

Item 11

Early Years entitlement expansion and wraparound childcare pathfinder scheme

Contact for further information:
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Brief Summary

Since the Early Years Block Working Group, the LA has received further information regarding the funding of additional early years provision.

Recommendation

The Forum is asked to:

- a) **Note the report**

Detail

The Government announced in the 2023 Spring Budget that additional funding would be provided to increase the hourly funding rates for early years providers to deliver the existing early years entitlements for disadvantaged 2-year-olds and 3 and 4-year-olds from September 2023. Overall, this equates to £204 million of additional funding across all local authorities in 2023 to 2024, rising to £288 million in 2024 to 2025.

For 2023 to 2024, the additional £204 million will be allocated to local authorities through a standalone top-up grant, rather than the normal route through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This is to help reduce complexity in passing on the additional funding to providers mid-year. This will be known as the Early Years Supplementary Grant (EYSG).

Further information around the EYSG methodology and hourly funding rates will be provided to the local authority shortly and will be reported to the Schools Forum in the Autumn Term.

The DfE provided a Stakeholder Information Pack in May 2023 which summarises the main aims of the additional Early Years Entitlement Expansion. This can be found in Appendix A.

