



Department
for Education

Call for evidence: review of the cost of providing childcare

Launch date 15 June 2015

Respond by 10 August 2015

Contents

Introduction	3
Enquiries	3
How to respond	4
Deadline	4
Background	5
Scope of the call for evidence	6

Introduction

The government is undertaking a review of the costs of providing childcare in England. This call for evidence is part of that review and will inform its findings.

To Nurseries, Primary Schools, Children Centres, Maintained nursery schools, Independent nursery schools, Childminders, Private/voluntary providers of day care, Childcare or early years organisations, Parents and carers, local authorities and representative bodies.

Issued 15 June 2015

Enquiries

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the call for evidence you can contact the team by emailing: Costofchildcare.REVIEW@education.gsi.gov.uk

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the DfE Ministerial and Public Communications Division by email: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the [DfE Contact us page](#).

How to respond

Respond online

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible. Visit www.education.gov.uk/consultations to submit your response.

By email

If you would like to submit your response by email or if you would like to attach a document in response to the call for evidence, please email a copy to:

- Costofchildcare.REVIEW@education.gsi.gov.uk

Other ways to respond

If you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may download a word document version of the form and email it or post it.

By post

Department for Education
Early Years Funding Team
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London
SW1P 3BT

Deadline

The call for evidence closes on 10 August.

Background

1.1 The Government has committed to give working parents of three- and four-year-olds 30 hours of free childcare a week. This will help hard-working families by reducing the cost of childcare and making it easier for parents who want to work, or work more hours, knowing that their children are well cared for. It will help the government deliver our aim to help working families to manage their finances.

1.2 To help deliver this extension, we have committed to increase the average rate paid to providers to the entitlement. It is essential that the rate we pay is fair for providers, value for money to the taxpayer, and consistent with the Government's fiscal plans.

1.3 That is why the government will carry out a review of the cost of providing childcare and why it has committed to increasing the average childcare funding rates paid to providers.

1.4 This call for evidence is part of a process of gathering the necessary evidence which will inform the review. The evidence will improve our understanding of what factors contribute to the cost of providing childcare for early years providers.

1.5 The findings from the call for evidence inform the review which will report in the autumn.

Scope of the call for evidence

2.1 The Department for Education welcomes any information you wish to provide to inform the review. In the next few months the department will undertake a review of the existing evidence on the cost of childcare in England. The evidence you provide will form part of this exercise. We particularly welcome any information you may be able to provide on the following:

- Existing studies and research about the cost of childcare, for example assessments carried out by local authorities on the cost of childcare locally.
- Evidence from early years providers about the factors that make up the cost of providing childcare, and how much of the total cost they represent.

2.2 The department may contact you in future as part of the review, either to discuss the evidence you have provided or to gather your views. Please indicate if you are not content for us to do this.



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