Westminster Education Forum Keynote Seminar

The future for childcare and Early Years provision - cost, standards, supply and new providers

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 14th July 2015

Venue: Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas House, Park Place, St James's Street, London SW1A 1LR

Agenda subject to change

8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00 - 9.05Chair's opening remarks

Baroness Massey of Darwen, Member, House of Lords Select Committee on Affordable Childcare

9.05 - 9.15Funding the new childcare arrangements: the views and experiences of childminders

Meg Callanan, Senior Researcher, Children, Families and Work Team, NatCen Social Research

9.15 - 9.35 Tackling the cost of childcare - findings from the House of Lords Select Committee on Affordable Childcare

Lord Sutherland of Houndwood, Chairman, House of Lords Affordable Childcare Committee

Questions and comments from the floor with Meg Callanan, Senior Researcher, Children, Families and Work Team,

NatCen Social Research

9.35 - 10.35 Supply of childcare: resources, new providers and implementing changes to provision

What has been the initial impact of the new childminder agencies, and how have they affected other non-agency based childminders and the overall supply of childcare? How has the introduction of the £1 million Childcare Business Grant - to support existing childminders to expand and for new providers to enter the childcare market - affected the supply and the cost of childcare so far? How are local authorities and childcare providers adapting to the challenges posed by the introduction of free 15 hour childcare to 2 year olds from disadvantaged backgrounds; what would be the likely impact of the extension of this provision to include 30 hours of care to three and four year olds'? What impact will the proposed £50 million funding for the Early Years Pupil Premium have on expanding Early Years provision to disadvantaged three and four- year olds? In what ways can the Government and local authorities support Early Years providers and local authorities to collaborate to overcome cost, space and resource challenges facing the supply of childcare? What steps can the Government take to foster the creation of more nursery provision in primary schools, in line with the aim of making joined up nursery provision more widely available?

Kimberley Dearden, Childcare Manager, St Bede Academy, Greater Manchester

Professor Len Shackleton, Professor of Economics, University of Buckingham and Economics Fellow, Institute of **Economic Affairs**

John Fowler, Policy Manager, Local Government Information Unit

Deborah Lawson, General Secretary, Voice the Union

Questions and comments from the floor

10.35 - 10.40 Chair's closing remarks

Baroness Massey of Darwen, Member, House of Lords Select Committee on Affordable Childcare

10.40 - 11.10 Coffee

11.10 - 11.15 Chair's opening remarks

Baroness Stedman-Scott

11.15 - 11.45 Regulating the new childminder agencies and the introduction of a common inspection framework

Alex Magloire, Senior Manager, Early Education and Policy, Ofsted

Questions and comments from the floor

11.45 - 11.55 Raising the standards of Early Education

Dr Sue Allingham, Author, Transitions in the Early Years and Member, Editorial Board, Early Years Educator

11.55 - 12.55 Improving quality in Early Years provision - regulation, qualifications and status

Will the regulatory system for childminder agencies - which will assess the quality of the agency as a whole rather than inspecting each individual childminder - satisfy parental concerns around quality? How can Ofsted address concerns raised by childcare providers that having a different inspection framework for school based nurseries would affect parents' ability to compare the quality of provision amongst providers? What impact will the higher qualification requirements introduced in September 2014 have on the supply of new Early Years professionals; will they fulfill Government's aim of raising standards across the profession? How can the Government encourage more high achieving graduates into the Early Years profession; would giving nursery staff Qualified Teacher Status help achieve this? In addition to expanding Teach First and Schools Direct programmes to include the Early Years sector and the new funding for teaching schools to collaborate with local nurseries, what other steps could be taken to provide more teacher training opportunities and improve provision? How are local authorities responding to their new role and responsibility to support early years settings rated as 'requires improvement' or 'inadequate'?

Professor Mark Hadfield, Director, Masters in Educational Practice, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University Councillor Liz Green, Deputy Chair, Children and Young People Board, Local Government Association Emma Beresford, Director, Parental Engagement Network

Theresa Johnson, Development Manager, PACEY (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years) Questions and comments from the floor with Dr Sue Allingham, Author, Transitions in the Early Years and Member, Editorial Board, Early Years Educator

12.55 - 13.00 Chair's and Westminster Education Forum closing remarks

Baroness Stedman-Scott

Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Westminster Education Forum

