



Letter to: All Fair Funding Consultees

Our Ref: SFC June 2009

10th June 2009

Dear Colleague,

FORMAL CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSALS FOR A NEW SINGLE FUNDING FORMULA (SFF) IN WORCESTERSHIRE FOR EARLY YEARS FROM APRIL 2010

Please find attached a copy of the consultation paper required as part of the statutory consultation process for the introduction of a new SFF for all Early Years providers from April 2010.

The introduction of this is a statutory requirement determined by the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) as part of their change agenda within the multi year budget period 2008-2011.

The proposals have been prepared and considered by the Worcestershire Early Years Reference Group (EYRG) a group required by the DCSF. The group has representation from the Maintained and the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sectors and its role is to lead on this key national policy change requirement.

This group has been commissioned by the Worcestershire Schools Forum (WSF) to develop this work and details of the discussions and papers can be found on the WSF web site under the heading 'WSF Sub Groups': -

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/home/wcc-edu-wsf>

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Consultees are requested to consider the attached document and **respond to the short questionnaire by Friday 17th July 2009**. This timescale will enable implementation as required by April 2010.

Please make responses by sending the completed questionnaire in Part D to Andy McHale Service Development Manager Resources at the address in this letter by the due date. Electronic returns can also be made by accessing the document under the above web site for return to amchale@worcestershire.gov.uk

The LA recognises the complexity and wide ranging changes that will be brought about by this key national policy change. To support the consultation process 3

Area Meetings have been arranged for consultees to attend to request clarification of the proposals. The details of these are: -

| Area | Date | Location | Time |
|-------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| North East | Monday 6 th July 2009 | Town Hall Redditch | 7.00pm to 8.30pm |
| South | Tuesday 7 th July 2009 | County Hall Worcester | 7.00pm to 8.30pm |
| North West | Thursday 9 th July 2009 | Civic Centre Stourport | 7.00pm to 8.30pm |

Please feel free to attend one of any of the above meetings.

The meetings have been set near the end of the process to enable consultees time to consider the proposals within their settings prior to return of the short questionnaire.

At the meetings officers from the LA and members of the EYRG will be available to take questions and discuss issues as required. The meetings will start at 7.00pm and light refreshments will be available from 6.30pm prior to the meeting.

In order to make the necessary arrangements I would be grateful if you could complete and return the attached slip as detailed. The slip also provides an opportunity for you to detail in advance any questions you feel need discussion.

Thank you for your support and I would be grateful if you could complete the attached Part D of the consultation document and I look forward to seeing you at one of the Area Meetings if you are able to attend.

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Taylor-Smith
Head of Community Partnership
Directorate of Children's Services
Worcestershire County Council

AREA MEETINGS ATTENDANCE – REPLY SLIP

I will/will not* be attending the consultation meeting to discuss the proposals for a new single funding formula (SFF) in Worcestershire for Early Years from April 2010.

* Please delete as appropriate

I will attend one of the following (please indicate one date): -

- Monday 6th July 2009 at the Town Hall, Redditch at 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- Tuesday 7th July 2009 at County Hall, Worcester at 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- Thursday 9th July 2009 at the Civic Centre, Stourport at 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Name: - _____

Position Held: - _____

School/PVI/Other: - _____

Please indicate any questions you feel need discussion at the meetings: -

Please return this form to: -
Claire Bond
Early Years and Childcare Service
PO Box 73
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