

# Don't wait to give better childcare <sup>[1]</sup>

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EXCERPTS

The SNP has vowed that, after any UK split, it will aim to provide 1,140 hours of free care a year for all children, from the age of one until they start school.

But pro-Union campaigners argue that Holyrood ministers already have the power to enhance provision now.

The YouGov survey, which canvassed 1,073 Scots, shows 64 per cent - with almost half of SNP supporters - want the First Minister to act immediately.

Scottish Labour leader Johann Lamont said: "This poll should act as a clear warning to Alex Salmond that people are fed up with independence be put ahead of their interests.

"The Scottish Government already has the power to help parents who are struggling to juggle family life with work. Alex Salmond could act today to provide better childcare but would rather use it as a false argument for breaking up the UK.

"When the SNP launched the independence white paper last month, they claimed childcare was their priority. They could prove this by getting on with the job now."

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- reprinted from the Scottish Express

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