

REGULATORY AND OTHER COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE:	Schools' Forum
DATE OF MEETING:	27 January 2010
SUBJECT:	Early Years funding arrangements
REPORT BY:	Tony Warnock Head of Finance (Children's Services)
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IS THE REPORT EXEMPT?	No
IS REPORT CONFIDENTIAL?	No

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the DCSF' proposals for implementing the new funding arrangements for Early Years providers. Reports have previously been presented to the Schools Forum on 22 April and 7 October 2009.

DISCUSSION

The last report to Schools Forum outlined the Local Authority's (LA) plans to introduce a new system of funding for all early years providers that was fairer, more consistent, transparent, objective, stable and simple.

However, on the 10th December 2009, Dawn Primarolo, Minister for Children, Young People and Families, took the decision to postpone implementation of the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) by one year. The decision was taken due to many providers, parents and LAs having concerns about the potential disruption to the early years sector that an under-developed formula could cause. The Minister therefore decided that LAs will not be required to implement their EYSFF until April 2011.

Lincolnshire was one of the LAs that would have been ready to implement the single funding formula. However postponing implementation will allow Lincolnshire more time to resolve a number of relatively minor issues and anomalies within the current provision. Some of these may have an impact in 2010/11 and the few providers affected will be contacted directly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Schools' Forum is asked to note the content of this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS			
The following reports were relied upon in the writing of this report.			
PAPER TYPE	TITLE	DATE	ACCESSIBILITY
Report to Schools Forum	Early Years funding arrangements from 2010/11	22 April 2009	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YQ
Report to Schools Forum	Early Years funding arrangements from 2010/11	7 October 2009	County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, LN1 1YQ