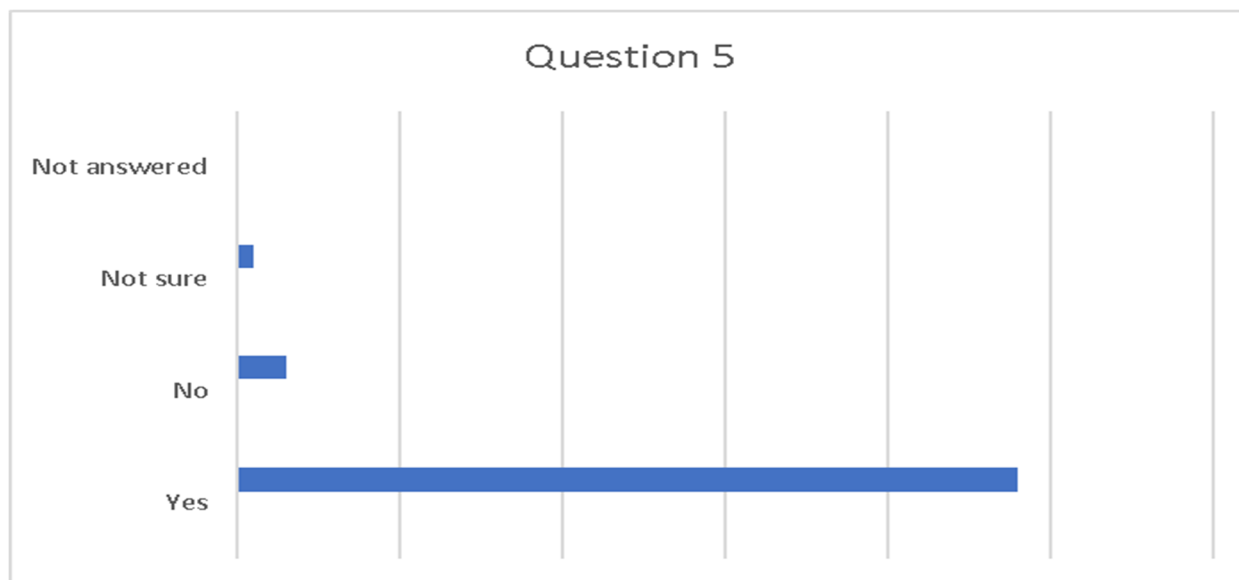


LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA FOR EARLY YEARS – SUMMARY REPORT

EARLY YEARS CONSULTATION

Question 5: Do you agree with an increase in the hourly rate for funded 3 & 4 year old children from £4.17 to £4.35 (£0.08 + £0.10 per hour) given that this may be reduced in coming years?



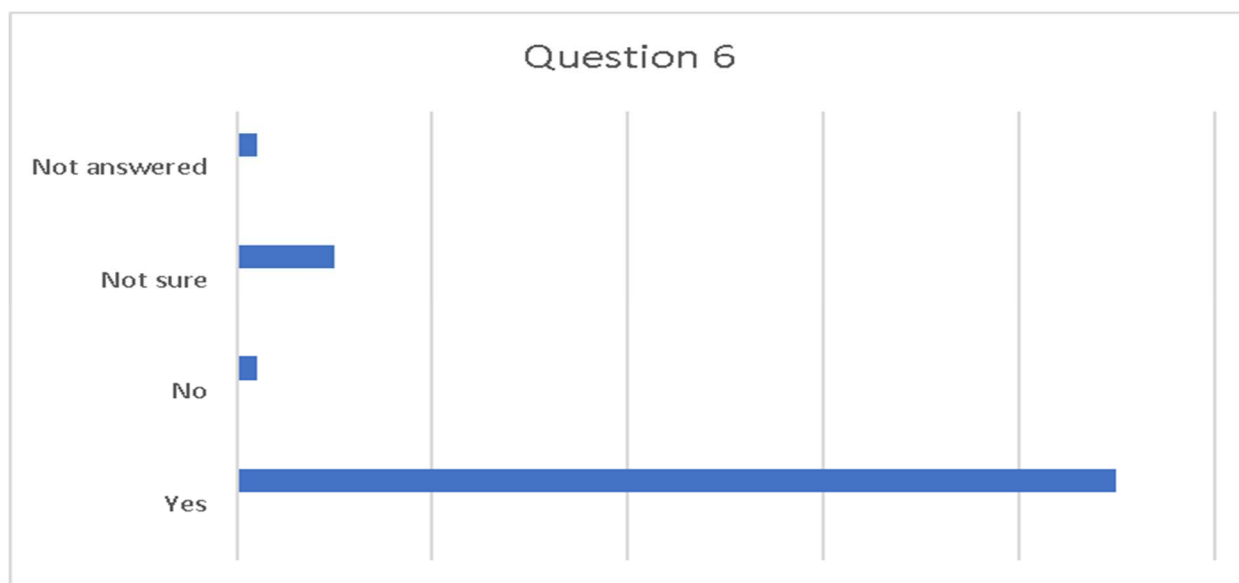
| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 48 | 92.31% |
| No | 3 | 5.77% |
| Not sure | 1 | 1.92% |
| Not answered | 0 | 0.00% |

Comments:

- As the Government are considering an increase in free funded place in the future, this will not cover the cost of staffing etc. Our support has been in decline since the introduction of the 30 hours along with funding for SEND children
- Although it is an increase I sincerely hope it is not reduced in future as it stands we are trading water financially at the moment.
- Your increase is fine at this moment in time, but I would not be happy if you reduced this payment due to the every increasing running cost of my childcare service.
- I do not see how this can be reduced in the coming years with the huge funding shortfall in the early years with settings closing at an alarmingly fast rate. The 'attainment gap' will never close if we continue to strangle early years provision.
- every little helps.

- This rise is needed in early years to provide the spaces needed
- Consistent overhead increase means we need to ensure rises continue
- Agree with an increase, still do not think it's high enough and do not agree if it is going to be reduced.
Once increased we will set our fees around this and work out how to get the short fall with increasing our meal costs and our wrap around sessions and non funded fee paying parents increase fees. So to then decrease in future will not help sustainability.
- This is a very welcome support to day nurseries struggling to meet the expectations of high quality care on the current hourly rate.
- it is greatly appreciated that the Early years sector is at last getting some recognition of the pressures
- I feel the rate should be around £7 plus in accordance to the daily running of day nurseries like meals, bills, daily childcare, activities, stationary, staffing cost has well has apprenticeships, pensions and national minimum wage rates and all other costs that make nurseries run properly and professionally
- The sector is on its knees and needs a higher funding increase to cover their overheads. Nurseries in deprived areas where they are needed the most are closing, because they cannot continue to juggle the ever increasing overheads, such as wages, pensions, rates and rent. PVI settings have to get a balance between private payers and funded children to bridge the gap. Surely this should not be the case. We are penalising the working parents by increasing our fees to cover the shortfall.
- However - this would give me about £12 a day extra, in effect making very little difference!
- But if that gets reduced then budget planning becomes dangerously precarious and may create a situation where we would have to reduce hours offered .

Question 6: Do you agree with the proposal to extend the existing criteria for the Deprivation Fund to include all 3 and 4 year old Looked After Children (LAC) as well as those identified as a Child in Need (CiN) and those on a Child Protection Plan (CPP)?



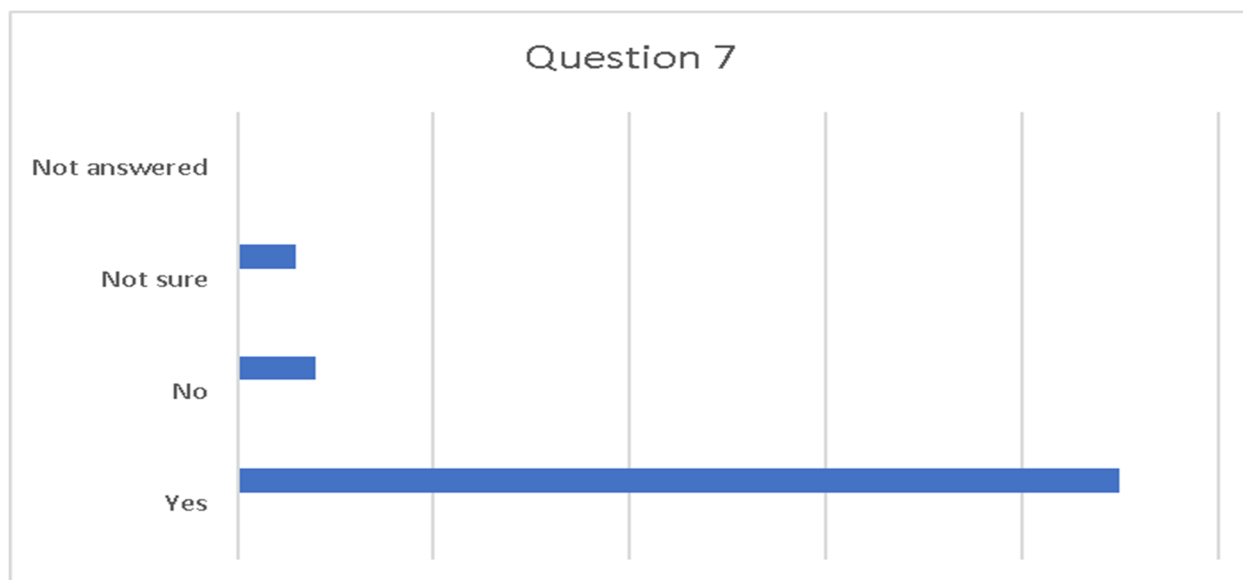
| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 45 | 86.54% |
| No | 1 | 1.92% |
| Not sure | 5 | 9.62% |
| Not answered | 1 | 1.92% |

Comments:

- These children require additional care attention and time and this should be recognised with the amount of funding that you get per child. If not then this provision is at a cost to the setting.
- To ensure vulnerable children are supposed
- This will help settings that have children that meet this criteria but money from underspend???? Why this could not be given to the 3/4yr old children funding amount in first place.
We are a small setting with lots of our 3/4yr olds claiming funding not meeting this criteria so we are struggling to get the difference in delivery cost and cost given by funding. So would rather a higher funded rate.
- I believe this should include two year funded children. I have a setting where we always have at least 4 of these children and sending out staff and time to write reports is a financial strain.
- But...if we only look at LAC, CiN and CPP then we are looking at putting sticking plasters in place. We need to be able to 'fund'/support children before they get to that point - if at that age they are already subject to a plan of any kind then they have already been failed. If

funding can support when early signs are noted then, maybe, support can be put in earlier and save money later.

Question 7: Do you agree with the proposal to extend the criteria of the Deprivation Fund to 3 & 4 year olds eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium at an hourly rate of £0.10 per hour?

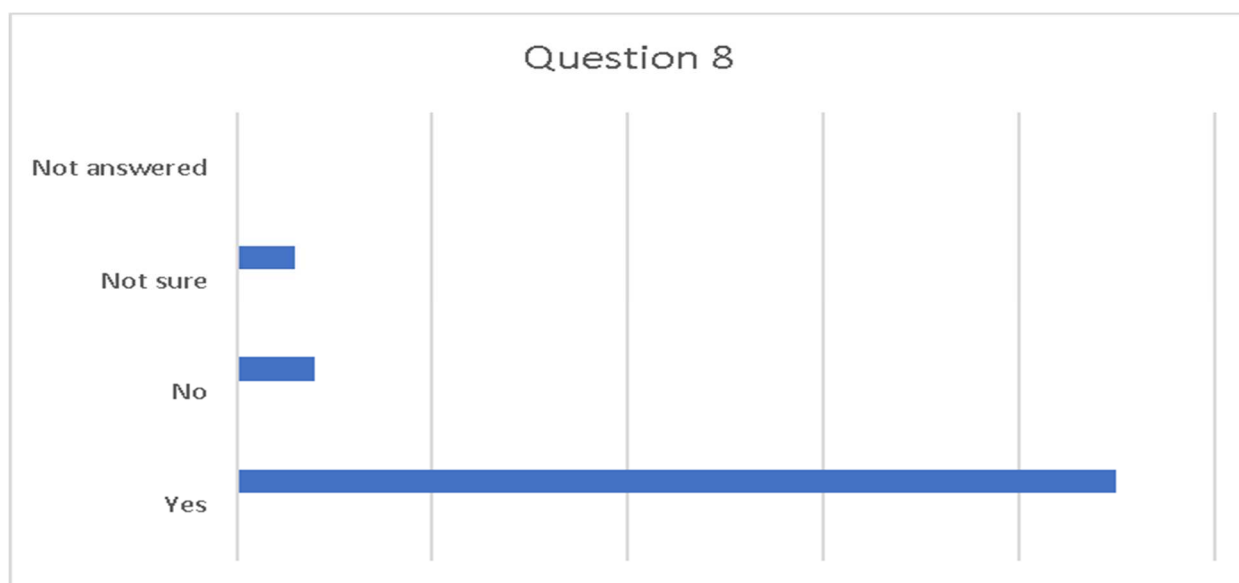


| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 45 | 86.54% |
| No | 4 | 7.69% |
| Not sure | 3 | 5.77% |
| Not answered | 0 | 0.00% |

Comments:

- Too small of a rate
- This amount of money does not cover any costs that are needed to ensure that children from a deprived background get the additional support that they need. Settings are paying the extra (were possible) to ensure the wellbeing of their staff, as this generation of children’s needs can be more complex meaning lower ratios.

Question 8 : Do you agree to increase the hourly rate for all eligible 2 year olds from £5.23 to £5.31 to reflect the increased funding to be received by NCC?

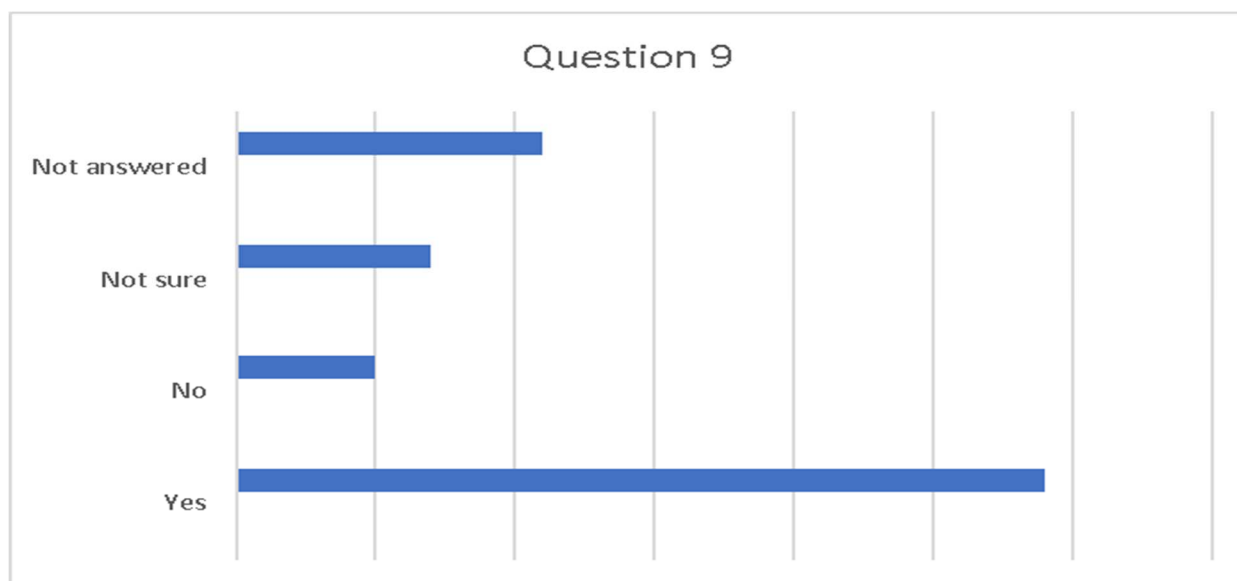


| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 45 | 86.54% |
| No | 4 | 7.69% |
| Not sure | 3 | 5.77% |
| Not answered | 0 | 0.00% |

Comments:

- This does not cover the staff ratio and the considerable amount of extra work needed to care for these 2 year olds. Staffing has not been considered and lack of up take, the funding should be increased to all 3/4 year olds and 2 year funding scrapped.
- May have an effect on cost / sessions for parents.
- The existing rate isn't realistic and doesn't cover session prices
- To ensure vulnerable children are supposed
- Again from my previous comments above still not enough but any increase is welcome!
- Feel the rate should be around £7
- I believe that this money should be passed on to working families. There are lots of 2 year olds that do not access any day care meaning that this money is lost. I agree that in certain areas this is not the case but day nurseries are predominantly seeing a decrease in the 2year olds accessing settings.

Question 9: Do you agree with the proposal to extend the existing criteria for the Deprivation Fund to include 2 year olds who are LAC/CIN/ CPP? This would be funded from the forecast 3 & 4 year olds underspend.

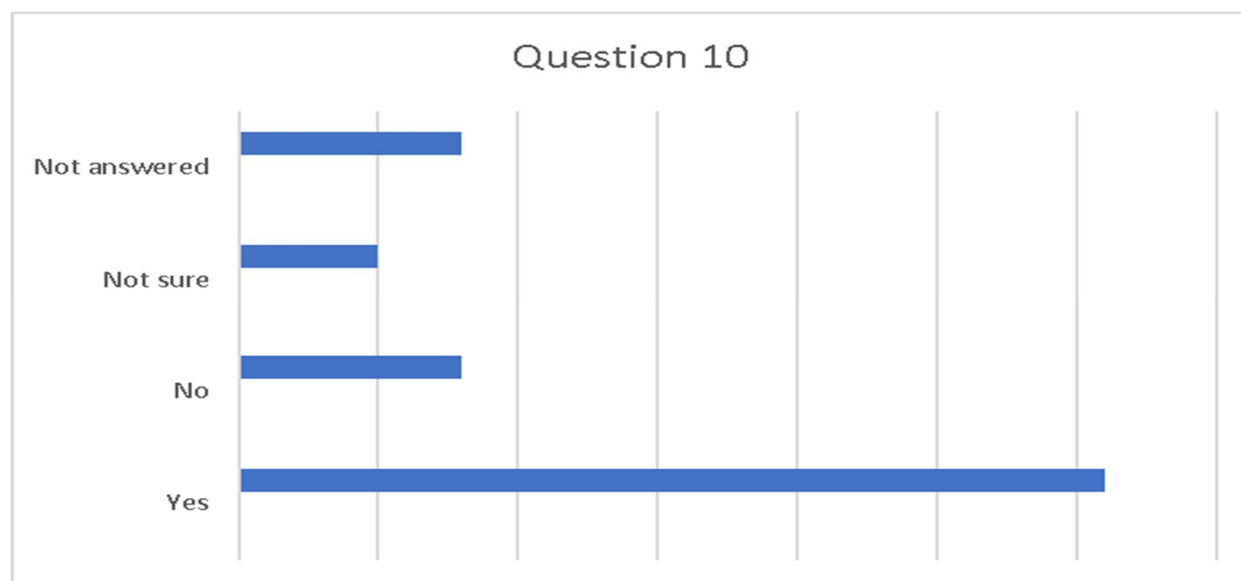


| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 29 | 55.77% |
| No | 5 | 9.62% |
| Not sure | 7 | 13.46% |
| Not answered | 11 | 21.15% |

Comments:

- both are good reasons to support the 2 yr olds.
- This will help settings that have children that meet this criteria but money from underspend???? Why this could not be given to the 3/4yr old children funding amount in first place.
We are a small setting with lots of our 3/4yr olds claiming funding not meeting this criteria so we are struggling to get the difference in delivery cost and cost given by funding. So would rather a higher funded rate for these children rather than using their underspend else where.
- These children need more support so I think this is a good idea

Question 10: Do you agree to increase the hourly rate for 2 year olds who are eligible for Free School Meals by a further £0.05? This would be funded from the forecast 3 & 4 year olds underspend.



| Options | Total | Percent% |
|--------------|-------|----------|
| Yes | 31 | 59.62% |
| No | 8 | 15.38% |
| Not sure | 5 | 9.62% |
| Not answered | 8 | 15.38% |

Comments:

- Feel this rate is too low
- There should be no underspend as this sector needs every penny. Surely this money could be used in other areas of the early years

Additional comments:

- Just wanting to ensure the clear access schools have to special needs funding for children who are 2. This has not been mentioned in this consultation and I may just be behind the times as to whether this gap has been closed.
- Here at Walesby, we are having to constantly fund raise in order to keep our heads above water. This takes up the free time of our staff and relies heavily on the surrounding community to support us. The responsibility we hold as practitioners is massive and yet we can only afford to have all assistants on minimum wage. Any increase is of course welcome, but is not enough. Having worked for the last thirty two years in early years, I have seen great changes to the demands on staff both physically and emotionally to be able to react to situations regarding our children and families. We are experiencing more children with extra needs, be it social, emotional or educational. This all puts pressure on our hard working staff and their only reward is minimum wage. Perhaps it is time for local and national government to step into our shoes for a few weeks so that they are able to understand and appreciate how all early years practitioners live and breathe their work.
- I am grateful for the increase in funding, but feel that it's not enough to support settings, especially with minimum wage and pension contribution increases.

- Times are hard for us all, but I still need to earn a living wage. You make it very hard for us to increase our rates when you may want us to work for less. Yours rules are we cannot ask parents to pay the difference if your rate are not the same as ours.
- As stated in the supporting paper the funding provided for each child does not cover the outgoings now so any increase for these children who are in the bracket of deprivation would be welcomed.
- with luck the next government will truly reflect the shortfall in funding - thank you for including our thoughts.
- Due to the implementation of the 30 hours term time only and rising staffing costs it is essential that increases reflect this to ensure providers remain in business
- I also think you need to consider the way this is paid to providers.
I am having to close a setting due to a number of reasons but one being funding and the way it is paid. More frequent payments may be good if you are a childminder but the small percentages do not work when you have bills and staff to pay.
- The low rates of funding are crippling good childcare meaning children entitled to access early years education are missing out. The rate needs to be increased to ensure the service for these children can continue on a best quality level. Via recruitment of qualified staff and education resources
- The PVI sector is concerned about what will happen in the future. We constantly access training mainly in our own time and still we can only afford to pay minimum wage. Lots of qualified practitioners are choosing to work in local supermarkets, as they get paid a higher rate for less responsibility. The sector relies on people that are passionate about care and education, but their families financial needs have to come first. I appreciate that this is a sign of the times but just having access to a 5 year plan for early years may be of help .
I feel that the government do not value the hard work and dedication that is being provided by early years workers
- After several years of underfunding the prospect of a potential reduction in funding worries me .