

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

10 July 2024

Early Years Entitlements and Wraparound Childcare Provision

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To inform the Committee about the delivery of the national childcare reforms outlined in the Chancellor's Spring Budget 2023 which were designed to support early education and help parents with childcare so they can return to work more easily.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:
 - 1) To make any comments or recommendations on the information provided.
 - 2) To consider future scrutiny of the issue.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The announcement of the national, large-scale, childcare reforms in the Chancellor's Spring Budget 2023 are designed to support early education and help parents with childcare so they can return to work more easily. The development of these transformative reforms are a national requirement and an extension to the LA's statutory duties, they are not optional.
- 3.2 The key deliverables of these reforms are to:
 - 1) Working parents of 2 year olds being able to access 15 hours childcare from April 2024.
 - 2) Working parents of children aged 9 – 23 months being able to access 15 hours childcare from September 2024.
 - 3) Working parents of children aged 9 months to primary school age being able to access 30 hours childcare from September 2025.
 - 4) All primary school aged children being able to access before and after school provision, from 8am to 6pm, during term time, from September 2026.

3.3 The attached report further highlights the progress made to date, the associated financial information, and a summary of issues.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Report provided by the Director of Education.

4.2 Letter from the Department for Education.

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 None

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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