

## Early Years Reference Group (EYRG)

### Early Years Reference Group (EYRG) Notes of meeting 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010

<p><b>Attendance:</b>          John Edwards (JE) Chair          Alison Hitchins (AH)          Andy McHale (AMcH)          Trish Mallinson (TM)          Nicky Burford (NB)          Sue Peasgood (SP)          Charlotte Anson (CA)          Naomi Christelow (NC)          Val Weddell-Hall (VW-H)          Matt Whiteley (MW)          Catherine Shearwood (CS)          Chris Hurley (CH)          Rose Large (RL)          Sharon Bryan (SBr)          Sid Barkas (SBa)          Gill Barkas (GB)</p>	<p><b>Apologies:</b>          Alison Newman (AN)          Lyn Breakwell (LB)          Pat Croom (PC)</p>	
<p>JE introduced himself to the Group as the newly appointed Head of Service for Learning and Achievement. Group members then introduced themselves.</p>		
Detail	Notes	Action
<p>1. Notes of previous meeting 22/2/10</p>	<p>NB was in attendance – otherwise agreed</p>	
<p>2. Matters arising</p>	<p>None</p>	
<p>3. Current Update</p>	<p>AMcH re introduced the paper, which confirmed the current position and the requirement from Government to introduce a new EYSFF from April 2011.</p> <p>The continuing role of the EYRG was noted in the areas listed.</p> <p>It was confirmed that a number of LA's had acquired path finder status and introduced the EYSFF from April 2010. A range of formulae were in place including some with a single provider rate.</p> <p>There was concern that the DfE had not issued any further guidance on best practice.</p>	
<p>4. Further Model Development – School Run Non Maintained Provision.</p>	<p>AMcH introduced the item which detailed a proposed new model.</p> <p>It has been developed to take account of non maintained provision on school sites managed by schools and not</p>	

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	<p>through a private or voluntary provider. The entitlement model has followed previous practice and is based upon the PVI staffing ratio of 1:8.</p> <p>The EYRG noted the model and were advised on the requirement to consult all providers as it was a change to the existing approved model and essentially a new formula model.</p> <p>On other consultation matters the EYRG were advised of a minor charge being proposed to the model for Childminders. Proposals are also being developed for consideration of charging by the maintained sector for empty places to children who have already received their full 15 hour entitlement.</p> <p>The EYRG felt there was a need to consider 'parent contracts'</p>	<p>AH/AMcH</p> <p>AH/NB</p> <p>NB</p>
5. Draft changes to the School Finance (England) Regulations 2011	<p>AMcH introduced the item which confirmed the DfE's intention to change the existing regulations for the introduction of the EYSFF.</p> <p>The EYRG noted the issues, which had been circulated previously.</p>	EYRG
6. Consideration of Key Issues –		
- Budget allocations and Funding Streams	The EYRG were advised these would depend upon the final hourly rates derived from the funding streams available. These had yet to be confirmed as they formed part of the Government's current funding review, which encompasses the DSG and EY grant allocations.	AMcH/TM
- In Year adjustments for Providers	There will be a requirement to issue annual budget allocations and termly adjustments for all early years providers.	TM
- Participation Count Arrangements and Payments to Providers	<p>These were being developed and would require all providers to detail information on actual termly attendance.</p> <p>NB tabled a draft termly payment schedule for PVI providers. This would move from the current system of 2 payments per term.</p>	NB
- Deprivation	This has been developed on the same lines as the	

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<p>Supplement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding of Low Incidence High Cost SEN</li> <li>- Other Issues</li> </ul>	<p>mainstream formula based on ACRON data for children defined from the 'hard pressed' category. The EYRG were advised this remained as a mandatory element of the EYSFF.</p> <p>AH confirmed that work was continuing and was being developed as part of Children's Services Inclusion Policy. It would be introduced medium/longer term and need to look at all such provision including nursery + and the SEN matrix. It was stressed there was a need for clarity or vision.</p> <p>AH confirmed that the Rose Report on the requirements for full time places was not proceeding.</p> <p>NB confirmed work was being developed on definitions for provider designation for the EYSFF.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>AH/NB</p>
<p>7. Any other Business</p>	<p>CH raised issues on whether the ECAS would have implications for funding for settings. AH advised this was for internal publication and was an audit on participation issues.</p> <p>CH confirmed he would be retiring from his role at his local PVI setting and so would be standing down as the PVI representation on the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) and from the EYRG. AH thanked CH for all his hard work and support on all the issues. It was agreed to draft a letter to PVI providers requesting a nomination.</p>	
<p>8. Date of Next meeting</p>	<p>17<sup>th</sup> January 2011 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm start</p>	