16 in Tillicoultry (14.1%) than in Scotland (16.8%).
- The general trend of population change in Tillicoultry has been one of decline of almost 10% from 2001 to 2020. By contrast, Clackmannanshire and Scotland have seen population growth over the same time period.
- There are high rates of deprivation in Tillicoultry in relation to employment and crime.
- 60% of the population of Tillicoultry live within the 10-20% most deprived areas in Scotland regarding employment.
- The job density in Tillicoultry is 27.8%, which is significantly lower than the averages of 47.1% in Clackmannanshire and 74.9% in Scotland. This reflects a lower job availability locally than in the rest of Scotland.
- The proportion of people receiving Personal Independence Payments due to mental health issues is higher in Tillicoultry than the national average. 3.2% of people receive the Personal Independence Payment due to mental health issues in Tillicoultry, compared to 3.8% in Clackmannanshire and 2.9% in Scotland.

# **3.3 Stakeholder conversations**

The following people were met with or spoken to:

- Head Teacher of Tillicoultry Primary School
- Minister at Tillicoultry Parish Church (Church of Scotland)<sup>29</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> The Minister - Tillicoultry Parish Church



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> <u>Tillicoultry - Wikipedia</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> <u>Tillicoultry Primary School (clacks.gov.uk)</u>

- Pastor at Tillicoultry Baptist Church<sup>30</sup>
- Senior Project Officer, Family Wellbeing Partnership, Clackmannanshire Council
- CEO of Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI)<sup>31</sup>
- Manager of Alva Play Pals
- Manager of Dollar Nursery
- Care Inspectorate registered Childminder based in Tillicoultry
- Qualified Teacher of children with Vision Impairment (QTVI), ASD Sensory Outreach Service, based at Tillicoultry Primary School
- Freelance Advice Quality Standard (AQS) Assessor, Scottish Out of School Care Network (SOSCN)<sup>32</sup>
- Parents, carers and volunteers at Tillywinks, the parent/carer and toddler group which meets at the Baptist Church
- Parents and carers who completed the survey and asked for a follow up conversation

These are the key findings from those discussions.

Stakeholders commented on the requirements of children with additional support needs (ASN) at the Primary School. This might be children with:

- physical impairments (e.g. wheelchair users, visual impairments)
- developmental needs (e.g. Down's Syndrome, learning difficulties / disabilities)
- emotional and behavioural needs (including socialisation skills)

Currently 26% of the school roll (P1-P7) are on Staged Intervention<sup>33</sup>. This generally fluctuates from 25% - 30%. Two fifths of these children are on the highest level of Staged Intervention (Level 3 or 4).

The Primary School has had to develop new and creative ways to meet these needs, including flexible learning spaces and nurture groups. Concerns were raised that formal Out of School Care wouldn't necessarily be suitable for children with additional needs.

• "Visually impaired youngsters really would benefit from socialising / a facility to go to after school. The options for them are beyond their catchment area. Alloa Connect is their option I think open to 7 years plus. One would most definitely not be independent enough to travel by bus and the other a direct bus route is not available. Transport is an ongoing issue and parents / grandparent not able to drive. Life becomes very isolating for many visually impaired children who are at home with little independence when not at school."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> <u>Staged Intervention - referral for additional support (clacks.gov.uk)</u>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Our People – Tillicoultry Baptist Online

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Facebook

<sup>32</sup> about (soscn.org)

- "My 12 year old daughter was diagnosed with autism within last year. She would really struggle in a group setting for after school care."
- My daughter has Down's Syndrome. She would be fine in a group, but hates walking, so getting her there might be difficult."

Some parents who have moved to Tillicoultry in the last 5 years made the decision to do so based on services that are no longer available, or on assumptions about childcare. Other parents see what is available where they work, and are frustrated not to have the same provision locally.

- "When we moved here from Alloa, Kidz World were doing drop off and pick up for both nursery and primary school. They then decided there was not enough demand from Tillicoultry, so they decided to stop the pick-up and drop off."
- "When we moved here from Perth and Kinross, there was NO childcare available. We hadn't factored that in we just assumed that there would be childcare available."
- "I work at a school in Perth & Kinross. Their breakfast club starts at 8am, and there are loads of options for after school."

Stakeholders commented on higher than average levels of anti-social behaviour in the community by children and young people. The Primary School has to deal with significant issues of anti-social behaviour outside of school hours, including repeated vandalism to school property. Playground inspections on a Monday morning involve cleaning up broken glass, vapes and cigarettes. Primary School aged children are potentially affected by the anti-social behaviour of their older siblings or other family members.

The school roll includes children living in formal and informal Kinship Care placements.

In this context, after school care potentially becomes a pastoral or even safeguarding provision.

Many families are living in poverty, exacerbated by the cost of living crisis. The churches are running food banks, community cafes, and warm spaces. The Primary School runs events at minimal cost, even if this means making a loss, to ensure equity of access. E.g. the charge to attend this year's Halloween disco was £1, and the event made a loss of £35.

The view of professionals was that most parents in Tillicoultry are unlikely to be able to afford paid for childcare.

There is a strong shared ethos between the Primary School, Parish Church and Baptist Church, of serving the community, and good working relationships between the Head Teacher, Minister and Pastor respectively. Ochil Youths Community Improvement also has a good working relationship with the Primary School.

Some parts of Tillicoultry have poor quality of housing stock, particularly in areas immediately surrounding the Primary School. Recent RAAC issues has seen families evacuated from their homes on an emergency basis<sup>34</sup>. The housing stock varies considerably across Tillicoultry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> <u>Two more Tillicoultry flat blocks evacuated over RAAC fears | Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser</u> (alloaadvertiser.com)





There are bars on windows – this is an unusual sight for rural Scotland. Examples are a shop near the Primary School, the Baptist Church, and a vacant shop unit on the High Street:



The Community Council noticeboard lists incidents of anti-social behaviour, vandalism, violence and theft, including those carried out by 'youths'.



On 26 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at High Street, Tillicoulity, a knywn youth was treastening and abuake towards local residents. He will be traced, charged and reported for this crime. On 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at High Street, Tillicoulity, a pro-active stop and search by police kid b the recovery of controlled drugs and cash, which were seized. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fracel. Between 1 <sup>th</sup> and 2 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 at Tillicoulity Quarry, two youths were deemed to be culpable and reckless in their conduct, putting others at risk. The appropriate action he been taken to address their behaviour.
VANDALSES
There were 5 recorded incidents of vancausmittee as follows: On 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at High Street, Tillicoultry, Council CCTV was intentially damaged by a On 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at High Street, Tillicoultry, Council CCTV was intentially damaged by a local youth. He has been identified and has been charged with the offence. Iocal youth. He has been identified and has been charged with the offence.
tuly 2023 at Opper Semolate.
Difference       Difference         Projection of the server of the indicates of youth disorder and anti-accel behaviour in the molecular of the server of the s
On 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Primrose Place, Tillicoulity, 3 local youths stole 2 pedal cycles from a domestic dwelling. They have been identified and have or will be charged with this offence.
On 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Ochil Street, Tillicoultry, 3 local youths stole a motor cycle from a domestic dwelling. They have been identified and have or will be charged with this offence.
On 12 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Baynes, High Street, Tillicoultry, 3 local youths attempted to force entry to the premises with the intention of theft. They have been identified and have or will be charged with this offence.



# 3.4 Surveys

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#### Clackmannanshire wide

CERT carried out a Parent, Carer & Guardian Survey across Clackmannanshire in the summer of 2023.

CERT- Clackmannanshire Economic Regeneration Trust

🌽 Attention residents of Clackmannanshire and Alloa! 🌽

We're seeking your insights on childcare in our community. Whether you've used services recently or in the past, your experiences and feedback can help shape local childcare policy and provision. Dive deep and share your thoughts on service usage, accessibility, and satisfaction.

By participating in our survey, you're not just providing feedback; you're playing a vital role in making impactful changes. The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes. Let's work together to better our community!

Source Click to participate: https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7TX7XXH

Your voice truly matters! 💥 #Clackmannanshire #Alloa #Clacks #ForthValley #ChildcareSurvey



211 responses were received. The survey showed that:

- 47% of parents would prefer to work longer hours
- When asked to what extent childcare is a barrier to this, 41% said hugely, 25% entirely, and 18% partly with 15% saying not at all
- When asked what childcare service would suit best, 50% said a school-based club / activity, with preferred childcare hours of 3–5pm, 56% [?] and school holidays 38%
- After school care is a service used by only 27% of parents surveyed, with 65% rating good very good for affordability and 35% poor very poor

#### Tillicoultry

Community Enterprise carried out a survey on behalf of CERT. An online survey was available from 23 November to 10 December 2023. The survey was promoted through local partners and networks, including Tillicoultry Primary School / Team Tilly Family, (the Parent Council), Clackmannanshire Council's Family Wellbeing Partnership, the Parish Church (Church of Scotland), the Baptist Church, Alva Play Pals and Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI).

The survey was completed by 48 respondents. Some questions allowed for further comments, and some of those comments have been included throughout the body of this report. Comments from some of the stakeholder conversations have also been included in this section.

The results are set out at Appendix 2. The key points are:

• 45 respondents have children of primary school age. Of those, 44% said that there is no support for childcare available. Support from grandparents was the next most popular response (42%). Other forms of support with childcare selected were afterschool club (9%), support from a relative or friend (16%), and other support (4%).



- 36 people answered the question, 'Is lack of childcare preventing you from working, learning or volunteering?'. 32 of those people face barriers to work due to a lack of childcare provision.
- The main reasons for restricted access to childcare were the lack of childcare available, and the cost of childcare (59% of respondents selected both).
- Over half of respondents (53%) said that they might use after school childcare every day.
- Most respondents would need after school childcare all year round (60%); 40% said they would only need after school childcare during school term time.
- When respondents are choosing childcare, the quality of services is the most important thing, followed by price. The quality of space ranks as the least important factor.
- 46 out of the 48 respondents said that childcare in Tillicoultry would help to meet their needs.
- Respondents were asked if they would pay £13.50 for a session at an after school club (this is the national average). 71% of respondents said that they would and 29% said that they would not.
- When asked whether they would be interested in any additional childcare options, 50% of respondents selected after school club.

Many of the comments related to the impact of the lack of childcare on parents and carers' ability to work, study or volunteer:

- "I am a member of a volunteer group and I am studying for extra qualifications for work. It is difficult to maintain these commitments and often they have to fall aside."
- "My husband works part time due to the cost of out of school care."
- "It's ok now as I work from home by however two years ago, I didn't work from home and couldn't do the hours I wanted to because of the lack of childcare."
- "I had to leave university due to lack of childcare. I only have my ex partners parents to help with childcare which isn't always possible."
- "I'm working shorter hours."
- "There are many jobs I'm capable of but can't do due to my husband working shifts and no afterschool care"
- "If my husband didn't work from home a lot if days, I wouldn't be able to work my hours."
- "Can only return after mat leave to three days due to lack of childcare."
- "Finding it hard to work as my work hours start before 9 and finish at 5.30. No childcare available as I have no family to rely on. Childcare services are horrendous in Tillicoultry and making it extremely difficult to work. I don't want to have to give up my job because I can't find childcare"
- "If it was cost deductive it would be a great help as would allow my husband to also work."
- "I would be able to go into the office more regularly if there was childcare available."

- "It would mean I could access work opportunities which would help our family to overcome financial difficulties."
- "My career continues to be impacted by lack of childcare provisions."

Other comments included lack of provision for children with additional support needs:

- "No ASN afterschool club available at all at my son's school. He requires accessible support which isn't available at all."
- "I feel children with disabilities are not considered in these surveys and in planning for out of school childcare. This needs to be considered as staff need specific training particularly around autism."

Lack of childcare can also have an adverse impact on the quality of life of, or the mental health of, parents and carers:

- "As a family, we've really suffered financially as a result of the lack of childcare."
- "I feel extremely trapped and lack of childcare means I struggle to attend basic self-care appointments including hairdressers and doctor appointments."
- "It would help my mental health to be able to access work."

# 4. Supply

# 4.1 Childminders

There are two childminders in Tillicoultry who are registered with the Care Inspectorate:

- Nicola Hatcher Childminding<sup>35</sup>
- Kiddies Childminding Services<sup>36</sup>

Nikki Hatcher has confirmed that she is the only one who is currently operational.

One survey respondent commented that they have a live-in nanny.

A search on the website childcare.co.uk for childminders within a 5 mile radius of FK13 6PL (the postcode of the Primary School) brings up 14 childminders, whose hourly rates start from  $\pm 3.75$ . None of these are based in Tillicoultry itself.

There is a need for more childminders in Tillicoultry.

- "As far as I can find only 1 childminder in Tillicoultry and always full."
- "We really struggled to find childcare. I registered as a childminder myself and did before and after school provision – predominantly after school. My books filled up overnight, I always had a waiting list."
- "Childminders book up SO quickly, we have to be ahead of the game. We'll start making plans in January for an August start..."

# 4.2 Breakfast clubs / before school care

The scope of this report does not include care before the school day. However, for many parents and carers, this is as important as after school care.

- "Can't find childminder/club to look after child before 9 and after school finish."
- "I drop the kids off at 8.30, then drive to Edinburgh. I don't get in to the office until 9.45, which means I'm not leaving my desk until 6 or 6.30. They're in bed by the time I get home if I could put them in at 7.30am, I'd get more time with them at home in the evenings."

Tillicoultry Primary School has a breakfast club, as does every primary school in Clackmannanshire<sup>37</sup>. This starts at 8.30am. The service is available free of charge to those children registered for free school meals, and for other children the charge is £1.40.

For some parents and carers, earlier provision is needed. Provision at Alva Play Pals starts at 8.00am, and at Dollar and Kidz World, provision starts at 7.30am.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> School Breakfasts (clacks.gov.uk)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Find care (careinspectorate.com)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Find care (careinspectorate.com)

# 4.3 Out of School Care

The nearest providers of Out of School Care are:



Private transport is required to access these services from Tillicoultry. Having private transport does not necessarily mean that accessing these services is straightforward or easy.

- "Don't have transport and public transport is very unreliable."
- "At the moment my son has to be collected by someone from Alva Play Pals in their own car. I then have to drive to Alva to collect after driving from work it's another half an hour added onto my journey with a 3 year old in tow at dinner time."

Service provider	Address	Ages	Operating hours	Charges
Alva Play Pals <sup>38</sup>	Alva Primary School Brook Street Alva FK12 5AN	4 years 6 months to 15 years	8.00-9.00am and 2.45- 6.00pm Monday to Friday term time Monday to Friday 9.00am-4.00pm in school holidays	3.00-6.00pm: £16
Dollar OSC <sup>39</sup>	Dollar Nursery School 4 McNabb Street Dollar FK14 7DJ	5-12 years	7:30am-6:00pm	3.00-6.00pm: £21.25
Kidz World <sup>40</sup> (Soft Play)	Medway House Kelliebank Alloa FK10 1NU	Not specified	From 7.30am 3.00-6.00pm	3.00-5.00pm session: £14.50 3.00-6.00pm session: £16.50 (flexible places charged at this rate also) Breakfast Club - From 7.30am: £11.50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Alva Play Pals | Facebook

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Out of School Club - Kidz World (kidz-world.co.uk) and Find care (careinspectorate.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Out of School Club/Holiday Club | Dollar Nursery School

Kidzone <sup>41</sup>	Redwell	5-12	After school from	Breakfast and After School Club (same day): £23.50 Our club includes our staff collecting your child from all local primary schools at dedicated pick up points in each school.
		_		3.00-5.00pm: £8.40
(Clackmannanshire	Primary School	years	3.00-6.00pm	3.00-6.00pm: £12.60
Council)	Stirling Road		during term time	Sunnyside Minibus:
	Alloa			£2.30
	FK10 2BS			10% discount applies
				if a subsequent sibling
				attends Kidzone

### 4.4 After school activities

There are a range of activities for children and young people in Tillicoultry. For some families, these activities might be a sufficient extension of the school day to meet their childcare needs.

Activities include:

- After school clubs
- Cubs and Scouts, but not Brownies and Guides
- Boys' and Girls' Brigade (Thursday and Wednesday evenings respectively)
- Groups run by Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI), including Clacks Youth Theatre
- Church run holiday clubs









<sup>41</sup> <u>https://www.clacks.gov.uk/learning/kidzone/</u> and <u>Find care (careinspectorate.com)</u>



Research Report and Feasibility Study: Out of School Childcare in Tillicoultry

# 5. Challenges

# 5.1 Variables in planning

Making predictions for paid for childcare is not straightforward, particularly in rural areas with small populations, where the financial viability requires minimum numbers of both staff and children. It is not the same as making plans for an entitlement to statutory provision, which is free at the point of access.

Demonstrating need can be a challenge, in terms of quantifying the unknown need; if there is no childcare available, there are no waiting lists.

Whilst the lack of childcare is a known problem for parents and carers in Tillicoultry, there will not be a consensus about what childcare provision is required. Every family is different, and each individual child has their own needs and preferences as to how they are cared for. Some of the differences will include:

- the amount of disposable income to pay for childcare
- the different types and locations of work people do, from working from home, to working locally, to working away for days at a time
- the different hours people work: those who work full time, to those who work part time, or seasonally
- whether there are extended family members who can provide childcare; even if there are other family members, it is not necessarily an option that they provide childcare, for reasons including family dynamics, costs incurred, and their own work commitments

Parents and carers at Tillywinks were spoken to, partly to provide the views of people for whom childcare is **not** an issue. This is unlikely to show up in e.g. surveys about childcare, where those who need it are more motivated to respond.

- "I work part time and am the primary care giver. My wife is self-employed, but she is away a lot, so it's not necessarily flexible. We don't need after school care I can pick up work at short notice with shifts." (Parent of a toddler and a child in P1)
- "I want to be a parent first. I am lucky that financially we can do that. I want to be able to do drop off and pick-ups I don't want to sacrifice that for a couple of hours of childcare. Hopefully we won't need an after school thing." (Parent of a 2 year old)

# 5.2 Affordability

Coram publish an annual survey of childcare costs. Finding from their 2023 report<sup>42</sup> include<sup>43</sup>:

This year, the average price of an after school club for a week is £67.42 across Great Britain, or £2,629 a year during term time (39 weeks a year). The average price of a childminder to 6pm for a week is £72.36 across Great Britain, or £2,822 a year during term time.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Page 5, "Childcare Survey 2023", Coram Family and Childcare



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Coram survey finds childcare shortages nationwide with the most disadvantaged children missing out -Coram Group : Coram Group

Parents are concerned about the affordability of childcare. In the survey, the national average was used to ask, 'The average price of a session at an after school club (across Great Britain) is  $\pm 13.50$ . Would you pay this?' Wording such as 'Could you pay this?' was ruled out as this might have appeared to be judgmental, as was anything that could be subjective, such as 'Do you think this is affordable / reasonable?' etc.

As detailed above, local charges for one child attending an after school session from 3.00-6.00pm are: Kidzone, £12.60; Alva Play Pals, £16; Kidz World, £16.50 and Dollar OSC, £21.25.

The comments in the survey about affordability were varied:

- "A second child discount might be helpful. I suspect the average is impacted by London, so would expect a lower mark than the median."
- "That does sound expensive for 2 hours of childcare in a group setting."
- "At this stage I would pay anything for decent childcare! Desperate!"
- "Although discounted rates for multiple children would be greatly appreciated."
- "Happy to pay the national average for a good service."
- "This does not say how long you get £13.50 for so without the average length this question can't be answered. I would expect to pay no more than £5 per hour."
- "Can't afford it."
- "That depends for how long? 13.50 for one hour? Or until 6?"
- "I pay more than that at the moment, because my son has to be collected too and transported."
- "Yes, but I may only be able to afford a couple of days per week."
- "Still quite expensive."
- "Not if it was £13.50 per session. X 5 that's a lot per week month."
- "I could pay 15 per child. If more, I would need sibling's discount."
- "If I could afford it."
- "That does seem expensive. Perhaps having the choice to pay per hour?"
- "Yes, but not every day."
- "Unaffordable."
- "Average will include London etc. Scotland should be a fairer price based on location, wages etc. I think £10 would be fair."

### 5.3 The need to estimate demand

#### Introduction

An estimate of demand is a challenge in any enterprise of this nature. Anecdotally from similar studies, demand from parents tends to be high, but conversion rates can be lower than expected because when a fee paying service is set up, some families work hard to source informal, and therefore more affordable, solutions.

#### Size of population

It is challenging to get an exact number of school aged children in Tillicoultry because the measures differ. The 2021 population estimates show that there are 364 children between 0 and 9 and 445 between 10 and 19. In the 2011 census 11.2% of the 5,120 population were 5-15 years old. There are 253 on the current primary school roll in Tillicoultry. Considering some may come from other areas in the vicinity, it is reasonable to assume there is around 250 children who could benefit from an OSC provision.

#### Scale of demand

211 responses were received from CERT's own survey, and from that, 47% of parents wanted to work longer hours, and 84% of these say that it is lack of childcare that is the key barrier (to one extent or another). Over half say they would prefer a school based services, while a substantial 38% were interested in holiday cover. At the moment, only 27% use an after school service.

In the later survey, 88% of those who responded said that they face barriers to work because of lack of childcare, with 59% saying it was lack of local services. 53% said they would use after school childcare every day, and 60% would need it all year round (whereas 40% were interested in only school term time).

46 out of the 48 respondents said that childcare in Tillicoultry would help to meet their needs. 71% said that they would pay the national average of  $\pm 13.50$  for a session.

With variations between term time and holiday, if 60% would use after school care all year round, 60% of the total population of 250 equates to 150. Even of half of these convert to using the provision, this amounts to a demand of circa 75. 1/3 conversion rate would reduce to 45 regular user children. It is estimated that a minimum of 50 children will use this service.

# 6. Operating Models

# 6.1 Childminders

More local childminders would help to meet the need for after school care in Tillicoultry. It is understood that this is not the preferred solution as part of this plan, but it could be a key part of a mixed provision in the future. The issue with promoting childcare too overtly is that it may remove some demand from the model of after school provision, which is felt to be a better solution for children and families.

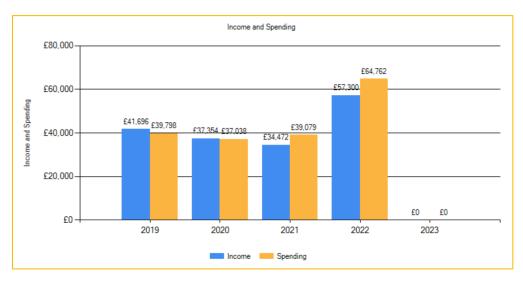
Clackmannanshire Council have funded the Scottish Childminding Association to develop childminding services across Clackmannanshire.

### 6.2 Existing Care Inspectorate registered providers of OSC

Discussions were held with Claire Russell, Manager of Alva Play Pals, and Carolyn Riddle, Manager of Dollar Nursery, in order to map out their operating models and to explore a theoretical expansion in to Tillicoultry.

#### **Alva Play Pals**

Alva Play Pals Out of School Care is a company limited by guarantee<sup>44</sup> with charitable status<sup>45</sup>. The business was incorporated on 12 October 1995 and has been a registered charity since 27 October 1995. There are 6 members of staff. The OSCR profile provides the following overview of income and expenditure:



The organisation is registered with the Care Inspectorate<sup>46</sup>. The current conditions of registration are:

- To provide a care service to a maximum of 40 children 4 years 6 months to 15 years.
- The care service will operate between the times of 08:00 to 09:00 and 14:45 to 18:00 • Monday to Friday term time and Monday to Friday 9:00 to 16:00 in school holidays.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Find care (careinspectorate.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> ALVA PLAY PALS OUT OF SCHOOL CARE overview - Find and update company information - GOV.UK (company-information.service.gov.uk) <sup>45</sup> OSCR | Charity Details

• Adult: child ratios will be a minimum of: 3 years and over 1:8 if the children attend more than 4 hours per day or 1:10 if the children attend for less than 4 hours per day

The last Care Inspectorate inspection was on 28 October 2022. The report details that:

- Children have access to a play area, gym hall, sensory room, two outside playgrounds and toilets. A nearby kitchen area is available for the storage and preparation of snacks.
- Children experienced nurturing care and positive interactions.
- Children were happy, confident and enjoyed the company of staff.
- Children enjoyed spending time with their friends and liked the play experiences on offer.
- Staff were kind, caring and compassionate towards children.
- Positive relationships with families supported continuity of care and effective partnerships.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:		
In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent		
How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good	
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good	
How good is our leadership?	4 - Good	
How good is our staff team?	4 - Good	

### **Dollar Out of School Club**

Dollar Out of School Club is part of Dollar Nursery Holdings, a private limited company<sup>47</sup>. The business was incorporated on 22 May 2012. The website lists 25 members of staff<sup>48</sup>. The organisation is registered with the Care Inspectorate<sup>49</sup>. The current conditions of registration are:

• To provide a care service to a maximum of: 56 children from birth to 12 years of whom no more than 35 children may be under 3 years of age.

The last Care Inspectorate inspection was on 12 August 2019. The report details that:

- Dollar Nursery School is a privately owned nursery providing wrap around care for children including Out of School care and Holiday care for school age children. The service works in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council as part of the delivery of early learning and childcare.
- The accommodation is a semi-detached property with playrooms accommodating children situated on the ground and the first floor. The building is well maintained and provides a safe, stimulating and attractive environment for children. A safe enclosed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Find care (careinspectorate.com)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> <u>DOLLAR NURSERY HOLDINGS LTD overview - Find and update company information - GOV.UK (company-information.service.gov.uk)</u>

<sup>48</sup> The Team | Dollar Nursery School

outdoor area and access to the local community ensures that children are actively benefitting from fresh air and exercise.

From this inspection we graded this service as:	
Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	not assessed
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

The website details that "We offer a drop off and pick up service to and from local Primary Schools each morning and afternoon. We offer an extra pick up service to combine after school activities. The Out of School Club offers a range of planned daily activities as well as providing the opportunity to do homework. A healthy snack is provided daily. We run a Holiday Club whenever schools are off whether it be in-service days or annual holiday. We discuss activities with the children and plan detailed itineraries well in advance. This incorporates a range of fun filled activities from cooking, arts and crafts, walks, visiting places of interest as well as participating in nature based play and outdoor learning."<sup>50</sup>

#### Considerations for expansion

The following is a summary of the two separate discussions about the issues a provider of OSC would have to consider if they are thinking about expanding in to a new geographical area.

Location

- Is the location accessible?
- How far away is it from the nearest Primary Schools and nurseries?
- Is there parking or drop off space?

Site

- What is available at the site in terms of indoor space, outdoor space and food preparation?
- Is there storage?
- Is there a requirement to set up and take down at the start of every session? What impact does this have on staff energy levels and time?
- Will we be overlapping with other people as we set up, e.g. if we're in a school setting? How does that impact on us and them?
- How will children feel a sense of 'ownership' of the space, if it feels temporary or neutral?
- Is there space for a variety of activities? From running around and burning off energy, to doing homework, to chilling out, to eating? Can the space accommodate the changing needs of individual children?
- How will the space feel different from the school day?
- Is there room for expansion?

Transport

- How will children and parents / carers get to the site?
- Will we have to factor in transporting children? If so, how will we do that on foot, with cars, or a minibus? Will we charge extra for that?
- If staff are doing pick-ups, who's doing the set up?

Staffing

• Is it possible to relocate existing staff to the new area? Or are staff willing to move to split site working?

<sup>50</sup> http://www.dollarnursery.co.uk/out-of-school-club/

- What impact does that have on the relationships they have with children in the existing location?
- What is the best model for staffing in a new area (from an apprentice to a manager), in terms of qualifications and experience?

#### Numbers

- What is the minimum number of children we need to guarantee the service is viable?
- How do we manage the flexibility required by e.g. parents with varying shift patterns?
- Would increased numbers require an increase in staff or central/fixed costs that would make the growth unviable

#### Governance

- Will it be a dispersed setting, or would a new Care Inspectorate registration be required?
- How would parents become involved in the new area, and at what point would they need to play an active role in the governance of the organisation?

#### Conclusion

- Alva Play Pals should consider expanding in to Tillicoultry. Their manager has been in discussion with CERT about this, and they have also been looking at expansion in to other areas locally. Alva Play Pals are well established, have a strong reputation locally, and a good track record with the Care Inspectorate.
- Dollar Nursery have not expressed a desire to expand geographically.

### 6.3 New Care Inspectorate registered providers of OSC

As well as expanding current existing provision, another option could be the development of a new registered provider. This could be Tillicoultry specific or potentially Clackmannanshire wide. The benefits of a Clackmannanshire wide provision would give economies of scale, which may support the concept to be more sustainable. Simply Play<sup>51</sup> in West Lothian operate this model by having local sites, but centrally managed across West Lothian. However, there is the possibility of displacing the existing provision, which has built experience and relationships in the area. Creating a Tillicoultry based organisation would have local, place based knowledge, but its central costs may be too high to be sustainable.

Further, with both models, this would require a brand new organisation to be established including legal incorporation, bank account set up, registration, building a Board, recruiting a team, establishing a team and all the detail required in setting up a new organisation. It would need support from parents willing to become involved with the governance. It would also have no track record, and limited trust in the early phase.

#### Conclusion

This is likely to be too risky an option for Tillicoultry, particularly when there is an existing provider who could expand in to the area.

### 6.4 Activity based

In the survey, when respondents were asked whether they would be interested in options other than Out of School Care, 50% of respondents selected after school club.

After school clubs / programmes could be activity based provision, which would not need Care Inspectorate registration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Simply Play | Childcare in West Lothian | After School Clubs



Programmes could be delivered by existing organisations, such as OYCI, independently, or working in partnership with e.g. the Baptist Church.

OYCl are a youth led organisation, working with 10-18 year olds. They do have some experience of working with younger children. 160 young people are registered with the organisation, and they see around 70 of them a week at after school and evening activities. There are also weekend activities. All their activities are free to access. The organisation has 11 p/t staff, amounting to around 3.5 FTE posts.

### 6.5 Provision for children with ASN

Professionals and parents / carers have highlighted the need for after school provision for children with additional support needs. This could be specifically targeted at children with particular needs; and / or it could be based on a whole family support approach, e.g. siblings of children with ASN who might need extra support if their parents' / carers' energies are diverted, or supporting parents of children with ASN by providing respite opportunities etc.

Play Alloa is an organisation providing play and social opportunities for children, young people and adults with disabilities from across Clackmannanshire<sup>52</sup>. There is potential to enable access to Play Alloa (through e.g. transport or subsidised places) to meet the needs of some children with ASN.

Providers of ELC (and by implication OSC) have a legal duty to meet the needs of children with ASN where possible<sup>53</sup>. Alva Play Pals already provides OSC to some children with ASN.

There is a separate need for children with additional needs but who are in mainstream school, who might not be suited to OSC.

- "I work at an ASN school in Sauchie all our children get bussed in and out. Play Alloa have been great for a lot of our learners – but they have different needs from children in mainstream school."
- "My daughter is autistic. She would be furious if she was lumped in with children with special needs."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> See the summary at pages 157-8 of the Scottish Government consultation paper on the proposed Learning Disabilities, Autism and Neurodivergence Bill: <u>LDAN Bill Consultation document (www.gov.scot)</u>



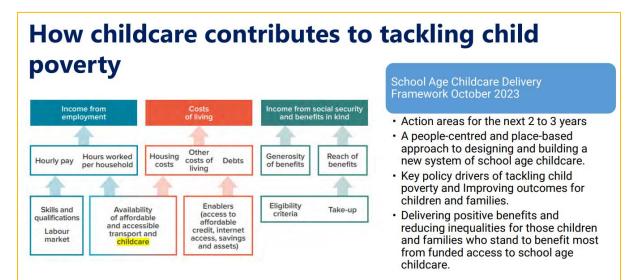
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Play Alloa | Scotland

# 7. Funding Landscape

### 7.1 The Scottish Government approach

The Scottish Government's School age childcare delivery framework "sets out our commitment, action areas and the approach we will take over the next two to three years to deliver a system of affordable and accessible school age childcare which will be funded for those families who need it most"<sup>54</sup>.

An overview of the current Scottish Government approach to school age childcare was presented at a Local Networking Event of the Scottish Out of School Care Network<sup>55</sup> in November 2023<sup>56</sup>:



#### Programme for Government 2023-24

"Affordable and accessible childcare supports employment, and the economy, and secure and sustainable employment helps lift families out of poverty."

# Programme for Government 2023-24

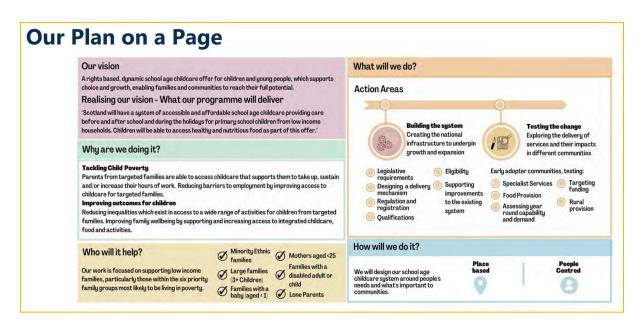
- Over the coming year, we will:
  - work with Local Government and other partners to develop the local infrastructure and services needed to provide childcare from nine months to the end of primary school in specific communities in six local authority areas.
  - empower parents, carers and children in those communities by designing and delivering childcare services around their needs
  - develop and test a new digital service that will help parents and carers choose and manage their childcare more effectively.
- Taken together, we will expand access to funded childcare for 13,000 more children and families by the end of this Parliament.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Slides shared by Claire Russell of Alva Play Pals. Permission to use them here given by Finlay Wright, Information Officer, SOSCN, by email, 18.12.23.

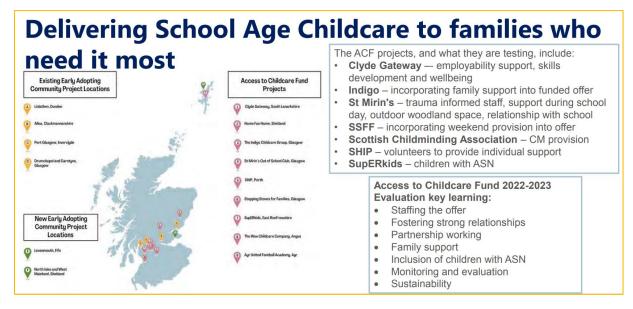


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> School age childcare delivery framework - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

<sup>55</sup> soscn home



Alloa in Clackmannanshire is one of the Early Adopting Community Project Locations<sup>57</sup>, with initiatives delivered via Clackmannanshire Council:



Funding was awarded to Clackmannanshire Council<sup>58</sup> to work with a range of partners in Alloa. This included providers of OSC, namely KidzWorld and Play Alloa, and the funding included financial support for children to attend OSC.

The learning from this award has informed their application to the Scottish Government for funding for the financial year 2024-5, to support initiatives to be delivered across Clackmannanshire, including in Tillicoultry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> School Age Childcare Early Adopting Communities Project [Award] (bidstats.uk)



<sup>57</sup> School age childcare delivery framework - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

# **Cohorts of families emerging from the EACs**



Families with a parent or carer who are furthest from the labour market, with policy intentions around improving children's outcomes, long term tackling child poverty objectives related to early intervention and providing benevolent childhood experiences.

Families where parents/carers are closer to the labour market but need the support of DWP or local Employability support services, for whom the costs of School Age Childcare would be a particular barrier to employment.

Families where parents and carers are in precarious or part-time employment. A funded or subsidised School Age Childcare offer may allow them to find more stable employment or increase their hours of work. Families where parents and carers are currently paying for School Age Childcare to support work may also come into this category - i.e. working parents on UC who would be eligible for UC Childcare.



#### **Design principles for School Age Childcare** Changing the school age childcare system to be:

Empowering Reliable Fair Responsive Transparent People using and delivering childcare are empowered to **make choices** for themselves and their family, business, and community. The childcare system provides consistent support to families when they need it, in the place that they live, and through transitions. The childcare system is inclusive and treats everyone with respect. The childcare system offers choice to parents and carers, children, and providers. Childcare services are supportive of the needs of families, and reflect their individual circumstances. The childcare system is open and transparent. The childcare system is straightforward and easy to engage with, reducing the administrative burden for everyone. The childcare system respects the **rights and dignity of everyone**, including the rights of children. The childcare system **flexes** around the needs of families and the workforce. The childcare system **involves people in decision making** at multiple levels, including those who use services and those who deliver and support them. The childcare system is stable and predictable across the year and years. The childcare system provides accessible and timely information, so everyone is aware of their entitlements and options available to them, and are kept informed at every Childcare services are The childcare system is **financially stable** and everyone feels that their entitlements and finances are tainable People working in childcare are valued and supported, and have fair pay and conditions. step of the way. Childcare services are safe and trusted to meet children's

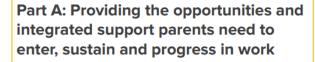
Family-centred

Childcare support follows the child and supports family life.

The childcare system seeks to manage complexity and uncertainty so that people are not overburdened.

The childcare system takes a **holistic outlook** and recognises the value of school age childcare to children, parents and carers, extended families, as well as communities and employers.

This work is underpinned by Best Start, Bright Futures<sup>59</sup>, the Scottish Government's plan to tackle child poverty. Key actions in relation to employability / childcare are:



We are committed to supporting parents to access, sustain and progress in employment where this is their choice. We will do this through:

A strengthened employment offer to parents

Connectivity and childcare to enable access to employment

Transforming our economy

### Key actions – a strengthened employment offer to parents

To meet the needs of parents, we will significantly increase investment in employability support, making up to £81 million available in 2022-23. This will support delivery of a new offer to parents, providing support tailored to their needs through a dedicated keyworker – including support to access childcare and transport and access to skills and training. Investment will also support the creation of up to 600 funded opportunities in 2022-23 for parents.

<sup>59</sup> Best Start, Bright Futures: Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2022-2026 (www.gov.scot)



Research Report and Feasibility Study: Out of School Childcare in Tillicoultry

To complement this, we will launch a **£2 million Challenge Fund**, to test out new approaches to supporting parents into work.

As a part of the package of enhanced support, we will deliver a new Parental Transition Fund to tackle the financial barriers parents face in entering the labour market, particularly over the initial period of employment, investing up to £15 million each year.

Over the course of 2022-23 we will work with health boards and local authorities to provide up to 200 funded placements for parents through a new NHS Demonstrator Project for those experiencing long-term unemployment.

We will **make child poverty a central pillar of our Lifetime Skills Offer**, with enhanced support for the priority groups. We will also publish a new Adult Learning Strategy for Scotland in spring 2022.

Through these actions we aim to support up to 12,000 parents into work, helping to increase household incomes from employment.

# Key actions – connectivity and childcare

In summer 2022, **we will develop and publish a strategic plan for all of our childcare commitments** for the remainder of this Parliament.

This will set out our approach to further develop our funded offers of early learning and childcare for children aged one and two, starting with low-income households within this Parliament, and to build a system of school age childcare, offering care before and after school, and during the holidays by the end of this Parliament.

# 7.2 The Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership

The Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership is the name given to a series of projects that support young people and their families to make a difference in their communities<sup>6061</sup>.

A press release on 10.10.22 stated, "More local families will benefit from funded school age childcare as part of a Clackmannanshire Family Wellbeing Partnership (FWP) project aimed at supporting low income families. The FWP has secured  $\pounds$ 428,000 in Scottish Government funding – as a result eligible low income families will be helped with the cost of childcare for primary school aged children. Families in most need will pay nothing."

# 7.3 Funding for parents and carers

An overview of funding for Out of School Care for parents and carers is provided at Appendix 3.

The Parental Employability Support Fund<sup>62</sup> (PESF) offers support to:

- Lone Parents
- Parents with disabilities
- Young parents aged 25 years and less

<sup>62</sup> Parental Employability Support Fund | Employability in Scotland



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Support for Families with School Aged Children (clacks.gov.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> An example of project funding: <u>Connect Alloa bolstered by series of funding successes | Alloa and Hillfoots Advertiser (alloaadvertiser.com)</u>

- Minority ethnic families
- Families with a disabled child
- Families with 3 or more children
- Families where the youngest child is under 1 year

The fund provides personalised support for parents who face barriers to progressing their careers, including help to gain qualifications, improving skills or work experience; money advice, and motivational support.

# 7.4 Funding for activity based after school clubs

Possible Fund	Details	Possible Amount
Robertson Trust	Will support children and families but only in relation to poverty and trauma	Up to £50,000 per year for up to 5 years
Volant Trust	Support projects with vulnerable children and families	Up to £15,000 per year for three years
Trusthouse Foundation	Prefer to fund early intervention; families coping with addiction; prisoners' families.	Up to £100,000
	Needs to be in an SIMD area of deprivation	
Garfield Weston	General Charitable Activity With a focus on young people	No maximum but usually 10% of income
Tesco Stronger Starts	Support specifically to after school activity	Only £1,500.
National Lottery Community Fund – Improving Lives	Focus on families in particular need	Max £200,000
Smaller charitable trusts	Mugdock Charitable Trust Cattanach MacRoberts Trust RS MacDonald Robert Barr Trust	Varies Say £75,000 in total

The following is an indication of possible funding sources.



# 8. Financial Viability and Cost

There is a range of variables, and demand can be hard to estimate. Financial modelling has been undertaken. There are two models that can be seen at Appendix 1, but there are a range of variables within those models. Sustainability is based on the following:

### Income

- Out of a total 50 possible children using the service, there is an estimate of 40% of these using the service in term time (as not all will use Monday-Friday) and 30% of them for holiday provision. That relates to 20 term time children and 15 holiday children.
- This is further reduced to 80% as an additional contingency for cancellations etc.
- In Model 1, a price of £13.50 per session has been used, which is the national average. Model 2 uses a price of £16 per session, in line with the Alva Play Pals fee.
- The model includes a line for grant income, but none has been factored in at this stage.
- The model has not been scaled up to include the maximum capacity at either of the preferred venues.

#### Expenditure

Staffing:

- The salary for two 0.5 FTE childcare Practitioners<sup>63</sup>, set at the mid-range when considering SSSC qualifications.
- There is a requirement for a minimum of two adults, to comply with Care Inspectorate expectations and safeguarding standards. Ratios are 1:8 for up to 7 year olds and 1:10 for 8 years and above. The model allows for the 1:10 ratios for 20 children, which would be sufficient if they are aged 8 and over. It would need to be adjusted for a 1:8 ratio for children aged 7 and under.
- There is a 10% budget to cover holiday and sickness.
- An apportionment of approximately one day of the salary of a peripatetic Manager<sup>64</sup> has been included. There is a Care Inspectorate requirement for the manager to be on-site a minimum of one day a week.

Rent:

- Tillicoultry Parish Church and Baptist Church both charge room rental at £15 / hour. At an hourly rate of 3.5 hours a day (2.45-6.15pm), 5 days a week, this would amount to £262.50 a week / £13,650 for a 52 week year / £1,137.50 per calendar month.
- In practice, a block booking would involve a negotiated rent that is not based on an hourly rate. An estimate of a block booking of £1,000 per month has been used, although Alva is only £360 per month, so this may be too high.
- In considering an expansion in to Menstrie, Alva Play Pals budgeted for rent at £400 a month.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> A Room Leader Early Years Practitioner at Dollar Nursery is currently advertised on indeed.co.uk, with a salary of £24,024-£27,456.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Based on the current advertisement for an Early Years Practitioner at Dollar Nursery, as advertised on indeed.co.uk, with a salary of £22,022-£25,168 – the mid-point of £23,595 has been used: <u>Childcare</u> <u>Practitioner Jobs in Clackmannanshire | Indeed.com</u>

Other:

- Snacks have been included at £2 per child per day in Model 2, and £3 in Model 1, though this is far in excess of the Alva figures.
- Insurance at an annual rate of £3,000 in Model 1 and £400 in Model 2.

### Sustainability

- When the fee is reduced to £13.50, this generates only around £1,000, rather than making a nearer £6,500 surplus with the fee at £16.
- It is felt that this surplus should be larger, as there are some cost savings to be made.

# 9. Sites

CERT have set out the following criteria for specific sites.

Essential:

- Access to the outdoors. (Outdoor-only is considered viable.)
- Inclusive disability access, including toilets.
- Availability during afterschool hours from 2:30pm to 6pm. This allows for set up time / walking the children to the site if necessary.
- Walkable from the school (if not within the school).
- Parking for pick-ups.
- Plenty of toilets on the same floor and not a long walk away doors within line of sight of main space is ideal.

Desirable:

- Somewhere to store snacks or food prep area.
- Private space without people walking through.
- Access for future holiday provision.

The following sites were considered against these criteria:

- Tillicoultry Primary School
- 2 Tillicoultry Parish Church
- 3 Tillicoultry Baptist Church
- Ochil Youth Community Improvement
- 6 The Ben Cleuch Centre
- 6 Devonvale Hall



#### **Tillicoultry Primary School**

Address and contact details	Louise Thomas, Head Teacher <u>CLlthomas@glow.sch.uk</u> Fir Park, Tillicoultry, FK13 6PL 01259 452228	
Other information	Home (google.com)	
Site / Building	Primary School and grounds	



Location relative to	Tillicoultry Primary School
Primary School	N/A
Overview:	Classroom which was formerly a computer suite
Size / toilets / accessibility / kitchen	7.5m x 10m 2 toilets, neither of which have disabled access On the second floor and not accessible by wheelchair – there is a lift, but students with disabilities would require a personal evacuation plan No kitchen access
Outdoor space	Indirect access to school grounds (image from Google maps); room is on the second floor so children would need to be accompanied outdoors
Parking	Some limited parking onsite



Storage space	Potentially, if the room was given over to after school care
Availability / charge	Available in theory, but the room could be used for a variety of other purposes within the school site, and committing it to after school care precludes this; if the school roll increases, it might need be returned to use as a classroom
Pros	Within the Primary School
Cons	<ul> <li>Likely to feel like a continuation of the school day for children attending in this venue</li> </ul>
Conclusion	Does not meet essential criteria

## Tillicoultry Parish Church

A defense of a second second second	
Address and contact	Alison Britchfield, Minister
details	abritchfield@churchofscotland.org.uk
	Dollar Road, Tillicoultry, FK13 6PD
	01259 750340
Other information	Welcome - Tillicoultry Parish Church
Site / Building	Small Hall, Large Hall and Community Garden
	Dollars
	Toma and the second
	Print and the same
	Manfrini Accordions
Location relative to	rpark Ski Centre
Primary School	Tullich Terrace
	ies Tillicoultry Primary School
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	Tillicoultry Cadet Hall
	ny Licks
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	Garage a
Overview:	Small Hall:





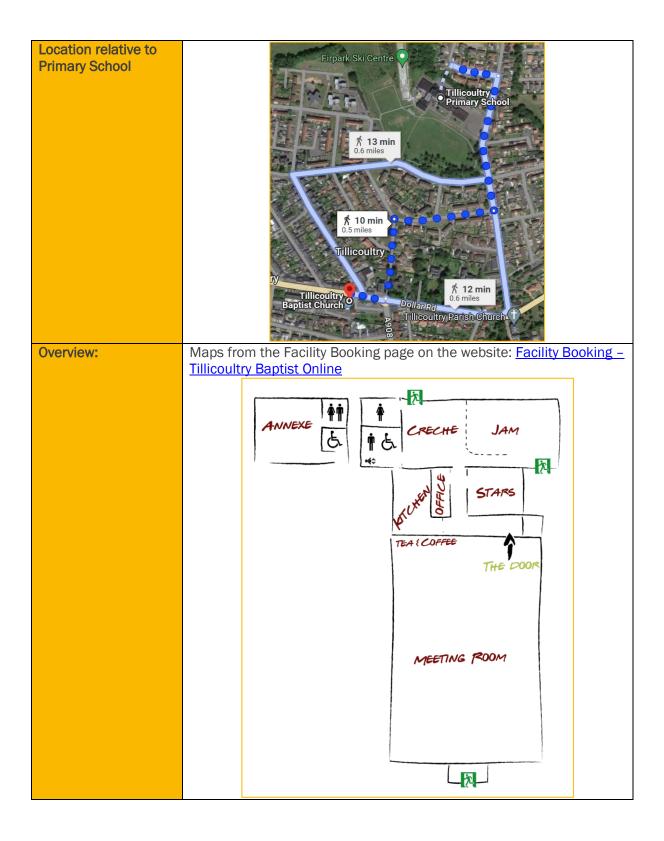




Conclusion	Suitable for both Care Inspectorate registered OSC and activity based
	after school clubs

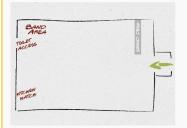
## **Tillicoultry Baptist Church**

Address and contact details       Dee Jess, Pastor revdee@tillicoultrybaptist.org 163 High Street, Tillicoultry, FK13 6DE 07442 115931         Other information       Tillicoultry Baptist Online         Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Future Church and Garden         Image: Site / Building       Church, Site / Building         Street. They own the former public toilet block in the adja which has been converted in to a room for community use taken ownership of the empty church building across the the car park at 152 High Street, with the building Street being used primarily as a community hub. They also garden space behind that second church building.         Murrayside, 163 High Street and Hillside, 152 High Street         Image: Street being used primarily as a co	
163 High Street, Tillicoultry, FK13 6DE         07442 115931         Other information         Tillicoultry Baptist Online         Site / Building         Church, Future Church and Garden         Fizza Gril         Fizza Gril         Fizza Gril         Fizza Gril         Other information         The Baptist Church and Garden         The Baptist Church currently operates from the building a         Street. They own the former public toilet block in the adjac         which has been converted in to a room for community use         taken ownership of the empty church building across the         the car park at 152 High Street, with the intention that thi         become the primary setting for worship, with the building         Street being used primarily as a community hub. They als         garden space behind that second church building.         Murrayside, 163 High Street and Hillside, 152 High Street	
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	cent carpark, . They have road from s will at 163 High o own the





## Main Hall



The main hall has space for about 80 people around tables or 120 chairs in rows.

It has a wooden floor.

#### Main Hall (empty):

# Back Hall

The back hall has space for about 30 people.

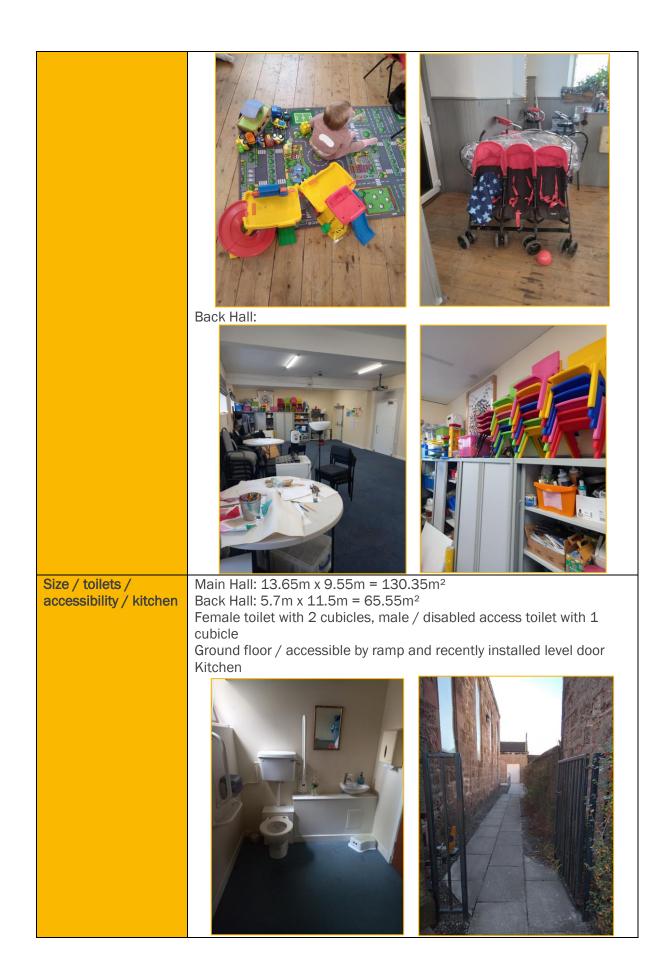
It has a carpeted floor.



Main Hall (set up for Tillywinks parent / carer and toddlers group):













	For groups that are of benefit to the community and will not make any profit, we suggest a donation of $\pm 10$ for the first hour and $\pm 5$ for subsequent hours or parts of hours.
Pros	<ul> <li>The Baptist Church already provides a number of community based activities, and is regularly set up for children's activities in both the Main Hall and Back Hall</li> <li>A warm and welcoming space</li> <li>Good existing working relationship with the Primary School</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul> <li>Some families may view a Church venue negatively</li> </ul>
Conclusion	Suitable for both Care Inspectorate registered OSC and activity based after school clubs

## Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI)

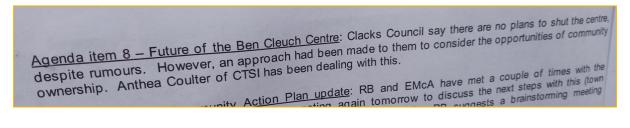
Address and contact details	Shona Ulrichsen, CEO <u>Shona@oyci.org.uk</u> 118a High Street, Tillicoultry, FK13 6DX 01259 661163
Other information Site / Building	Homepage   OYCI         High Street former shop premises, used as offices and meeting spaces (images from Google maps)         Image: Control of the strength of the strengt of the strength of the strengt of the strength
Location relative to Primary School	Firpark Ski Centre
Overview:	Main meeting room and open plan kitchen / diner room, both of which are accessed from an open plan reception area. A single toilet and an office also lead off from that reception area. OYCI groups use the whole space with free flow between rooms.



Size / toilets / accessibility / kitchen	The meeting room and kitchen have a combined maximum capacity of 15 children and young people 1 toilet Kitchen which is set up for use by children and young people as part of the activities provided
Outdoor space	None
Parking	Limited High Street parking
Storage space	None
Availability / charge	Only availability is on a Monday – that might change with future activities
Conclusion	Does not meet essential criteria

## **Ben Cleuch Centre**

Some of the people spoken to have suggested that the Ben Cleuch Centre is at risk of closure. On the Community Council noticeboard on the High Street, minutes of the Tillicoultry Community Council meeting for 8 August 2023 include the following:





Address and contact	customerservice@clacks.gov.uk
details	Park Street, Tillicoultry, FK13 6AG
uotuno	01259 452202
Other information	Ben Cleuch Centre (clacks.gov.uk)
Site / Building	Council run Community Access Point (CAP), library services and rooms for hire
Location relative to Primary School	Fitpark Ski Centre         Fitpark Ski Centre         Primary School         Primary School         Image: State Stat
Overview:	Form 1 – self-contained room with kitchenette; tables which are not
	easy to move, in a meeting room set up:





Outdoor space	Access from vestibule outside Room 2 / off Room 3:
	<image/>
Parking	Parking onsite
Storage space	No
Availability / charge	Tues and Thursdays have best room availability for timings. The centre closes at 5.00pm other days of the week. Tuesdays: Rooms 1, 2 and 3 generally available for 2.30-6.00pm. Thursdays: Rooms 2 and 3 available from 3/3.30-6.00pm and Room 1 available from 2.30-6.00pm. £15.50 / hour
Pros	<ul> <li>Neutral space, warm, well-lit and accessible</li> </ul>
Cons	<ul> <li>Distance from the Primary School might be too far to walk</li> <li>No storage space</li> <li>Long term future of the site potentially uncertain</li> </ul>
Conclusion	Suitable for activity based after school clubs

## **Devonvale Hall**

Devonvale Hall was not visited. The committee's responses to enquiries highlighted that the committee are all volunteers, and that the Hall isn't always open.

This might suggest that they are not amenable to the idea of hosting after school care, but this option has not been definitely ruled out. As there are other premises which meet the criteria, this option was not pursued at this stage.

Address and contact	devonvalehall@gmail.com
details	68 Moss Road, Tillicoultry, FK13 6NS



	07821268811
Other information	Devonvale Hall (clacks.gov.uk)
	Facebook
Site / Building	Hall in its own grounds
Location relative to Primary School	irpark Ski Centre
	Tillicoultry Annual Barrier Bevonvale Hall O River Dev
Overview:	Large hall, marketed as a wedding and event venue. The first image is from their Facebook page, the second was taken through the window when the Hall was closed.

Size / toilets /	<image/>
accessibility / kitchen	Length: 21 metres
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Width: 14.6 metres
	Area: 306.6 square metres Number of toilets / disabled toilets TBC; ground floor / accessible by
	ramp; kitchen
Outdoor space	The Hall is in its own garden grounds, but these do not have any formal play spaces as such
Parking	Some limited parking across the road from the site
Storage space	TBC
Availability / charge	Availability TBC Charges TBC
Pros	Meets at least some of the criteria



Cons	<ul> <li>The large hall space might be too big</li> <li>Markets itself as a wedding and events venue – might not be</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>able to guarantee access around other bookings</li><li>Lack of engagement possibly indicates they are unwilling to</li></ul>
	consider after school care
Conclusion	TBC

## Other suggested sites

In our conversations with stakeholders, other sites have been suggested:

- The Church of the Good Shepherd
- The Centenary Hall<sup>65</sup>
- Tillicoultry Cadet Hall Fir Park
- Tillicoultry Scout Hall<sup>66</sup>

## Summary

Criteria	Primary School	Parish Church	Baptist Church	Ben Cleuch Centre	OYCI	Devonvale Hall
Outdoor access	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Inclusive disability access, including toilets	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC
Availability during afterschool hours	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	TBC
Walkable from the school	N/A	Yes	Yes	Possibly	Yes	Yes
Parking for pick- ups	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Toilets on the same floor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC
Feasible?	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	TBC

There are two sites which meet all the essential criteria. The maximum number of children which could be accommodated under Care Inspectorate requirements is:

	Square metres (2.3m <sup>2</sup> per child)	Number of toilets
Baptist	Main Hall: 130.35m <sup>2</sup>	3; acceptable for up to 34 children
Church	56 children	
	Back Hall: 65.55m <sup>2</sup>	
	28 children	
Parish	Large Hall: 181m <sup>2</sup>	Large Hall: 4 toilets; acceptable for up to
Church	78 children	44 children
	Small Hall: 65m <sup>2</sup>	Small Hall: 1 toilet, acceptable for up to
	28 children	10 children

<sup>65</sup> <u>Tillicoultry Centenary Hall</u> A community hall suitable for events up to 80 people (wordpress.com)
 <sup>66</sup> <u>Clackmannanshire District Group Details (clacksscouts.org.uk)</u>



## Conclusion

- For Care Inspectorate registered Out of School Care, the preferred options for a venue are either Tillicoultry Parish Church or Tillicoultry Baptist Church
  - This is conditional on the Care Inspectorate considering that the garden area, en route from the school to the Baptist Church, is acceptable for their requirements. The Baptist Church is the more 'homely space' / feels less like a church hall. It is regularly set up for children's activities, from toddlers to older children. The kitchen area opens on to the main hall through a serving hatch, so food preparation and service would be relatively straightforward. The kitchen meets the requirements of the Baptist Church as a registered food business with the Food Standards Agency. There is capacity for up to 34 children.
  - Children attending the Primary School are already familiar with the walk to, and the hall at, the Parish Church. The Minister is the school chaplain. Due to the number of toilets required / staffing ratios, OSC would need to be in the Large Hall, which may feel too big / cold / like a church hall. The Large Hall has capacity for up to 44 children.
- The Ben Cleuch Centre is a potential venue for after school activity based provision, although it currently has limited availability. If ownership of the building changes in the future, e.g. under an Asset Transfer Request, the opening times and use of the rooms might become available for use, including for OSC. The distance from the primary school is a barrier, but it is accessible and has outdoor space which is already set up for play.

## **10. Summary of Findings**

## **Community Need**

- Though not an area of statistical relative deprivation, there is clearly hidden deprivation within the community, and families who are struggling.
- The general population trend is downwards, and there is a need to regenerate the area.
- 60% of the population of Tillicoultry live within the 10-20% most deprived areas in Scotland regarding employment. The job density in Tillicoultry is 27.8%, which is significantly lower than the averages of 47.1% in Clackmannanshire and 74.9% in Scotland. This reflects a lower job availability locally than in the rest of Scotland.
- There are children with additional support needs at the Primary School. This might be children with:
  - o physical impairments (e.g. wheelchair users)
  - o developmental needs (e.g. Down's Syndrome, learning difficulties / disabilities)
  - o emotional and behavioural needs (including socialisation skills)
- Currently 26% of the school roll (P1-P7) are on Staged Intervention. Two fifths of these children are on the highest level of Staged Intervention (Level 3 or 4).
- The Primary School has had to develop new and creative ways to meet these needs.
- Formal Out of School Care may not be suitable for children with additional support needs.
- Primary School aged children are potentially affected by the anti-social behaviour of their older siblings or other family members.
- The school roll includes children living in formal and informal Kinship Care placements.
- In this context, after school care potentially becomes a pastoral or even safeguarding provision.
- Some parts of Tillicoultry have poor quality of housing stock, particularly in areas immediately surrounding the Primary School.
- In CERTs own survey, 47% of parents would like to work longer, but can't, due to lack of childcare.

## Evidence of a Gap and Demand

- There are only two childminders in Tillicoultry who are registered with the Care Inspectorate. There is a need for more childminders in Tillicoultry.
- There is a need for after school provision for children with additional support needs. This could be activity based provision, which would not need Care Inspectorate registration. Programmes could be delivered by existing organisations, such as OYCI, independently, or working in partnership with e.g. the Baptist Church.
- The scope of this report does not include care before the school day. However, for many parents and carers, this is as important as after school care. There is a demand for an early start.



- The four nearest providers of OSC to Tillicoultry are not within walking distance, and transport is an issue. There is a clear need for provision in Tillicoultry itself.
- 44% of survey respondents said that there is no support for childcare available.
- 84% of survey respondents said lack of childcare prevented them learning or working. The main reason was either lack of access or cost.
- Over half said they would use after school provision.

## Partnership

- There is a strong shared ethos between the Primary School, Parish Church and Baptist Church, of serving the community, and good working relationships between the Head Teacher, Minister and Pastor respectively. Ochil Youths Community Improvement also has a good working relationship with the Primary School.
- There is a shared desire amongst all of these organisations to see a sustainable provision of after school care across all operating models.

## **Financial Viability and Funding**

- Respondents were asked if they would pay £13.50 for a session at an after school club (this is the national average). 71% of respondents said that they would and 29% said that they would not.
- Survey and stakeholder findings regarding affordability were varied. There is some risk that levels of demand will not convert into usage due to affordability.
- Though there is some funding available for children and family services, it is targeted at the most disadvantaged rather than for a universal services. These funds can be challenging to secure and are not a long term option.
- Predicting future provision can be difficult, making it a risky business model, which needs to depend on secure, steady demand.
- An operating model based on a fully commercial basis (i.e. not including any grant funding) is financially viable for Tillicoultry.

## Deliverability

- There is an existing Care Inspectorate registered provider of Out of School Care who is willing to consider expanding in to Tillicoultry (Alva Play Pals).
- For Tillicoultry, it is preferable to use the capacity and experience of an existing group, rather than setting up a new service which would be onerous in terms of compliance.

## Sites

• There are two sites which are feasible for Care Inspectorate registered Out of School Care: Tillicoultry Parish Church and Tillicoultry Baptist Church, with capacity for 44 and 34 children respectively.



## **11. Conclusion and Recommendations**

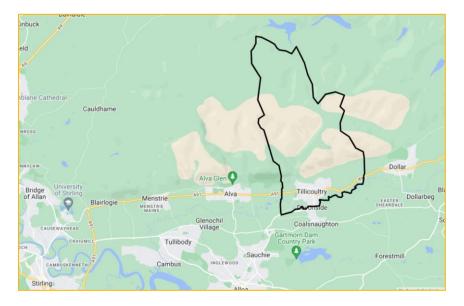
- 1. There is a clear demand for Out of School Care in Tillicoultry, including provision for after school and before school.
- 2. An operating model based on a fully commercial basis (i.e. not including any grant funding) is financially viable.
- 3. Additional places can be accommodated for families in poverty who cannot afford this fee if subsidy is secured.
- 4. Alva Play Pals should expand into Tillicoultry, using their existing:
  - a. fee of £16 per session
  - b. operating hours of 3.00-6.00pm (with the potential for pre-school and holiday provision)
- 5. There are two venues in Tillicoultry that meet the Care Inspectorate requirements for OSC and are willing to host OSC:
  - a. Tillicoultry Parish Church, with capacity for 44 children
  - b. Tillicoultry Baptist Church, with capacity for 34 children

# Appendices

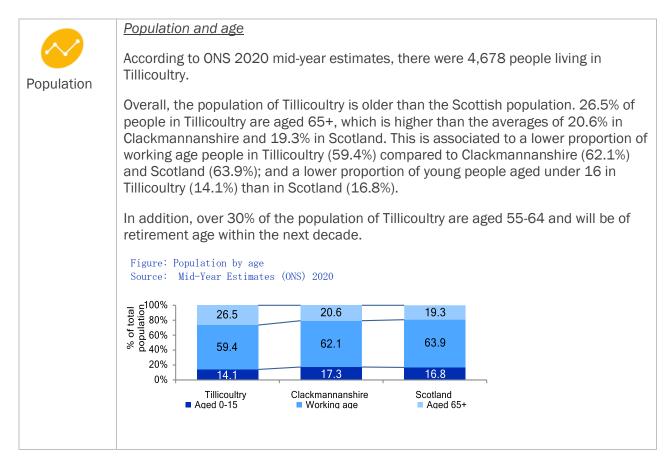


## Appendix 1: Demographics

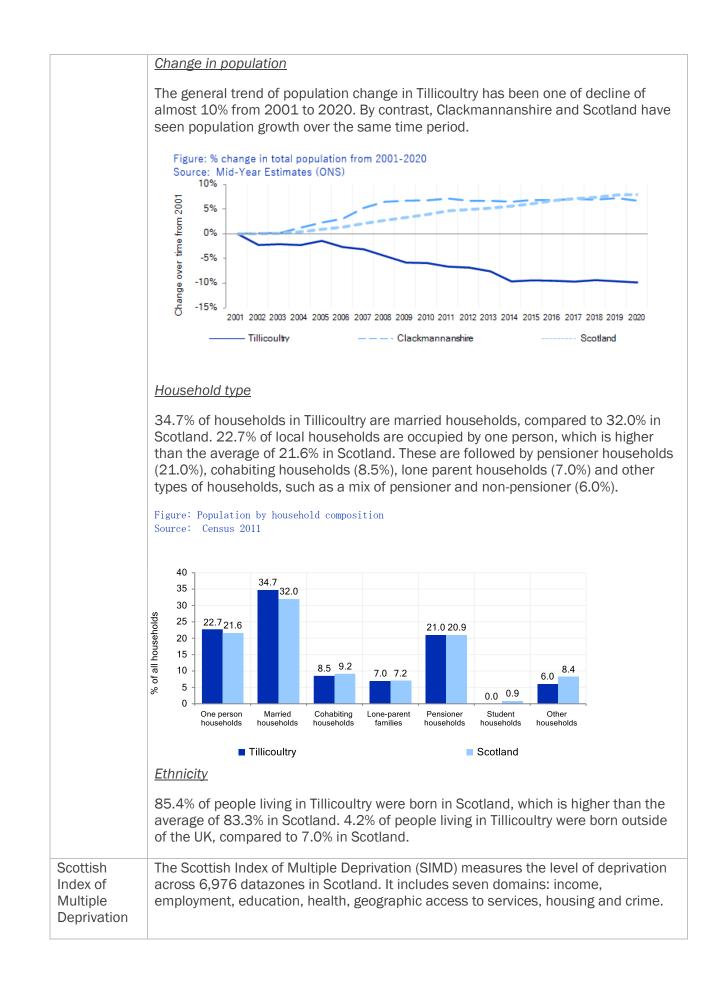
This demographics research covers Tillicoultry, specifically the school catchment area. The area covered is shown on the map below.



Unless otherwise noted, the data and graphics below have been obtained from Community Insight, a software package that collects data from over 30 databases including Census Scotland, Department of Work and Pensions, NHS and others. Community Enterprise does not own any of this data.



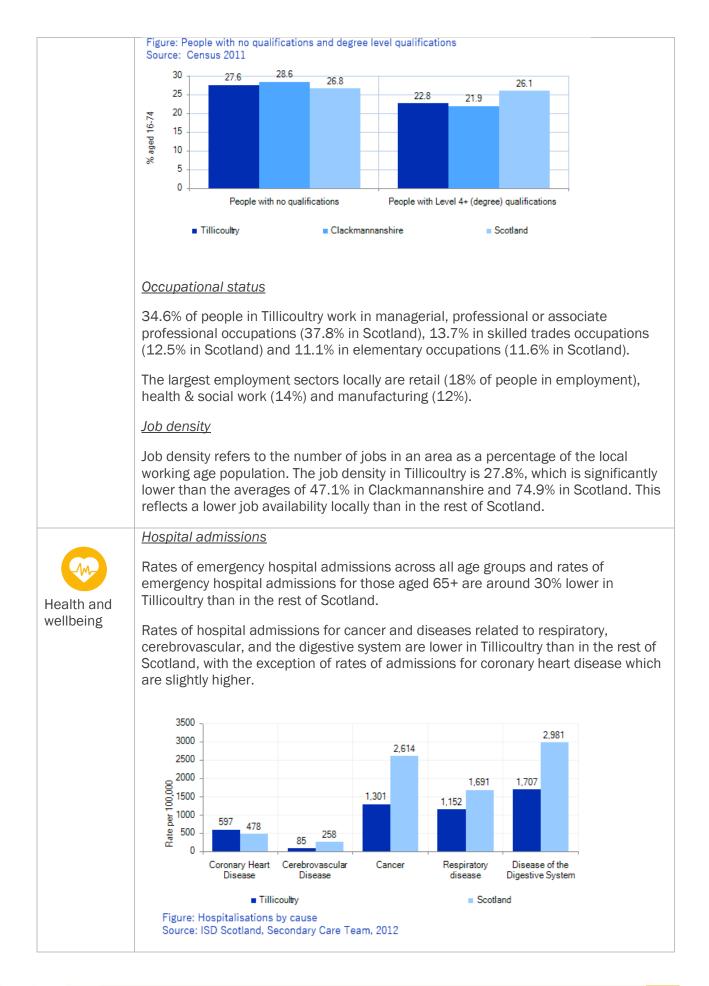






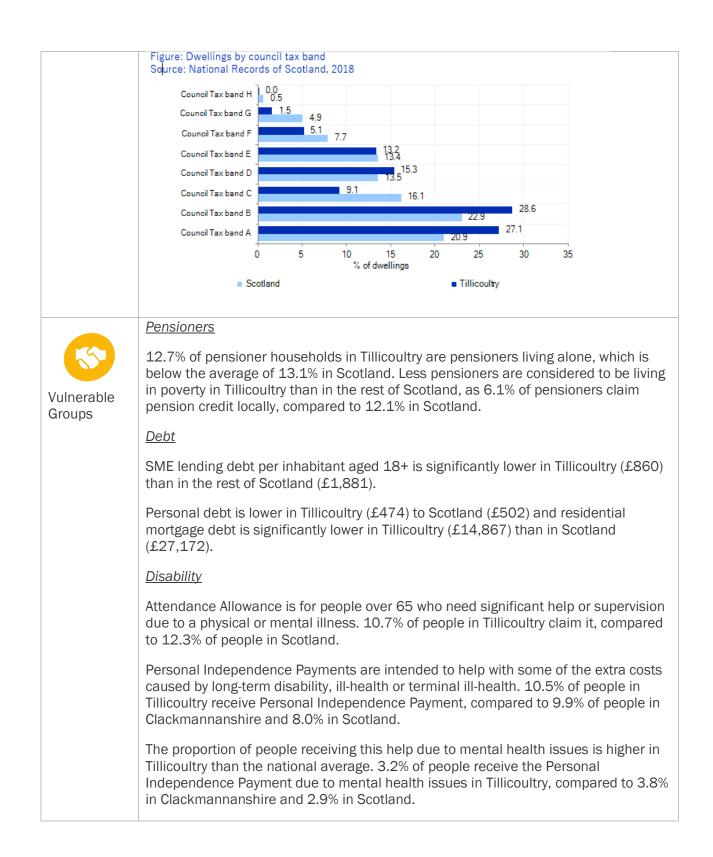
	Tillicoultry lies within the 10 to 20% least deprived areas in Scotland, as well as the 40 to 10% most deprived. There are high rates of deprivation in Tillicoultry in relation to employment and crime.											
	<ul> <li>60% of the population of Tillicoultry live within the 10-20% most deprived areas in Scotland regarding employment.</li> </ul>											
	<ul> <li>14% of the population of Tillicoultry live within the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland regarding housing, and 27% within the 40 to 50% most deprived areas.</li> </ul>											
	Economic activity											
	67.7% of people in Tillicoultry are economically active, which is above the Clackmannanshire average of 67.5%, but below the Scotland average (69.0%).											
Employment and qualifications	There is a higer proportion of people working full-time in Tillicoultry than in Clackmannanshire and the rest of Scotland. 41.5% of people in Tillicoultry work full- time, compared to 40.2% in Clackmannanshire and 39.6% across Scotland. By comparison, the number of people in part-time employment is lower (12.7% of people in Tillicoultry; 13.3% in Scotland) as well as those who are self-employed (5.7% in Tillicoultry; 7.5% in Scotland).											
	Figure: Economic activity Source: Census 2011											
	80       67.7 67.5 69.0         70       67.7 67.5 69.0         60       41.5 40.2 39.6         30       32.3 32.5 31.0         10       12.7 13.0 13.3         5.7       6.0											
	Economically Economically Full-time Part-time Self-employed active inactive employees employees people											
	Tillicoultry     Clackmannanshie     Scotland											
	Qualifications											
	22.8% of people living in Tillicoultry have a qualification equivalent to a degree (level 4+), which is above the average of 21.9% in Clackmannanshire and below the average of 26.1% in Scotland. In addition, 27.6% of people in Tillicoultry have no qualifications, which is below the average of 28.6% in Clackmannanshire and above the average of 26.8% in Scotland.											



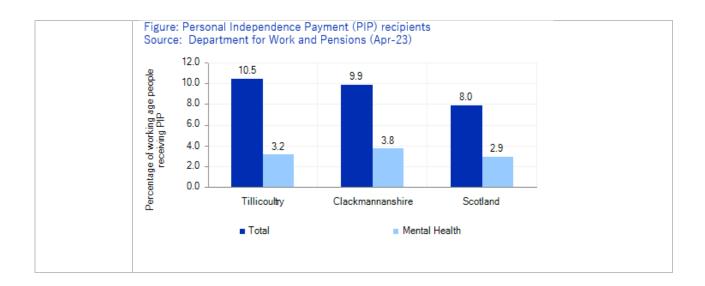




	Limiting long-term illness
	19.0% of people in Tillicoultry have a limiting long-term illness, which is below the average of 19.6% in Scotland. The rate of limiting long-term illness for those aged 16-64 is also lower in Tillicoultry (14.8.1%) than in the rest of Scotland (15.0%).
	Satisfaction with the area
	According to the Community Life Survey from 2015/2016, inhabitants of Tillicoultry are significantly happier with their local social relationships, their feeling of belonging and the local area as a place to live, than the population of Clackmannanshire and than the rest of Scotland.
	<u>Car access</u>
Transport	46.1% of households in Tillicoultry have at least one car, which is above the average of 42.2% of households in Scotland. In addition, 30.7% of households in Tillicoultry have multiple cars, compared to 27.2% of households in Scotland.
and connectivity	Connectivity
connectivity	0.0% of premises in Tillicoultry have a broadband speed below the Universal Service Obligation, which is below the average of 3.7% in Scotland.
	Dwelling type
Housing	The majority of dwellings in Tillicoultry are flats, maisonettes and apartments (32.9%) and terraced housing (23.0%), followed by detached housing (21.6%) and semi-detached housing (20.5%). 15.2% of dwellings have 2 rooms or fewer in Tillicoultry, compared to 12.8% in Scotland.
	64.7% of dwellings in Tillicoultry are owner occupied and 27.2% are socially rented household through housing associations or social landlords. In addition, 6.2% are rented privately, and 1.9% are rented through other processes.
	Condition and energy efficiency
	1.0% of dwellings in Tillicoultry lack central heating, compared to 2.3% across Scotland. 6.4% of dwellings in Tillicoultry are considered overcrowded, compared to 9.0% in Scotland.
	The average energy efficiency rating of domestic buildings in Tillicoultry (66.38 SAP points) is below the average in Clackmannanshire (67.7) and above the average in Scotland (64.9). Tillicoultry also has a lower energy efficiency gap compared to regional and national values. The energy efficiency gap is the difference between the current energy efficiency of domestic buildings and their potential energy efficiency if work were to be conducted. The energy efficiency gap in Tillicoultry is 15.1 SAP points, which is significantly above the energy efficiency gaps in Clackmannanshire (16.4) and Scotland (16.8).
	Property value
	Council tax bands can be used as a measure for property value and levels of affordable housing with Band A representing the lowest property value.
	Property values are lower on average in Tillicoultry than in the rest of Scotland. 55.7% of dwellings in Tillicoultry are in Council tax band A and B (the most affordable), compared to 43.8% in Scotland.
1	1









## **Appendix 2: Survey Analysis**

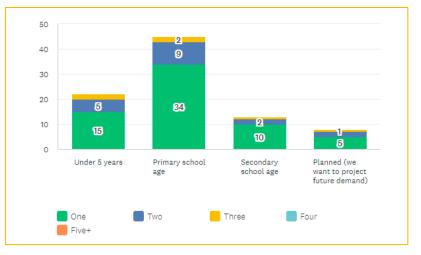
An online survey was available from 23 November to 10 December 2023. The survey was promoted through local partners and networks, including Tillicoultry Primary School / Team Tilly Family, (the Parent Council), Clackmannanshire Council's Family Wellbeing Partnership, the Parish Church (Church of Scotland), the Baptist Church, Alva Play Pals and Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI).

There were 48 responses. Some questions allowed for further comments, and some of those comments have been included throughout the body of the report, rather than in this section.



## Family size and number of children

Respondents were asked how many children they have, and what age their children are.



Most respondents have children of primary school age. 34 people have 1 child in primary school, 9 have 2 children in primary school and 2 have 3 children in primary school.

22 respondents have children under 5 years; 15 of which have 1 child under 5, 5 have 2 children under 5 and 2 have 3 children under 5. Fewer respondents (13) have children of secondary school age as do those who are planning to have children (8).

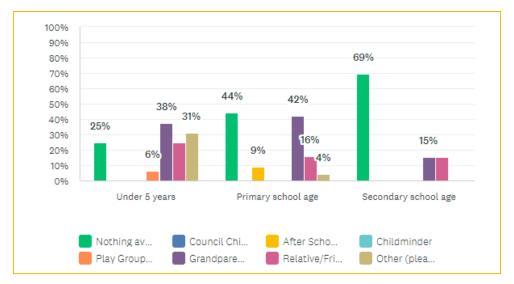
## **Existing childcare**

Respondents were asked about existing support with childcare for: their children under 5 years, of primary school age or of secondary school age. The options provided were:

- Nothing available
- Council childcare facility
- After school club



- Childminder
- Play group/toddler group
- Grandparents
- Relative/Friend
- Other (Please specify below)



16 respondents have children under 5 years, and most receive support with childcare from grandparents (38%). Other forms of support selected were play group/toddler group (6%), support from a relative or friend (25%) and other support (31%). Of the comments regarding other support received, Kidz World and private nurseries were mentioned. 25% of respondents with children under 5 years said that there is no support for childcare.

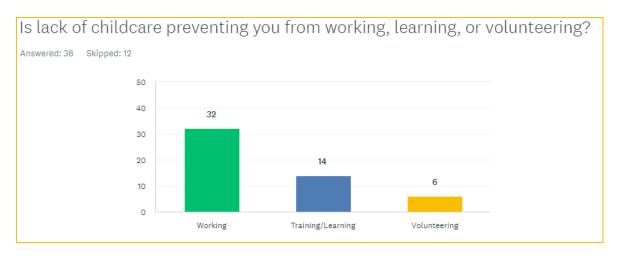
45 respondents have children of primary school age, and 44% said that there is no support for childcare available. Support from grandparents was the next most popular response (42%). Other forms of support with childcare selected were afterschool club (9%), support from a relative or friend (16%), and other support (4%). Of the comments regarding other support received, school breakfast club was mentioned.

13 respondents have children of secondary school age, and most respondents said that there is no support for childcare available (69%). Other forms of support selected were from grandparents (4%) or a relative or friend (4%).

## Lack of childcare as a barrier to working, learning or volunteering

Respondents were asked whether a lack of childcare provision was preventing them from either working, learning, or volunteering. 36 people answered this question and 12 skipped it. More than one option could be selected in this question.

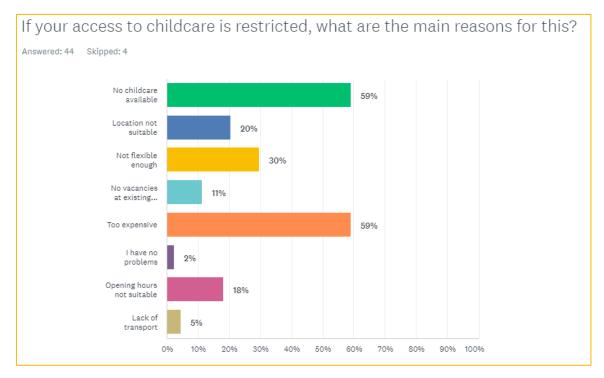




Of the 36 people who answered this question, most respondents face barriers to work due to a lack of childcare provision: 32 people selected this option. This was followed by training/learning which 14 people said that a lack of childcare prevents them from accessing, and 6 people selected volunteering.

## What restricts access to childcare?

Respondents with restricted access to childcare were asked about the main reasons for this. 44 people answered this question and 4 skipped it.

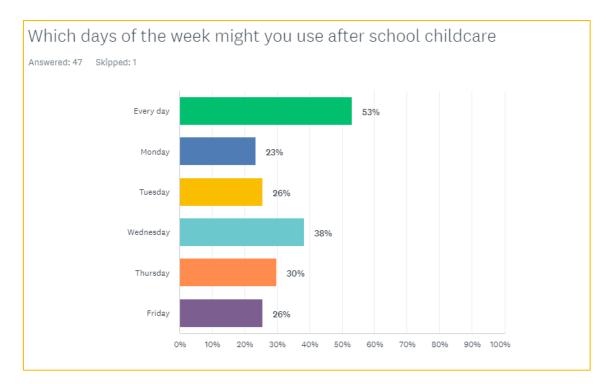


The main reasons for restricted access to childcare were the lack of childcare available, and the cost of childcare, as 59% of respondents selected both. Other reasons that restrict peoples' access to childcare were lack of flexibility (30%), unsuitable location (20%), unsuitable opening hours (18%) and no vacancies at existing facilities (11%). Only 2% of respondents said that they have no problems with accessing childcare.

## Use of after school care

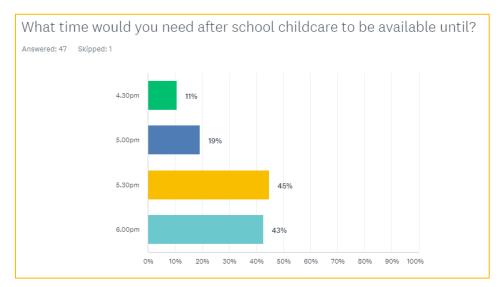
Respondents were asked about when they might use after school childcare. 47 people answered.



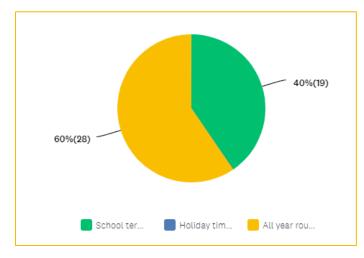


Over half of respondents (53%) said that they might use after school childcare every day. Wednesday was the second most popular option (38%), followed by Thursday (30%), Tuesday and Friday (both 26%) and Monday (23%).

Respondents were asked about when they need after school childcare to be available until.



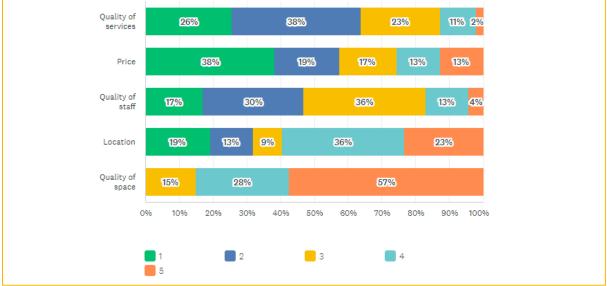
The most popular option was 5.30pm (45%). This was closely followed by 6.00pm (43%), then 5.00pm (19%) and finally, 4.30pm (11%).



Respondents were asked about when they would need after school childcare during the year. Of the options provided, most would need after school childcare all year round (60%). 40% said they would only need after school childcare during school term time, and no respondents selected afterschool childcare during the holidays.

Respondents were asked about what is important to them in choosing childcare.

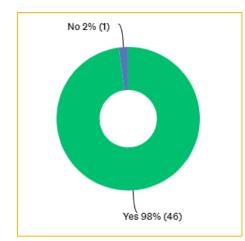




- On average, the most highly ranked option is the quality of services. 26% of respondents rank this as the most important option, in addition to 38% ranking it as the second most important element. Only 2% of respondents selected as the least important element.
- The second most highly ranked option is price. 38% say it is the most important thing for them when choosing childcare, in addition to 19% of respondents saying it is the second most important element.
- This is followed by quality of staff. It is selected as top option by 17% of respondents, and as second most important by 30% of respondents.
- Perceptions of the importance of location vary across respondents, achieving an overall score of 3. 19% of respondents say that it is the most important factor for them, followed by 13% ranking it as the second most important factor. 23% of respondents on the other hand give it a ranking of 5, indicating less importance.

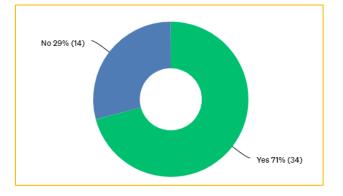


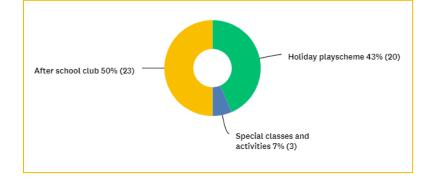
• Finally, the quality of space ranks as the least important factor when respondents are choosing childcare. 57% of respondents give quality of space a rating of 5, indicating the least importance, followed by 28% giving a rating of 4.



When asked if they would pay the average price of a session at an after-school club  $(\pounds 13.50)$ , 71% of respondents said that they would and 29% said that they would not. The comments left after this question are included at section 4.3 of the report.

Respondents were asked whether childcare in Tillicoultry will help meet their needs. The majority said that it would (98%) and only 2% that said it would not help.



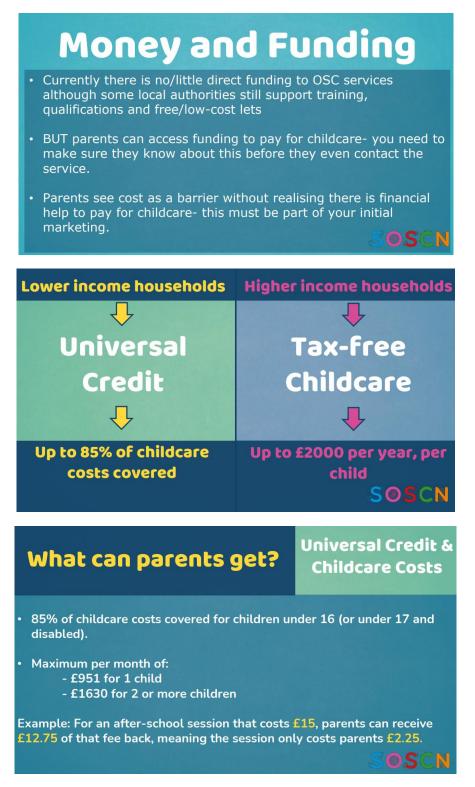


Respondents were asked if they would be interested in any additional childcare options like an after-school club, a holiday playscheme or special classes and activities. 50% of respondents selected after school club, 43% selected holiday playscheme and 7% selected special classes and activities.



## Appendix 3: Funding for Parents / Carers

Excerpts from a presentation given by Patrick Morrison, Practice and Training Officer at the Scottish Out of School Care Network<sup>67</sup>, at a Local Networking Event in November 2023<sup>68</sup>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> soscn home

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Slides shared by Claire Russell of Alva Play Pals. Permission to use them here given by Finlay Wright, Information Officer, SOSCN, by email, 18.12.23.



# Who is eligible?

Universal Credit & Childcare Costs

Those who are:

- Out of work or on a low income
- Aged 18 or over (there are exceptions if you're 16 or 17)
- Be under state pension age (67), or have a partner who lives with you who is under this age
- Have less that £16000 in savings

Live in the UK

## SOSCN

Tax-free

Childcare

## What can parents get?

- The scheme pays 20% of childcare costs. Example: an after-shool sessions costs £15, parent would pay £12, government would pay £3.
- Tax-free childcare is an additionality (of up to £2,000 per year, per child) for parents to pay for registered childcare
- Parents and government both pay into a tax-free childcare account which then pays the service
- Any money left over in the account when childcare is no longer needed is returned to parent and government

## Who is eligible?



#### Those:

- Whose child(ren) is 11 or under and usually live with the parent. They stop being eligible on 1 September after their 11th birthday.
- Adopted children are eligible, but foster children are not.
- Parents must be earning at least the national minimum wage or living wage for at least 16 hours a week for at least 3 months.
- Parents can earn up to £100,00 per year.

## **Appendix 4: Financial Model**

Fillicoultry OSC	Financial model	Assumptions													
Model 1															
		NB exact dates change	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Totals
	Days Open Per Month	Term time	10	19	20	0	10	20	10	20	15	20	15	20	)
	Days open per Month	Holiday provision	10	1	0	20	10	0	10	0		0	5	0	)
	Hours open including prep and admin														
	time		130	103	100	160	130	100	130	100	75	100	115	100	)
	Cost of term time session (3 hours)		£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	£13.50	1
	Cost of holiday provision		£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	1
	Total possible children	See demand analysis	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	)
	Proportion for term time	40%	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	)
	Proportion for holiday provision	30%	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
	Total income term time		£2,700	£5,130	£5,400	£0	£2,700	£5,400	£2,700	£5,400	£4,050	£5,400	£4,050	£5,400	48,3
	Total income holiday		£4,500	£450	£0	£9,000	£4,500	£0	£4,500	£0	£0	£0	£2,250	£0	
Total income			£7,200	£5,580	£5,400	£9,000	£7,200	£5,400	£7,200	£5,400	£4,050	£5,400	£6,300	£5,400	73,5
	5 hours per day for term time and 8 ho	purs for holiday to allow time for set up and clean up													
	Rent for term time per day		£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	;
	Rent for holiday		£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	
Overhead Expenses															
•	Advertising		£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	) (
	Rent		£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	£1.000	12.
	Phone and internet	Estimate	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	) (
	Insurance	Public liability, employers, cyber security etc. Will need a bespoke quote.	£3,000												3.
	Stationery, postage & Printing		£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	
	Staff costs: Core	Link to staffing costs sheet	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	£2,231	26,
	Staff holiday and sickness cover	10.00%	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	2,0
	Staff expenses and training		£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	)
	Volunteer expenses and training		£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	
	Professional and accountancy fees													£2,000	2.0
	Snacks and materials per child	£3	£1,050	£1,185	£1,200	£900	£1,050	£1,200	£1,050	£1,200	£900	£1,200	£1,125	£1,200	
	Security alarm and other contracts		£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	
	Cleaning materials		£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	
	Misc		£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	
	Core costs	Element of Peripatetic manager and costs	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	
	Total Overheads		£8,559	£5,694	£5,709	£5,409	£5,559	£5,709	£5,559	£5,709	£5,409	£5,709	£5,634	£7,709	
Operating Profit	TOTAL PROFIT/LOSS		-£1.359	-£114	-£309	£3.591	£1.641	-£309	£1.641	-£309	-£1.359	-£309	£666	-£2.309	1,1



Tillicoultry OSC	Financial model	Assumptions													
Model 2															
		NB exact dates change	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Totals
	Days Open Per Month	Term time	10	19	20	0	10	20	10	20	15	20	15	20	
	Days open per Month	Holiday provision	10	1	0	20	10	0	10	0		0	5	0	
	Hours open including prep and admin														
	time		130	103	100	160	130	100	130	100	75	100	115	100	
	Cost of term time session (3 hours)		£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	£16.00	
	Cost of holiday provision		£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	£30.00	
	Total possible children	See demand analysis	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	
	Proportion for term time	40%	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	
	Proportion for holiday provision	30%	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	
	Total income term time		£3,200	£6,080	£6,400	£0	£3,200	£6,400	£3,200	£6,400	£4,800	£6,400	£4,800	£6,400	57,
	Total income holiday		£4,500	£450	£0	£9,000	£4,500	£0	£4,500	£0	£0	£0	£2,250	£0	25,
Total income			£7,700	£6,530	£6,400	£9,000	£7,700	£6,400	£7,700	£6,400	£4,800	£6,400	£7,050	£6,400	82,
	5 hours per day for term time and 8 he Rent for term time per day	ours for holiday to allow time for set up and clean up But block booking arranged	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	£75	
			£15 £120	£15 £120	£120	£15 £120	£120	£120	£75 £120	£120	£75 £120	£75 £120	£15 £120	£15 £120	
Overhead Expenses	Rent for holiday	But block booking arranged	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	£120	1
Overnead Expenses		00% stran in standard	£1.540	£1.306	£1.280	£1.800	£1.540	£1.280	£1.540	£1.280	£960	£1.280	£1,410	£1,280	16
	Contingency Advertising	20% drop in demand	£1,540 £50	£1,306 £50	£1,280 £50	£1,800 £50	£1,540 £50	£1,280 £50	£1,540 £50	£1,280 £50	£960 £50	£1,280 £50	£1,410 £50	£1,280 £50	
	Rent	Alva is £4,300 per annum. This is estimated for now.	£50 £1.000	£50 £1.000	£50 £1,000	£50 £1,000	£50 £1,000	£30 £1,000	£50 £1.000	£50 £1.000	£50 £1.000	£50 £1.000	£50 £1,000	£50 £1,000	12
					£1,000 £50	£1,000 £50				£1,000 £50		£1,000 £50			
	Phone and internet	Estimate Public liability, employers, cyber security etc. Will need	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	
	Insurance	a bespoke quote. Figure taken from Alva with slight increase.	£400												
	Stationery, postage & printing		£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	
	Staff costs: Core	Link to staffing costs sheet	£2.231	£2.231	£2.231	£2,231	£2.231	£2,231	£2.231	£2.231	£2.231	£2.231	£2,231	£2.231	26
	Staff holiday and sickness cover	10.00%	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	£223	2
	Staff expenses and training		£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	
	Volunteer expenses and training		£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	£50	
	Professional and accountancy fees													£2,000	2
	Snacks and materials per child	£2	£700	£790	£800	£600	£700	£800	£700	£800	£600	£800	£750	£800	
	Security alarm and other contracts		£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	£25	
	Cleaning materials		£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	£10	
	Misc		£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	£100	1
	Core costs	Element of Peripatetic manager and costs	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	£500	
	Total Overheads		£1,335	£6,605	£6,589	£6,909	£6,749	£6,589	£6,749	£6,589	£6,069	£6,589	£6,669	£8,589	76
Operating Profit	TOTAL PROFIT/LOSS		£6,365	-£75	-£189	£2,091	£951	-£189	£951	-£189	-£1,269	-£189	£381	-£2,189	6,4

