## New Minister for Childcare

The First Minister has announced her intention to appoint Maree Todd as Minister for Childcare and Early Years.

Subject to approval by the Parliament and Her Majesty the Queen, Ms Todd will begin to undertake some Ministerial duties immediately.

The First Minister said: "Improving the life chances of children and young people is at the heart of this Government's agenda, so this is a crucial post.

"We want to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up and are taking forward a range of actions to achieve this.

"The importance of early years development simply cannot be overstated, which is why my government is putting so much emphasis on doing all we can to ensure youngsters across Scotland can reach their full potential."