

EARLY YEARS FUNDING 2023-2024 – FUNDING CONSULTATION OUTCOMES

Purpose of the Report

1. To agree the actions to be implemented following consultation with early years providers in relation to funding rates for 2023-2024

Information and Advice

2. Following agreement at Schools and Early Years Forum on 10th November 2022, a consultation was opened for a two-week period ending on Monday 29th November to seek the views of Early years providers on Early Years funding rates in the financial year 2023 – 2024.
3. Nottinghamshire's base rate has not yet been announced by Central Government. The results of the National Consultation on the funding formula have not yet been announced. The consultation therefore asked about the principles of the funding and not the actual monetary amounts.
4. There were 152 responses to the Consultation.
5. An overview of the responses is available at Appendix 1 – Consultation Proposals ECS 2023-2024 Responses.

Rationale for proposals

6. Based on the responses to the consultation, it is proposed that the following would apply from April 2023.
 - a) Nottinghamshire will continue to allocate an additional 5p per hour per 3 and 4 year old child in receipt of funding to be reviewed annually and with the understanding that this may be withdrawn in subsequent years.
 - b) Nottinghamshire will continue to retain up to and not more than 5% for central expenditure to be reviewed annually.
 - c) Nottinghamshire will ringfence the equivalent amounts for TPPG in line with government advice and pay as a funding supplement to School based provision
 - d) Nottinghamshire will continue to maintain a 100% pass through rate of 2 year old funding to all providers

- e) Nottinghamshire will continue to pay £406 per annum for Children on a Child protection plan through the Deprivation fund but withdraw the yearly amount for Children previously on a Plan. This allows for a new payment of £50 per term will be paid for Children with emerging needs identified. An additional 5p uplift in EYPP for these children will remain.
- f) Nottinghamshire County Council will extend the criteria for Inclusion Funding to children under the age of 2, and non-funded two year olds by realigning existing budgets.
- g) Nottinghamshire will extend the use of DAF to include practice development and training to be reviewed annually.

Early Years Consultation Questions and responses

The proposed consultation questions are available at Appendix A: Consultation Proposals ECS 2023-2024 Responses

Early years Consultation timetable

- Early December – circulation of consultation responses and proposed 2023-24 local funding formula.
- 8th December Schools Forum meeting – recommendation of EY local funding formula.
- Mid December 2023-24 final EY Block funding allocation announced by ESFA
- Mid January – political ratification of EY local funding formula
- 23rd February 2022 – update to the Schools Forum on final 2023-24 local funding formula for Schools and Early Years
- 31st March 2022 – deadline for notification of 2022-23 funding allocation to EY providers

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Schools Forum:

- 1) Consider and agree the implementation of the spending proposals outlined in 6 above from April 2023.

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