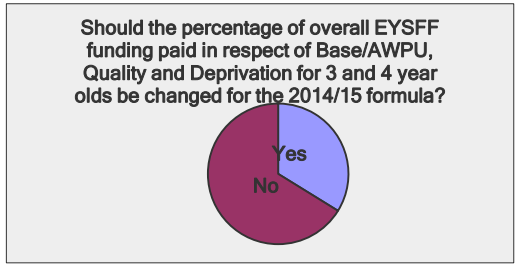
Appendix A - Feedback on Consultation for Early Years Single Funding Formula for 2014-15

Q1. Should the percentage of overall EYSFF funding paid in respect of Base/AWPU, Quality and Deprivation for 3 and 4 year olds be changed for the 2014/15 formula?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	33.8%	24
No	66.2%	47
	100.0%	**71**



Comments:

Change formula to be in line with London averages ie increase AWPU to 96% and decrease quality to 2%. Leave deprivation at 2%

A consultation sent to schools during a school closure and effectively giving just four days to respond (6-9th Jan 20140 cannot be considered a reasonable consultation.

After reading the commentary I surmise that Waltham Forest that EYSFF is in line or above the average across London

we would like a change in the way the percentages are weighted

I struggle to understand the funding as it is and to have it changed again would make future planning difficult. at least let us get use the current changes before any more are made.

The funding for 3 and 4 year olds has, for a number of years been variable, and there still seem to be some inconsistencies between childcare providers. At present the current levels are, in my opinion about right and they should be left as they are whilst settings can get a better knowledge of their income and hopefully be able to budget and plan for the future. We have still not had the way the funding is calculated, what the different percentages are and how they are worked out fully explained to us in easy to understand language and not jargon.

AWPU 88%Quality 10%Deprivation 2%

Funding should be made easier to understand and apply. It is not possible at the moment for setting to reconcile their payments against their submitted headcount. A fixed hourly rate for all 3/4 year olds (as per 2 year old)would correct this issue.

Deprivation 88%Quality 2%Deprivation 10%

It would be nice to have some consistency in funding for more than a couple of years. We are just getting our heads around the current system and setting budgets etc accordingly, changing the system again will cause confusion again.

Current levels of funding seem to be fair at present However there are still issues on how the funding for each setting is calculated and broken down. Without this information it has been difficult for settings to budget and plan for the future. This information would help settings to calculate more accurately the amount of funding they should have and will receive.

20%

AWPU 88%Quality 3%Deprivation 9%

reduce quality and increase deprivation

Funding for 3 and 4 year olds has been very changeable for a number of years. It took a lot of time and work to get to where we are now with the EYSFF, although there is still not a level playing field. We think that the current levels are about right and there should be a period of stability for groups to
be able to work with the finance team and their business support officers to fully understand the funding they receive: how it is calculated, what the different percentages are and what they mean, what the effects of occupancy fluctuations and dips are and how they impact on an organisation. Hopefully, this would enable groups to budget with more accuracy and plan for the future etc.

we have not received any payments since we opened in October 2013.

I beleive that the % should remain the same. As my setting is not in a deprived area we are better of with the % staying as it is.

More should be allocated through AWPU and less through quality to bring Waltham Forest in line with other LAs.

This is vital as it provides real income for the setting

Q2. What % of the overall funding do you suggest for a base/AWPU rate? Please insert your suggestion in the box below and explain your reasoning

Answer Options	Response Count
	27

Response Text
Stat the same
96% in line with London average
To remain at 88%
88%
95% for AWPU because we feel that the base rate is the most important and weighed more that the other two aspects
93
85%Since deprivation funding is aimed at narrowing the gap throughout education, it makes sense that nursery settings with larger numbers of deprived pupils should receive as much support as
88%, to continue with the base rate that has worked for the last few financial years.
90
85% Would allow some extra for quality
90% It is important to be able to plan ahead and for all settings to have sufficient base funding
88% in line wit current allocation
90%
88% in line with current
88
Unchanged
88%
80%. Greater weighting needs to be given to Deprivation, although the measure of Deprivation needs to be looked at in terms of how this information is collated.
As it stands
stays the same
As is.
90% then split evenly between other areas.
88%
91% to bring in line with other LAs
To stay the same please
86%
80/20

Q3. What % do you suggest for Deprivation ? Please insert your suggestion in the box below and explain your reasoning.

Answer Options	Response Count
	26

Response Text

As we are not in the highest deprivation area, but do have some deprivation it would benefit our school to have a slightly lower figure for this and higher for something else. Suggest 4%
2% in line with London average
5%
2.5% for deprivation - we believe that they should be divided equal as deprivation can vary
5
8.4% Narrowing the gap at the earliest possible stages of education is desirable.
The proportion of funding should be slightly higher in Waltham Forest to be in line with other LA's in London.
2% Deprivation supplement is difficult to justify when our key aim is to provide good quality care to every child in walthamforest regardless of their circumstances
6
5%
3% Deprived areas could be better supported by improved quality of provision.
10%. Deprivation has a significant effect on overall outcomes in learning.
5%
9% as high deprivation has a significant effect on early life experience pre school.
7%
Unchanged
5%
18%. Greater weighting given to this. Also to protect nurseries that have expanded but will see increased numbers filter through rather than happen immediately.
88% as it stands
stays the same
As is.
5%
5% remain the same
5.2% to come inline with London average
To stay the same please
7%

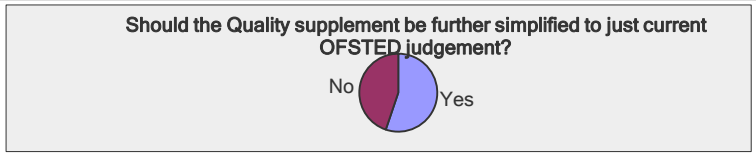
Q4. What % do you suggest for Quality ? Please insert your suggestion in the box below and explain your reasoning.

Answer Options	Response Count
	27

8% as our school should benefit more from this than a greater % of income for deprivation. This is on the assumption that when documentation is requested from schools sufficient time is allowed to submit this.
2% in line with London average
More funding should be allocated for teachers as they are able to improve the educational element in the settings.
7%
2.5% for quality reasons are its difficulty to achieve outstanding with Ofsted.
2
4.6%
The proportion of funding allocated for Quality is appropriate.
10% 5% for Good settings, the full 10% allocated to outstanding settings as assessed by Ofsted. This gives a sufficient incentive to settings to improve their quality of care for better financial reward
4
10% The importance of quality provision in a setting cannot be underestimated. Quality staff e.g. qualified teachers are expensive compared to other staff.
7%
2% in line with the national average
7%
3% In line with national average.
5%
Unchanged
7%
2%. The measure for quality does not seem as appropriate for schools given that they are not individually assessed in that way.
As it stands now
stays the same, however it is good to recognise the quality of the staff and the provision
As is, but with the criteria for quality changed to reflect only current Ofsted judgements.
5%
7 % remain the same
Quality should be reduced in line with London average
To stay the same please
7%

5. Should the Quality supplement be further simplified to just current OFSTED judgement?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	55.2%	37
No	44.8%	30
	100.0%	**67**



Comments:

Workforce qualfications and quality assurance participation should also be factors.

A school's last judgement may not reflect the current provision as it may have been inspected some time ago under a different leadership team.

I am all for simplification and being time and cost effective

Quality of workforce and quality assurance are important indicators.

No as we should not be just be judged on just a Ofsted judgement, as outstanding is an difficulty task

We have worked hard to improve the quality of our workforce. If that were removed from the quality element I would worry that groups would go for the minimum level of qualification rather than striving for the best.Also, Ofsted can give unfair judgements sometimes.Again, if you remove quality assurance scheme you remove the incentive for groups to take part in a scheme.

The reliability and consistency of Ofsted judgements is still questionable and the frequency of inspections does not match the trends of change and improvement that are happening at a local level. The local evaluative processes still need to be retained and strengthened.

The current Ofsted judgement is a blunt instrument. Changes and improvements can occur quite rapidly as in my own school.

my understanding from recent documents is that the OFSTED judgement is the only one that can be used. this of-cause is unfair on groups that improve between inspections as there finances are based on out of date data. No system will match everyone's needs.

Out setting is working with our EYFS support worker to raise the standard of care that we provide for our children. We are hoping that this will reflect in our next Ofsted inspection. It has been made clear that the Ofsted judgement is the only one that can be used due to the new DfEE guidance,

The DfE has made it absolutely clear that Ofsted judgement is the one and only quality assessment of care for any registered provider and local authorities are not to add further quality or other schemes mandatory. In any case, how can Waltham Forest justify the assessments carried out by their officers when none of the current officers are Ofsted trained and have not had experience of working with Early Years age group in the last 10 years or more?

The Quality of Workforce is a false indicator as the movement of workforce in realtime across all the settings is impossible to track whereas the information is only gathered once a year at best which determines the budget for the setting - open to abuse.

OFSTED judgements and the quality of staff employed i.e. their qualifications, should be taken into account.

Whilst recognising the importance of Ofsted inspection outcomes this does only occur every 3 years. The quality of workforce is an important indicator as it does cost more to train, employ and retain a quality workforce and this should be recognised. This quality indicator needs to be looked at further to recognise those settings where all practitioners are level 3 and above, perhaps qualification levels could be added together and an average reached . Small settings are also penalised when supernumerary staff is looked at as a criteria; the quality supplement is not nearly high enough to make employing supernumerary staff a possibility.

No, use LA Assessments would be a fairer judgement.

Many factors influence the Ofsted inspector when making judgements and I don't believe that all of these pertain to the actual inspection. Also Ofsted inspectors themselves vary in their understanding of the criteria. What one inspector may deem an 'outstanding' feature may be seen as only a 'Good' feature by another inspector.

The LA judgements should have some impact on the quality supplement as they have an on going relationship with their settings and know what each aspect of their provision is like. This will encourage settings to strive to constantly improve quality, rather than only at times of expected Ofsted inspections.

However the new DfE guidance does not agree with this.

Although Ofsted only judge on statuary requirements and do not take into consideration of supernumerary staff. Many settings have a workforce who have developed themselves by gaining high qualifications and a working management structure. As stated by the new Dfe guidance that Ofsted is the only judgement which can be used, it does seem unfair that settings will not be recognised for their quality. This may have an impact on encouraging settings to develop and improve quality and standards.

this is an external judgement. supernumary staff is perverse as primary schools dont have any and it is NOT a judgement of quality but could be due to lack of demand for places at that setting

It is difficult for the LA to justify any LA judgements as being independent. Also, it has been made clear that the Ofsted judgement is the only one that can be used because of the new DfE guidance. However, the authority need to recognise that they will continue to have problems with raising quality in settings where the Ofsted judgement does not align with the LA's opinion!

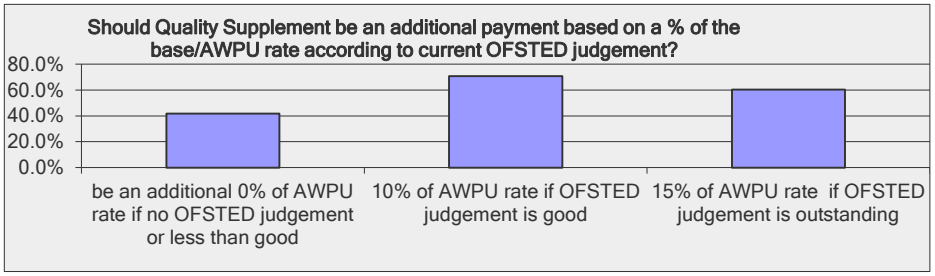
Lots of individuals in PVI settings have worked really hard to raise their level of qualification in the past few years. It is a pity that the funding will not now reflect this. All Ofsted judge are the statutory requirements with regard to qualifications and they don't take into account the number of supernumerary staff.

It should include staff qualifications, the SEF, borough ratings including SEN and business audits and audits carried out by advisory teachers.

Continuation : 5. Should the Quality supplement be further simplified to just current OFSTED judgement?
It is difficult for the LA to justify any LA judgements as being independent. Also, it has been made clear that the Ofsted judgement is the only one that can be used because of the new DfE guidance. However, the authority need to recognise that they will continue to have problems with raising quality in settings where the Ofsted judgement does not align with the LA's opinion! Lots of individuals in PVI settings have worked really hard to raise their level of qualification in the past few years. It is a pity that the funding will not now reflect this. All Ofsted judge are the statutory requirements will regard to qualifications and they don't take into account the number of supernumerary staff.
The OFSTED judgement for a school is for the whole school so there may be a discrepancy there, although the measure used should be simplified.
Staffing qualifications is better
I think that the SEF/Quality Assurance portion should be scrapped as we have been made to do so many different quality assurance schemes over the last several years just to qualify for the funding it has now become a joke. However I think it is good to recognise the quality of workforce as this has been proven that qualified staff can improve a child's learning and development and the Ofsted Inspection Outcome should be taken into consideration.
This can be the only meaningful guide. While primary schools receive an overall grade, this reflects the provision in EarlyYears. The current SEF requirement is meaningless, since this is not a legal nor an Ofsted requirement. Furthermore, the quality of the workforce can vary during a school year.
I feel that the Quality suppllement is fine and works as it stands.
Some of the criteria does not fit with the normal school reporting lines ie the school does not need to complete a SEF any more but this is one of the quality assessments?
Current system is too complex and unclear.
Ideally all the tinkering should be scrapped. Just pay the funds in the simplest manner possible. I spend more time working of funding than i do on fee collection and FEEE is only about 12.5% of my income

6. Should Quality Supplement be an additional payment based on a % of the base/AWPU rate according to current OFSTED judgement?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
be an additional 0% of AWPU rate if no OFSTED	41.7%	20
10% of AWPU rate if OFSTED judgement is good	70.8%	34
15% of AWPU rate if OFSTED judgement is	60.4%	29

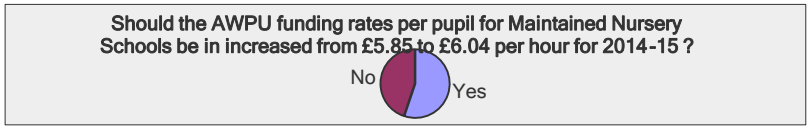


Your Comments

Concerns about less than good provisions raising their standards if funding reduced
No. Giving additional funding outstanding settings will not raise the standards in other settings.
I think quality of workforce and quality assurance should continue to play a part in the quality element and not just be based on Ofsted outcome
No - far too blunt
All of these should be in place to give settings the incentive to improve and maintain its quality of provision
There is a difference between OFSTED judgements for schools and PVi settings so this may not be fair. overall it seems more sxensible that outstanding should have more than good but 15% quality suppilment is too much. 10% should be highest rate.
Would suggest 13% for outstanding with the remaining money being used to help the lower graded settings or to recognise improvement
incentives should be place to drive settings to continuously maintain and develop quality standards
yes agree with thisprovided total cost doies not exceed 5% of total funding. If it does, rates should be scaled down.
All these levels should be in place to encourage continuous improvement and maintenance of standards
All these levels should be in place to encourage continuous improvement and maintenance of standards
You need additional funding to help raise standards and so there should be less difference between the rates.
It shou;d not be an additional payment
not judged on OFSTED category
All settings good or above should receive 10% (the same) because pvi settings in community bulidings will always be penalised in regards to being deemed outstanding. Even if they match the quality and care provided.
Settings need funding to improve. Primary schools do not get a separate OFSTED judgement for their nursery provision, so what judgement would be used?
Yes I do think that the QS should be based on the ofsted judgement

7. Should the AWPU funding rates per pupil for Maintained Nursery Schools be in increased from £5.85 to £6.04 per hour for 2014-15 ?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	55.2%	32
No	44.8%	26
		58



Your Comments

Yes, fully support additional funding for MNSSs as they have additional costs when employing teachers and qualified staff.

It does seem that when compared with other local authorities Waltham Forest needs to increase the AWPU funding rates

Maintained nurseries have statutory functions to adhere to and therefore should receive higher AWPU rates.

There is meant to be parity of funding. This move would penalise PVI settings.e.g. we are a small setting with a maximum of 40 part time places. We have to comply with many statutory functions on a

It is important that Waltham Forest brings its funding for nursery schools in line with other authorities in order that statutory functions, especially in relation to SEN and early support, can be sustained across the local early years networks. Nursery schools in Waltham Forest have a long established tradition of supporting training and professional development of early years staff across the maintained and PVI sectors and still provide a model of excellence.

But only on the understanding that there is a thorough review of the unsustainable position of the three MNS in Waltham Forest.

I do not understand why there is such a difference between maintained nurseries and the rest of us, if we are all suppose to be offering the same service. some transparency into the "additional statutory functions" they undertake might make it clearer.

Preschools should be funded in the same way as maintained nursery schools. We have to meet the same statutory requirements as a school. Preschools have always taken all changes on board but often do not get the support and recognition that they deserve.

Maintained Nursery Schools are not providing so much more than a PVI setting to call for £6.04 per hour. They should either provide something that a PVI currently does not/cannot provide i.e. apprenticeship schemes, training programmes and specialist provision for SEN and AEN children, or be prepared to deal with the forces of the market place.
If the age old structure of having head teachers and teachers in nursery schools is resulting in the requirement for a higher AWPU rate to pay for their salaries, why continue to support the structure when we all know it isn't sustainable in the long term.

The hourly rate for a childminder is less than it.

I think this decision has already gone through Schools Forum - to increase the AWPU to the average level for benchmarking purposes. Nursery Schools have many additional costs and will not be sustainable without increased funding.

All settings should be funded in the same way. If the Authority wishes to provide support to the MNSs for additional costs, such as a head teacher, these should be identified and funded separately whilst longer term options are considered.

What additional statutory functions do MNSs do?PVI's generally have a higher adult:child ratio, resulting in children receiving more attention to develop and progress.

As we are all working within the Early Years Foundation Stage statuary framework, all early years should be funded on a even playing field. PVI settings and the non maintained sector have been fighting for equal funding for years.

I agree but it should be further reviewed for 2015-16

For years now we have been arguing that all pre-school provisions should be funded in the same way.If nursery schools are undertaking "additional statutory functions" which justify a base rate which is £1.95 per hour MORE per child than the PVIs and £2.10 per hour MORE per child than nursery classes then these "additional statutory functions" should be publicised so that we can see how the additional funding is justified.As far as we know, we have to meet the same statutory requirements as the nursery schools.
The figures in appendix A seem to indicate that the difference between the GuF and LBWF total funding per FTE pupil in nursery schools is 33%. How does this relate to a shortfall of 2%? Does this not mean that the shortfall is 33%?

PVI settings struggle to keep highly qualified staff because they can't afford a decent wage.

It should be higher to be closer to the London average.

PVI's can do the same as MNS's with respect to the curriculum, so why should they be paid more. The quality of staff in PVI's is increasing and just because MNS's have additional statutory functions this shouldn't mean that they get an increase and penalise the PVI's.

As it is a single formula funding for PVIs and Maintained Nursery Schools then we should all be treated equally. The PVI sector should also be given an increase as well - we should all be treated the same.

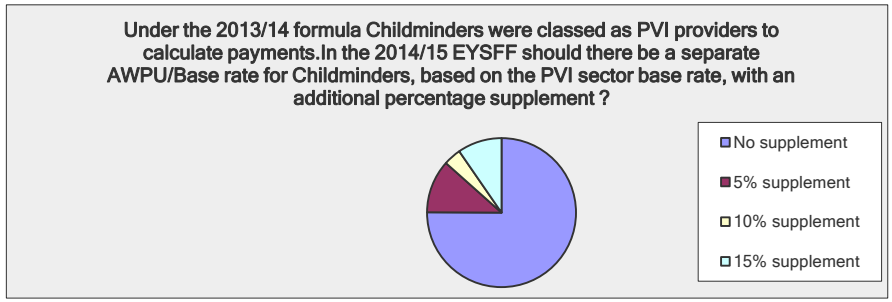
This is putting more money into settings that don't need it, whilst community groups struggle with many obstacles struggle with much less. This is not giving each individual child equality. If they are increased to this rate so should all pvi groups.

But if this rises it will effect the % of other payments so is much of a muchness

who thinks of these questions

8. Under the 2013/14 formula Childminders were classed as PVI providers to calculate payments.In the 2014/15 EYSFF should there be a separate AWPU/Base rate for Childminders, based on the PVI sector base rate, with an additional percentage supplement ?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
No supplement	75.0%	39
5% supplement	11.5%	6
10% supplement	3.8%	2
15% supplement	9.6%	5
		52

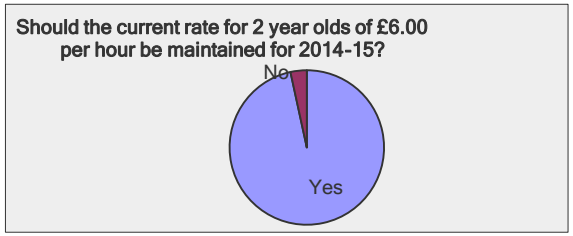


Your Comments

Not know. Not enough information provided
Unable to comment
as previous question we should all be providing the same service
All providers need to be on a level
I am not fully aware of the circumstances of childminders
I think things shouldn't change at this point due to changes to childminding which are likely to become law soon. How would Childminding Agencies be funded?
There should as far as possible be a level playing field with all receiving funded on the same basis. A manager in a setting is also responsible for EYFS, OFSTED and legal requirements for a much larger number of children and, although there is the opportunity for delegation this creates an additional management role. If a childminder does not hold an NVQ3 or above this should be reflected in the quality supplement. If operating costs are known to be lower the base rate should be less not more.
All early year setting should be working towards equal level funding
% seems fair
As far as possible we need to be aiming for a level playing field
As satted previously we should all PVIs, Maintained and Childminders should be treated equally
They should be treated the same as the pvi groups.
no comment
Why wouldn't they? Yes they should but couldn't say how much
Child minders are not doing near the work that settings are doing
Childminders charge a different hourly/daily rate and some may find it difficult to get the additional funding from parents

9. Should the current rate for 2 year olds of £6.00 per hour be maintained for 2014-15?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	96.6%	56
No	3.4%	2
		58



Your Comments

High quality 2 yr old provision is important and requires adequate funding.
I think the current rate should be maintained in fairness to the providers who are participating in the project.
Reducing to £5.28 would undermine the legitimate argument that the government has seriously undervalued two year old provision. Waltham Forest is quite justified in campaigning alongside other LAs for proper recognition of the cost of quality early educational care.
many of the 2 year olds that are coming into our settings have high needs and the extra funding helps support the extra work involved.
Our 2 year olds often come in with a higher level of basic need and a lot have additional needs.
It should in fact be increased as more and more 2 year olds are coming through with additional needs for who the minimum 1:4 adult:child ratios is entirely impossible to work on. If the rate is not reviewed/increased in the near future, it will result in settings turning away children with additional needs simply because they do not have the staff capacity to support these children adequately.
It needs to be maintained as long as it's affordable for sustainability.
The £6 p.h. rate should be maintained as children occupying funded 2 year old places often take up a disproportionate amount of staff time due, not only to the higher ratio needed, but the fact that a significant number present with a high level of need.
Yes to be maintained or increased.
2 year old Feee children often come into settings requiring additional support for the child/families. The rate of pay should be increased to meet these needs and to meet staff costs as the child adult ratio is higher than for a 3 and 4 year old.
as this is what schools signed up for
Children coming in to 2 year old places often present with a high level of need which more than justifies the higher rate (which in our opinion could be higher!). We are pleased to hear that LAs are making the case to ministers to increase the level of funding for 2 year olds and would be happy to offer support with this.
no comment
But should be increased in line with inflation
This question is ludicrous