

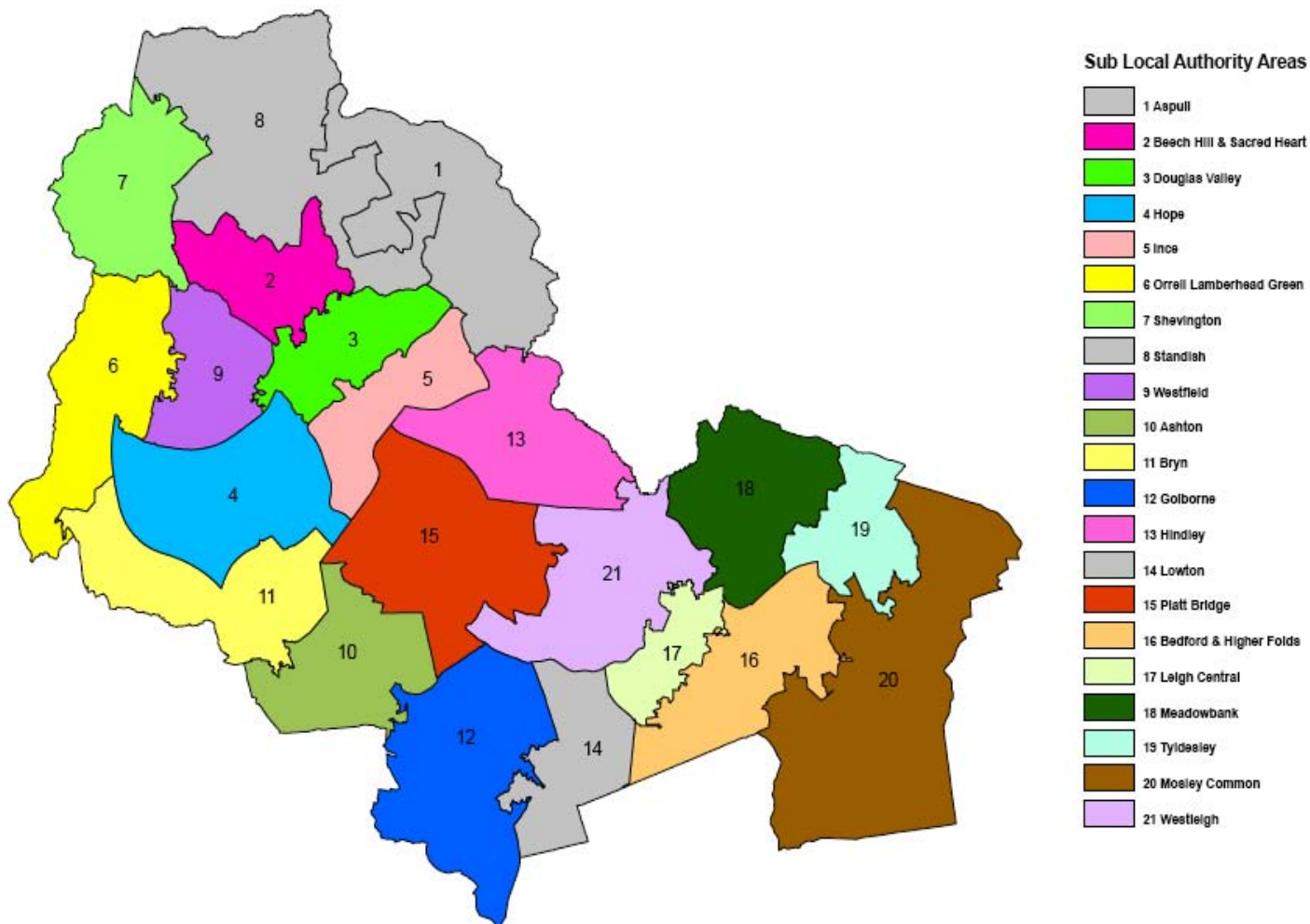
# Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

Annual Review  
2009-10



# Acknowledgements

Wigan Council would like to thank colleagues in partner organisations and agencies for their contributions to the Annual Review 2009-10.



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## Executive Summary

In March 2008, Wigan Council published the first Childcare Sufficiency Assessment in order to meet the legislative requirements of Section 11 of the Childcare Act 2006. The following report is the 2009-10 Annual Review of the CSA.

On the demand side, the CSA 2008 predicted a constant birth rate falling slightly over time. However, the actual birth data provided a significant increase in birth rates for 2007-8. Latest data (2008-9) demonstrated that rates were beginning to fall again. This would imply that the rise was a mere spike in the overall birth figures available.

In terms of live births by sub local authority area and live births for teenage parents by sub local authority area, no new data is available on which to report on any changes. This is also the case for projections for the NHS Ashton, Leigh and Wigan figures, where no new figures have been published.

The total number of lone parents claiming Income Support over a 3 year period, at May 2007, May 2008, November 2008, February 2009 and May 2009 are supplied. These imply that the numbers are slowly increasing. It will be interesting to see if the trend continues when the May 2010 statistics are available.

The Census 2001 gave a mid-year population estimate for the Wigan borough of 306,800 for 2008. There is a slight decrease since the last Annual Review of people in working age, this decrease was amongst females. These figures are further supported by the number of Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants where there was a rise overall but this again was mainly among females. In addition, the number of people who have been claiming JSA for over 6 months and for over 12 months have both doubled between January and September 2009.

In terms of supply, the previous Annual Review 2008 -9 reported that in March 2009, Wigan had 301 childminders and 144 settings. As described in the same Annual Review, there have been inaccuracies in Ofsted's reporting of registered childcare providers. Ofsted states that as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, there were 275 registered childminders and 135 registered settings. However, Wigan data reports that in December 2009, there were 277 childminders and 139 settings in Wigan.

Regardless of this, both sets of data show that there has been a drop in the total number of registered settings and the total number of childminders. In terms of the spread of childcare, it is useful to consider the location of registrations and resignations across the borough. This data shows that the current distribution of childminders and settings is fairly similar to that reported previously. However, some consideration may need to be given to the low numbers of childminders in Aspull and Leigh Central.

Generally, the slight reduction in supply may have had a limited impact due to the corresponding rise in unemployment. In addition, the economic downturn and recession may have had an effect on the number of parents requiring childcare and/or the amount of childcare; meaning that less childcare is needed overall.

Therefore, it is implied that there is sufficient childcare available in Wigan borough to meet current demand at this time.



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# 1. Introduction

The Childcare Act 2006 requires local authorities to carry out and publish a CSA every three years and to review data annually.

The first comprehensive Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA) was completed in March 2008. The report was undertaken to meet the legislative requirements of Section 11 of the Childcare Act 2006. The Act stipulates that all local authorities must undertake a CSA in order to develop a strategy towards securing sufficient childcare.

Sufficient childcare can be defined as ensuring the provision of adequate childcare, so far as is reasonably practicable, in order to enable parents to work, or to undertake education and training leading to work.

The CSA recorded the supply of, and demands for, childcare and identified any gaps in provision.

This Annual Review 2009-10 is the second annual review of the CSA 2008. Like the Annual Review 2008-9, it revisits the Childcare Strategy to further evaluate progress made in addressing the gaps identified in the CSA 2008.

In accordance with the Childcare Act 2006, which requires a full assessment to be completed every 3 years, work has now commenced on the next CSA. A detailed and comprehensive project plan has been written for the full assessment; the CSA 2011. The project began in January 2010 and will run through to April 2011 when the final report is published. A strategy for addressing any gaps identified within the 2011 Assessment is also required to be published by April 2011.

## 2. Review of the Local Childcare Market

As part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009/2010, key statistics have been identified, updated and reviewed in light of their potential impact on childcare sufficiency within the borough.

### 2.1 DEMAND

#### Birth Data

The following tables and graphs illustrate the changing trend in live birth data within Wigan over the last 12 months.

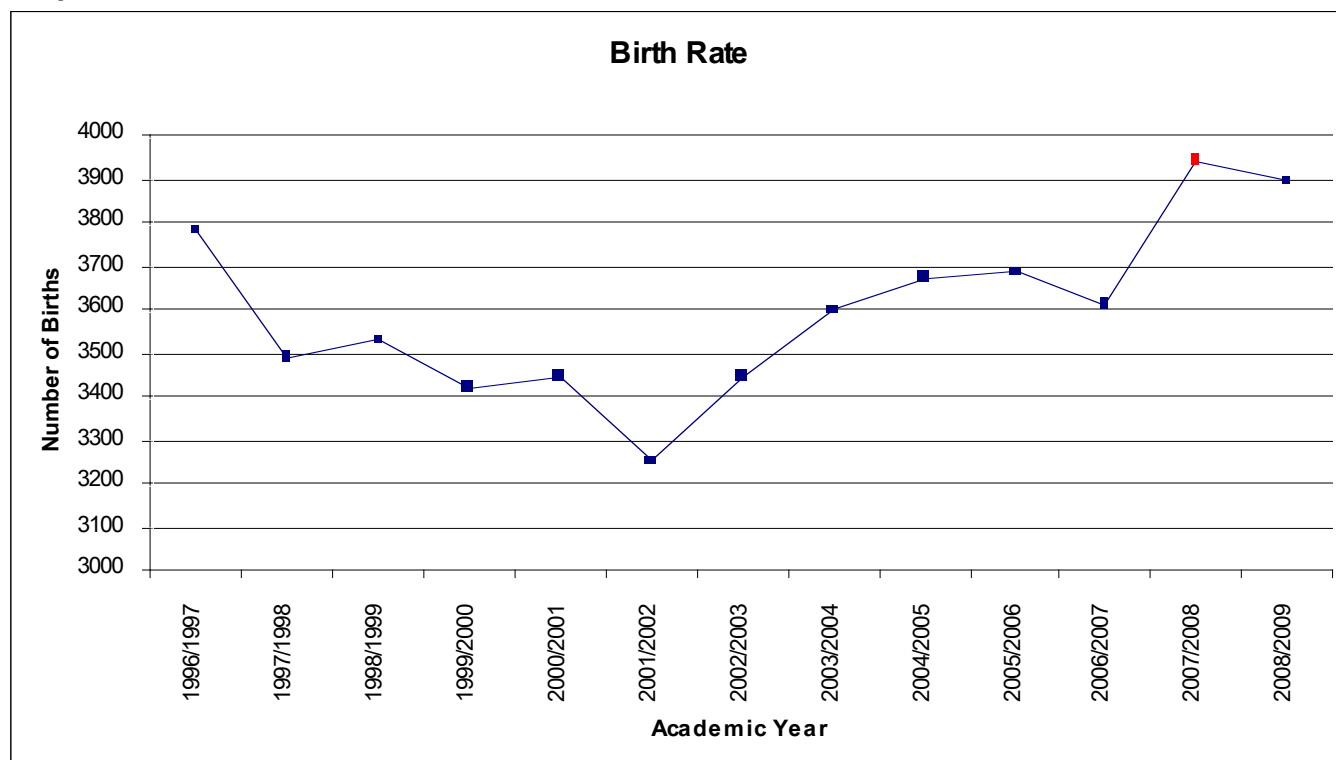
**Table 1: Population Statistics per Age Group (0-17yrs)**

Actual Live Birth Data and Projections (NHSALW Data Academic Years)					
Age	2001 Census (01.04.01)	2007-8	2008-9	2009-10	2010-11
Aged under 1 year	3329	3942	3896	*	
Aged 1 year	3451	3613	3942	<b>3896</b>	
Aged 2 years	3485	3688	3613	3942	3896
Aged 3 years	3496	3674	3688	3613	3942
Aged 4 years	3800	3601	3674	3688	3613
Aged 5 years	3718	3448	3601	3674	3688
Aged 6 years	3797	3253	3448	3601	3674
Aged 7 years	3987	3446	3253	3448	3601
Aged 8 years	4136	3420	3446	3253	3448
Aged 9 years	4298	3529	3420	3446	3253
Aged 10 years	4078	3493	3529	3420	3446
Aged 11 years	4017	3781	3493	3529	3420
Aged 12 years	4106	3586	3781	3493	3529
Aged 13 years	4035	3738	3586	3781	3493
Aged 14 years	4128	3802	3738	3586	3781
Aged 15 years	3940		3802	3738	3586
Aged 16 years	4024			3802	3738
Aged 17 years	3802				3802
<b>Totals (0-14yrs)</b>	<b>57861</b>	<b>54014</b>	<b>57910</b>		

Source: NHS Child Health, System Academic Years: 1st September to the 31st August and Census 2001 statistics

\*Data available Sept/Oct 2010

Graph 1: Birth Rate Trends Based on Academic Years



Source: NHS Child Health, System Academic Year: 1st September to the 31st August and Census 2001 statistics



Relates to the last reported figure included within the Annual Review 2008-9.

The CSA 2008 predicted a constant birth rate falling slightly over time. However, the actual birth data provided a significant increase in birth rates for 2007-8. Latest data (2008-9) demonstrated that rates were beginning to fall again. In terms of live births by sub local authority area and live births for teenage parents by sub local authority area, no new data is available on which to report on any changes. This is also the case for projections for the NHS Ashton, Leigh and Wigan figures, where no new figures have been published.

## Ethnicities

It is not possible to report on any Ethnicity differences as no new statistics on ethnicity breakdowns for Wigan are available since the last Annual Review. In addition, there are no new midyear population statistics by ethnicity available since the last Annual Review.

Data held by Children and Young People’s Services (CYPS) on the number of pupils attending schools in Wigan from non-white minority backgrounds shows an increase over the period 2007-09, as illustrated overleaf in Table 2. The table also illustrates the Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA) that have been in the top 10 LSOA over the same period (2007-09). It is worth noting that since the previous Annual Review, Etherstone/Diamond Street LSOA is no longer within the top 10, but the Sub LA Areas remain constant, i.e. Douglas Valley and Leigh Central.



**Table 2: Number Pupils Attending Schools in Wigan by LSOA**

LSOA	Sub LA Area / Children's Centre	Jan-07 %	Jan-07 No.	Jan-08 %	Jan-08 No.	Jan-09 %	Jan-09 No.	Oct-09 %	Oct-09 No.
Darlington Street East	Douglas Valley	8	<10	7	<10	16	16	19	19
Swinley East	Douglas Valley	8	<10	6	<10	21	29	21	29
Railway Road / Twist Lane	Leigh Central	6	<10	7	10	26	47	28	52
Leigh Centre	Leigh Central	6	<10	8	10	27	48	26	46
Hilton Park	Leigh Central	6	<10	8	11	23	38	17	31

Source: PLASC Data and WISDOM - CYPS - Ethnicity of Pupils

## Lone Parents

No new figures are available to this Annual Review regarding the number of lone parents in the borough, both those in and out of work by sub local authority area.

## Lone Parents and the Benefit System

In the CSA 2008, reference was made to the imminent changes that were to be introduced to the benefit system. These were the 'Lone Parent Measures Supporting Lone Parent Obligations' that were introduced from November 2008. The changes meant that lone parents with older children (aged 12 at November 2008) and who were able to work, would no longer be entitled to claim Income Support. They would have to find immediate employment or apply for Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) while either seeking work or developing their skills in order to work. As a consequence of these changes, (to be phased in over three years for children aged 12, 10 and 7 yrs), there would be an increase in the number of lone parents either seeking work or training who may require childcare.

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) propose to make key statistics available in order to monitor the impact of these changes.

The table below presents the total number of lone parents claiming Income Support over a 3 year period, at May 2007, May 2008, and May 2009.

**Table 3: Lone Parents Claiming Income Support (DWP)**

Date	Total
May 2007	3450
May 2008	3540
<b>May 2009</b>	<b>3580</b>

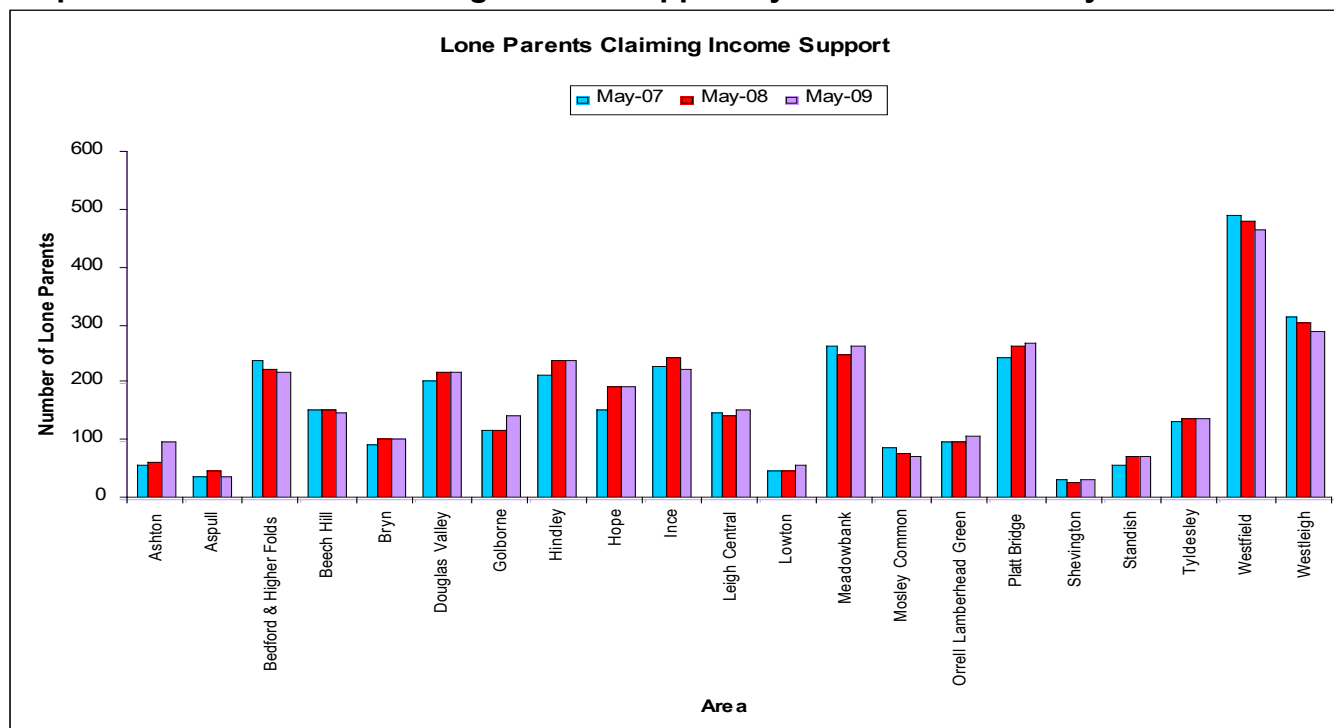
Source: Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)

The figures imply that the number of lone parents claiming Income Support is slowly increasing. It will be interesting to see if the trend continues when the May 2010 statistics are available.

## Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009-10

The following graph illustrates the number of lone parents claiming Income Support by sub-local authority area for the same periods: May 2007, May 2008, and May 2009.

**Graph 2: Lone Parents Claiming Income Support by Sub-Local Authority Area**



Source: DWP

The table below illustrates the four highest sub-local authority areas for each of the aforementioned time periods. These are summarised in Table 4 below.

**Table 4: Lone Parents Claiming Income Support**

Sub-Local Authority Area	May-07	May-08	May-09
Westfield	490	480	465
Platt Bridge	245	265	270
Meadowbank	265	250	265
Westleigh	315	305	290

Source: DWP

These areas have consistently remained in the top four from May 2007 to May 2009.

## Labour Market

The Census 2001 gave a mid-year population estimate for the Wigan borough of 306,800 for 2008. There is a slight decrease since the last Annual Review of people in working age, this decrease was amongst females.

**Table 5: Working Age Population 2008**

People	2007	2008
All people - working age	190,100	<b>189,900</b>
Males - working age	100,300	<b>100,300</b>
Females - working age	89,800	<b>89,600</b>

Source: ONS mid-year population estimates

There appears to be no change in average earnings since the last Annual Review, as shown in Table 6.

**Table 6: Earnings by Resident 2008**

People	2007	2008
Gross Weekly Pay:		
Full-time workers	441.0	<b>441.0</b>
Male full-time workers	490.1	<b>490.1</b>
Female full-time workers	371.0	<b>371.0</b>

Note: Median earnings in pounds for employees living in the area.  
Source: ONS annual survey of hours and earnings - resident analysis

It is important to note that the recent poor economic climate has seen an increase in unemployment figures as shown in Table 7.

**Table 7: Population Numbers for Employed and Unemployed 2008**

People	2007	2008
Economically active <sup>†</sup>	155,400	<b>157,700</b>
In employment <sup>†</sup>	146,900	<b>148,800</b>
Employees <sup>†</sup>	134,000	<b>135,300</b>
Self employed <sup>†</sup>	12,300	<b>12,800</b>
Unemployed (model-based) <sup>†</sup>	9,400	<b>10,700</b>

<sup>†</sup> Numbers are for those aged 16 and over  
Source: ONS annual population survey

Table 8 presents the increase in the number of Job Seeker Allowance claimants between January 09 and September 09. Again, this is not unsurprising given the economy at present.

**Table 8: Number of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants January - September 09**

Claimants	JSA, Wigan, Jan-09	JSA, Wigan, Apr-09	JSA, Wigan, Sep-09
All people	8,020	9,789	<b>9,887</b>
Males	6,203	7,460	<b>7,436</b>
Females	1,817	2,329	<b>2,451</b>

Note: % is a proportion of resident working age people  
Source: ONS claimant count with rates and proportions

The following table shows the number of Job Seeker Allowance claimants by duration.

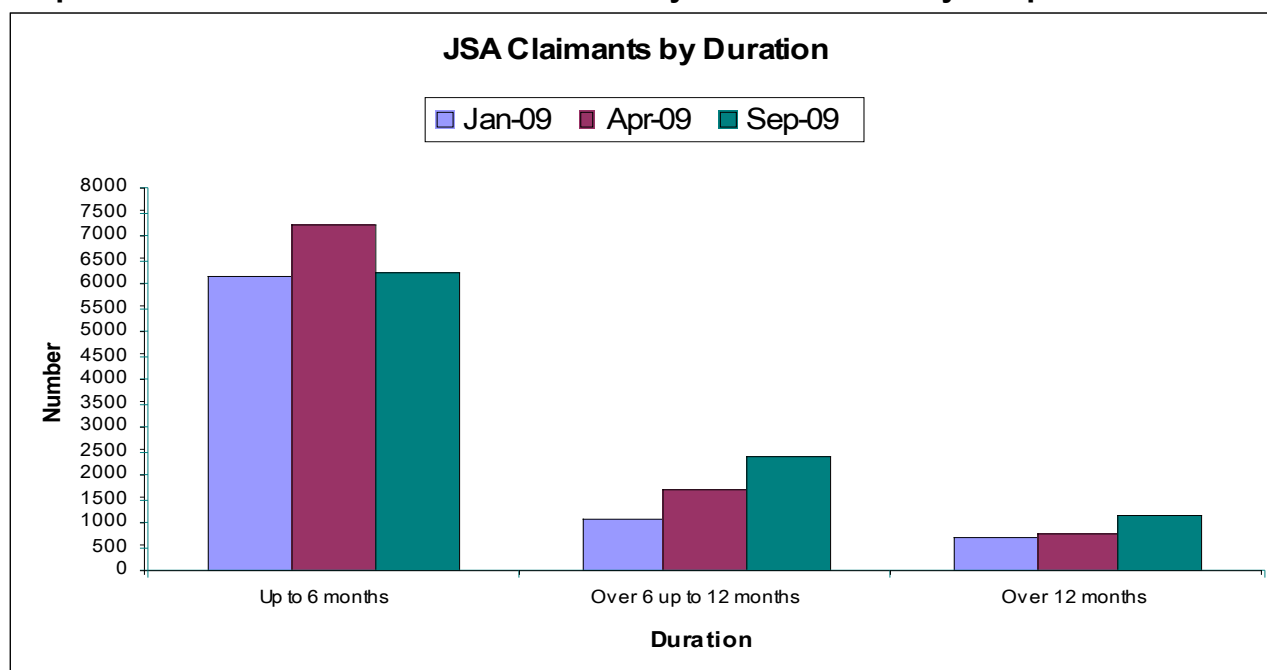
**Table 9: Number of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants by Duration**

Duration	JSA Wigan Jan-09	JSA Wigan Apr-09	JSA Wigan Sep-09
Up to 6 months	6,170	7275	6,265
Over 6 up to 12 months	1,120	1675	2,390
Over 12 months	680	775	1,195

Source: ONS claimant count - age and duration

Tables 8 and 9, and Graph 3 below, clearly illustrate the increase in the number of JSA claimants in Wigan over a nine month period as more individuals became unemployed. Note the increase in numbers of the long term claimants (over 12 months) between April and September 2009. This rise in unemployment would reduce the demand for childcare.

**Graph 3: Job Seeker Allowance Claimants by Duration January - September 2009**



## Childcare Barriers to Work

Jobcentre Plus (JCP) advised that childcare has not been identified as a barrier for those people returning to work during the period March 2009 to November 2009, during any of the customer interviews.

## Housing

The tables below presents sites under construction with 5 or more houses between April 2003 and March 2008 and more recent data of between April 2004 and March 2009.

**Table 10i: Sites Under Construction with 5 Or More Houses 2003 - 2008.**

	Completed	Under Construction	Not Started	Total capacity	Expected no pupils per year group
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4893</b>	<b>550</b>	<b>1335</b>	<b>6774</b>	<b>56.55</b>

**Table 10ii: Sites Under Construction Or Completed April 2004 - March 2009**

	Completed	Under Construction	Not Started	Total capacity	Expected no pupils per year group
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4832</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>1410</b>	<b>6842</b>	<b>60.3</b>

(Sites with 5 or more dwellings)

Source: Wigan Council Borough Planning Department.

Approximately 1000 new houses are built in Wigan over a year. At March 2009, 600 sites were under construction. This would provide a minimum of 3000 new houses if the sites were fully completed.

The CSA 2008 data is still relevant in respect of the estimate that 1000 new houses would generate 30 children per school year group across the borough (or 3 pupils per school group per 100 new houses).

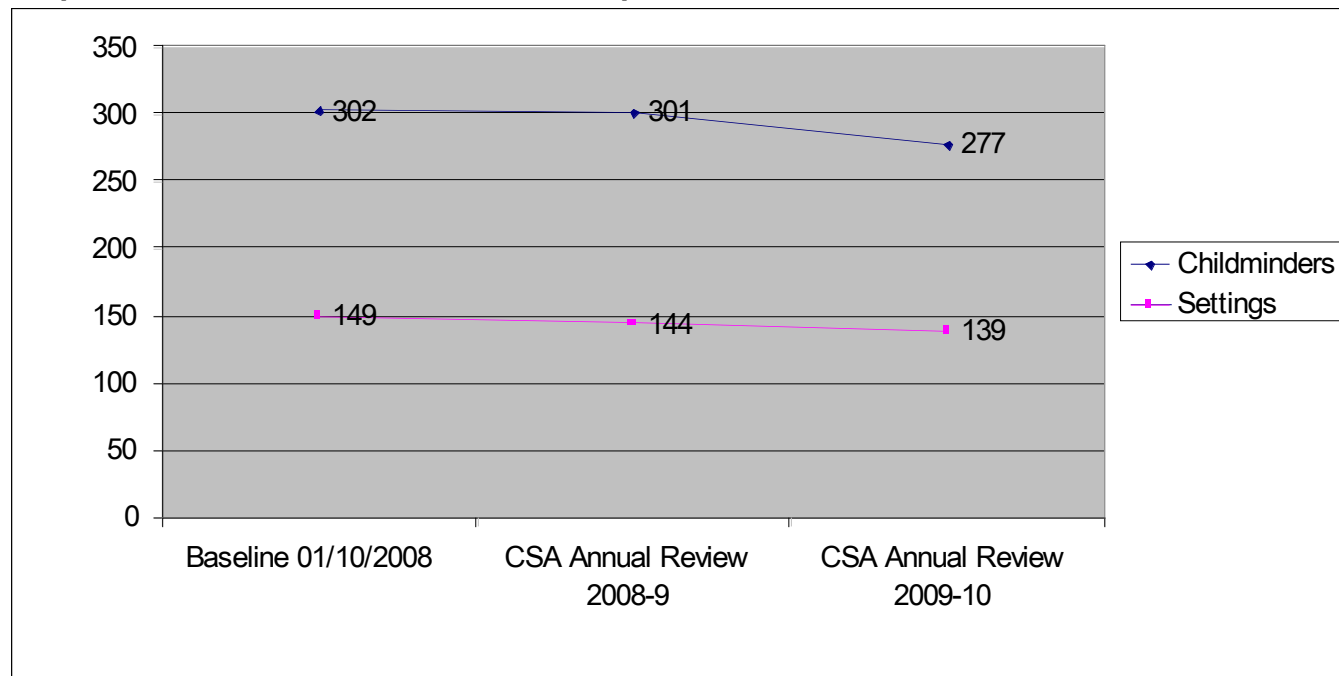
In conjunction with the recent downturn in the economic climate, there has been a significant slowdown in the construction industry. To date there appears to be no real increase in the activity of the construction industry. This will reduce the number of new houses built (on sites of 5 or more houses) and, therefore, may reduce future demand for childcare.

## 2.2 SUPPLY

### Childcare Registrations and Resignations

Since October 2008, Wigan has tracked the registrations and resignations of childminders and settings per month within each sub-local authority area. The Annual Review 2008 -9 reported that in March 2009, Wigan had 301 childminders and 144 settings. In December 2009, there were 277 childminders and 139 settings in Wigan. The following graph illustrates the decline in childcare providers.

**Graph 4: Decline in number of childcare providers**



As previously described in the CSA Annual Review 2008-9 there have been inaccuracies in Ofsted's reporting of registered childcare providers. Ofsted states that as at 31<sup>st</sup> December there were 275 registered childminders and 135 registered settings.

Both sets of data show that there has been a drop in the total number of registered settings and the total number of childminders. It is useful to consider the location of registrations and resignations across the borough. Appendix 1 illustrates the spread of childcare providers

across the borough in March 2009 and December 2009. The two graphs show that the current distribution of childminders and settings is fairly similar to that reported in March 2009 for the Annual Review 2009-10. Consideration may need to be given to the low numbers of childminders in Aspull and Leigh Central. Graph A shows that in December 2009 the number of childminders had declined from 1 to 0 in Aspull and from 6 to 1 in Leigh Central. However, this may be due to the market re-adjusting to reduced demand in those areas.

Wigan CIS state is important to note that many childminders who resign may have already notified CIS that they no longer want their details to be given out many months before their actual resignation so there has been a gradual fade rather than a sudden drop in numbers. In addition, the recession may have had an effect on the number of parents requiring childcare meaning less childcare places are required.

Without taking into account demand for childcare it is difficult to analyse the effect of the decline in providers on childcare sufficiency. However, Wigan CIS are able to provide us with some information on demand as they provide parents and carers with information on local childcare providers. The service maintains two logs, one that records what type of childcare provision parents/carers have requested, and a second that records the outcomes from returned service evaluation forms. From these logs, CIS are able to inform us that they haven't had any parents who were unsuccessful in locating childcare as a direct result of the resigned childcare providers.

Overall, the reduction in supply; both in the number of providers and in places, may have had a limited impact due to the corresponding rise in unemployment. Generally, it is implied that there is sufficient childcare available to meet current demand.

## **Childcare Supply Review Survey**

The CSA guidance states that local authorities are not required to repeat surveys at intervals of less than three years. In light of this Wigan Council has chosen to not to send out questionnaires to providers for this Annual Review, as providers will be surveyed again in 2010 for the publication of the full CSA by April 2011.

## **2.3 GAPS / RECOMMENDATIONS**

No major gaps were identified within the CSA 2008. The LA is sufficient in 0-5s provision and therefore no additional 0-5 places are required. However, some particular gaps in services were identified. These were highlighted within the Childcare Strategy. A progress update is given on the strategy in Section 3.

## 3. Implementation of the Childcare Strategy

### 3.1 CHILDCARE STRATEGY 2008

#### Key Messages

The CSA identified a number of areas for development and gaps in provision, which needed to be addressed in order to ensure that there is sufficient childcare. These were:

- A. To ensure the sustainability of existing childcare provision and ensure that services are fully inclusive and flexible.
- B. To develop or expand Out of School services to meet the childcare demand for 8-11 year olds.
- C. To develop services to ensure that children aged 11-14 years have a safe place to be, before and after school and also during school holidays.
- D. To address the demand for crèche provision to meet the needs of Children's Centre project delivery and the needs of parents for weekend provision.
- E. To meet the childcare needs of parents/carers with children and young people with disabilities.
- F. To increase the knowledge and skills of the children's workforce (paid/ unpaid) in order to meet the key principle of the Children's Workforce Strategy to have a competent and confident workforce to ensure that childcare services are of a quality standard.
- G. Linked to another Local Authority statutory duty (Section 12 of the Childcare Act 2006) to give advice, support and guidance to parents, children and families, the development of a Brokerage scheme to ensure that parents are supported in finding the childcare that meets their needs was also included as an Appendix to the Strategy.
- H. The development of an infrastructure to support Annual Reviews and Childcare Sufficiency Assessments every three years to comply with the Sections 6 & 11 of the 2006 Childcare Act is key, not only to the monitoring and updating of information about the childcare market within Wigan, but also to facilitate the planning and commissioning of services in order to meet local childcare demand with a wide range of partners. e.g. Health, Jobcentre Plus, parents etc. This supports the strategic co-ordination and delivery of the strategy.

## 3.2 PROGRESS UPDATE ON CHILDCARE STRATEGY

The 2008 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment highlighted that there were a number of small gaps in childcare provision that would need to be addressed before Wigan could be deemed completely sufficient in childcare.

### A. To ensure the sustainability of existing childcare provision and ensure services are fully inclusive and flexible.

#### SUSTAINABILITY

During the financial year 2009-10, there were 12 applications for sustainability funding. Five applications from settings were endorsed, at a total amount of £79,627. The average amount of funding endorsed for settings was £15,925. Two applications from childminders were endorsed, at a total amount of £1,050. The average amount of funding endorsed for a childminder was £525.

The five remaining applications that were not endorsed consisted of two settings who were rejected, and one setting whose application was deferred to the next meeting; which takes place in the new financial year. To date, all three of these settings remain open with no places lost.

The following table compares the endorsed sustainability applications in financial year 2009-10, with the endorsed sustainability applications in financial year 2008-9.

**Table 11: Number Of Job Seeker Allowance Claimants By Duration**

	Settings		Childminders	
	2009-10	2008-9	2009-10	2008-9
Number of applications endorsed	5	5	2	3
Total amount of funding	£79,627	£137,156.52	£1,050	£1,650
Average amount of funding	£15,025	£27,431	£525	£550

Although there were fairly stable numbers of applications for sustainability funding, the amount of funding applied for was significantly less. During 2009-10, restructuring of the Early Years Team took place which meant that fewer staff resources were available to offer business support to settings; this may have resulted in fewer applications. Grant processes were reviewed and this could have affected the amounts of funding being requested by providers.

#### INCLUSION & FLEXIBILITY

Inclusion training was commissioned for Out of School Childcare settings and Out of School hours learning activities.

In terms of flexibility, all early years provision settings have been through a pilot scheme to prepare them to deliver flexibly and also to extend their hours from 12.5 to 15 hours in line with the universal extension of hours which comes into place September 2010.



## **B. To develop / expand Out of School services for 8-11 year olds.**

Three new out of school services are being tendered for. These will be located in Whelley, Bickershaw and Hindley and will provide a total of 48 new out of school places.

## **C. To develop 'Safe Place To Be' / Out of School services for children 11-14 years.**

A pilot Safe Place To Be service has been in operation for a year at Westleigh High School. It has proved to be a very popular service and the school is making a DVD to promote the benefits of it. It is hoped that this used to bring other schools into the sector.

## **D. To address the demand for Crèche provision close to Children's Centres.**

A service provider has been jointly commissioned by CYPS and Economic Regeneration to deliver crèche services for parents attending either Children Centre projects or Worklessness activities across the borough. The service has been commissioned as a pilot for one year initially to gauge uptake and needs. Future crèche services will be planned in accordance with the pilot's findings.

## **D.To develop/ expand Out of School services for children and young people with disabilities.**

This has been the most difficult gap to progress as needs are difficult to define and those needs can be very specific and wide ranging, and data on this is hard to achieve. A steering group has been established to progress this needs gap as a strategic piece of work.

At this stage, a strategy has yet to be formalised, however it is likely that services will be tiered according to need. For example; those with relatively minor needs will be able to access universal provision as all childcare providers will have access to support and training that assists them to offer a fully inclusive service. In addition, some services may be targeted at particular users and /or particular localities while further services may involve very specialised care for those children with the most complex needs.

## **F. To increase the knowledge and skills of the children's workforce (paid/unpaid).**

This is addressed in Chapter 3.3 Quality, under the section entitled Sector Qualifications.

## **G. To develop a Brokerage Strategy to ensure that parents are supported in finding the childcare that meets their needs.**

A Brokerage Strategy was written in conjunction with the Childcare Strategy 2008. Parents are initially supported by Children's Information Service to secure appropriate childcare. However, where parents face difficulties in sourcing appropriate care, Early Years and Extended Services Team will assist them by acting as liaison between parents and providers.

Currently, the Brokerage Strategy is perhaps demonstrated to best effect via the Two Year Old Free Childcare Places pilot programme, which aims to get the 15% most disadvantaged 2 year olds into childcare. Children's Centre Link Workers work with those parents to encourage take-

up of places and to broker the childcare arrangements between parents and providers, offering accompanied visits where required.

## **H. To develop an infrastructure to support Annual Reviews and CSAs.**

As reported in the CSA Annual Review 2008-9, a Childcare Sufficiency Officer (CSO) was recruited in August 2008. In addition, a new Childcare Sufficiency Team is to be established in April 2010, following the restructuring of the Early Years and Extended Services Team.

### 3.3 QUALITY

The statutory guidance states that for childcare to be 'sufficient' it must be of high quality.

#### Sector Qualifications

The CSA highlighted increasing the knowledge and skills of the children's workforce (paid/unpaid) as an area of development. This can be described as 'sector qualifications', and includes data for both childminders and settings.

In Wigan, the qualifications of staff in settings which deliver early years provision are monitored annually. The following table illustrates the total number of staff achieving level 2, 3 and 4+ qualifications in early year's provision in 2007, 2008 and 2009.

**Table 12: Qualifications achieved by Staff in Early Years Provision Settings 2007-9**

Qualification	2007	2008	2009
Level 2	289	248	201
Level 3	707	680	708
Level 4+	90	106	137
Totals	1086	1034	1046

The table shows that in 2009, once again over 1000 early years qualifications were gained by staff in settings delivering early years provision. The table also illustrates that the number of staff achieving a level 4+ qualification is increasing year on year.

In 2009, 50 staff in settings delivering early years provision gained a level 6 or above qualification, compared to 30 staff in 2008, and 11 staff in 2007.

This data clearly shows that the level of staff qualifications in the Wigan borough is continuing to increase each year.

#### Ofsted Inspections

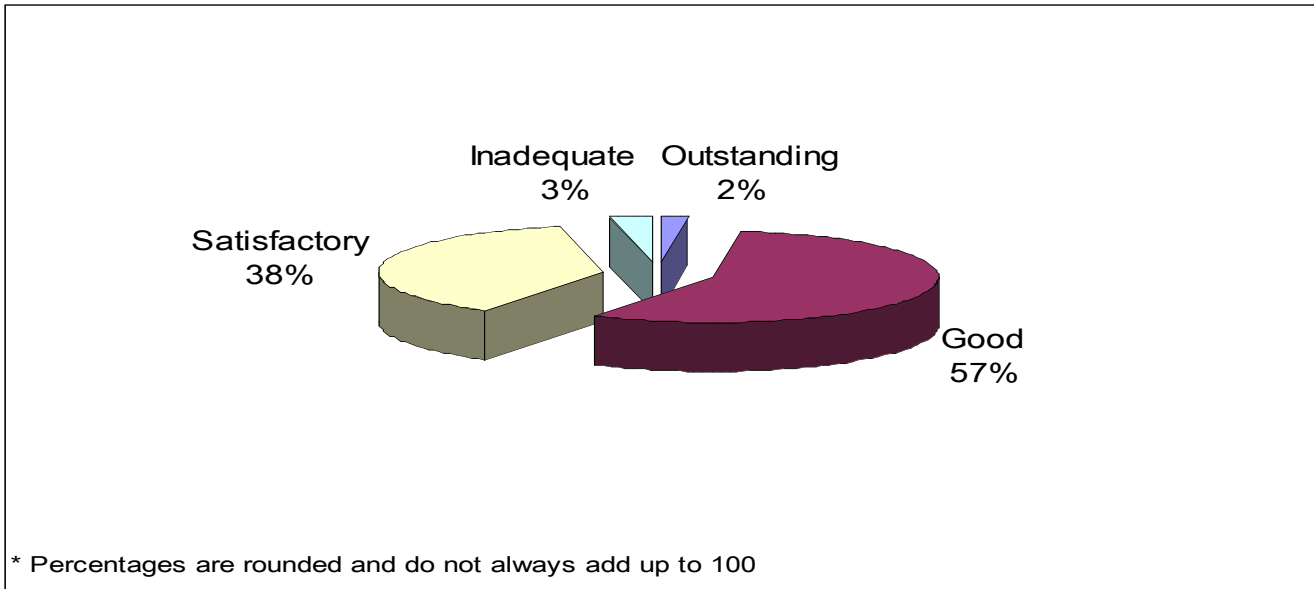
In September 2008, the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework became statutory for all early years providers in Ofsted registered settings attended by children from birth to five years of age.

In the CSA Annual Review 2008-9, Ofsted judgements were reported based on cumulative data from September 2008 (the introduction of EYFS) to March 2009. For this Annual Review we are going to compare that data with the Ofsted cumulative judgements September 2008 to December 2009.

**Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009-10**

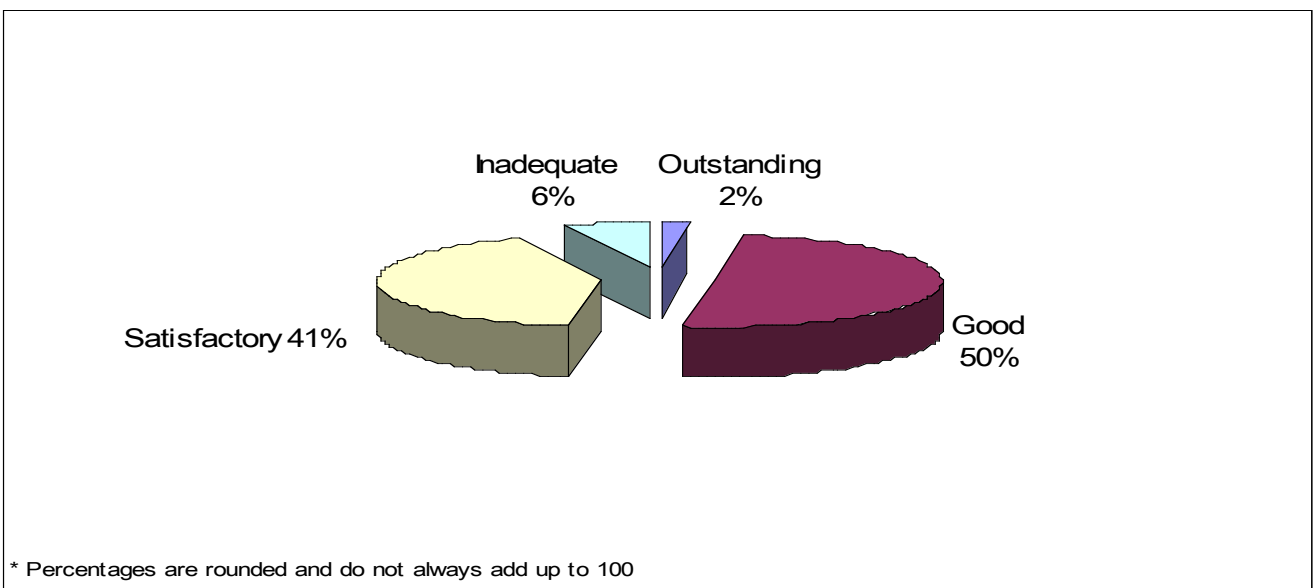
Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009, across all types of provision, there have been 58 inspections in Wigan. Of these 58, 1 setting was judged to Outstanding, 33 settings were judged to be good, 22 settings were judged to be Satisfactory, and 2 settings were judged to be Inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **all provision types** as a percentage.

**Graph 5: Ofsted %\* Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009 for all provision types**



Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009, across all types of provision, there have been 135 inspections in Wigan. Of these 135, 3 settings were judged to Outstanding, 68 settings were judged to be good, 56 settings were judged to be Satisfactory, and 8 settings were judged to be Inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **all provision types** as a percentage.

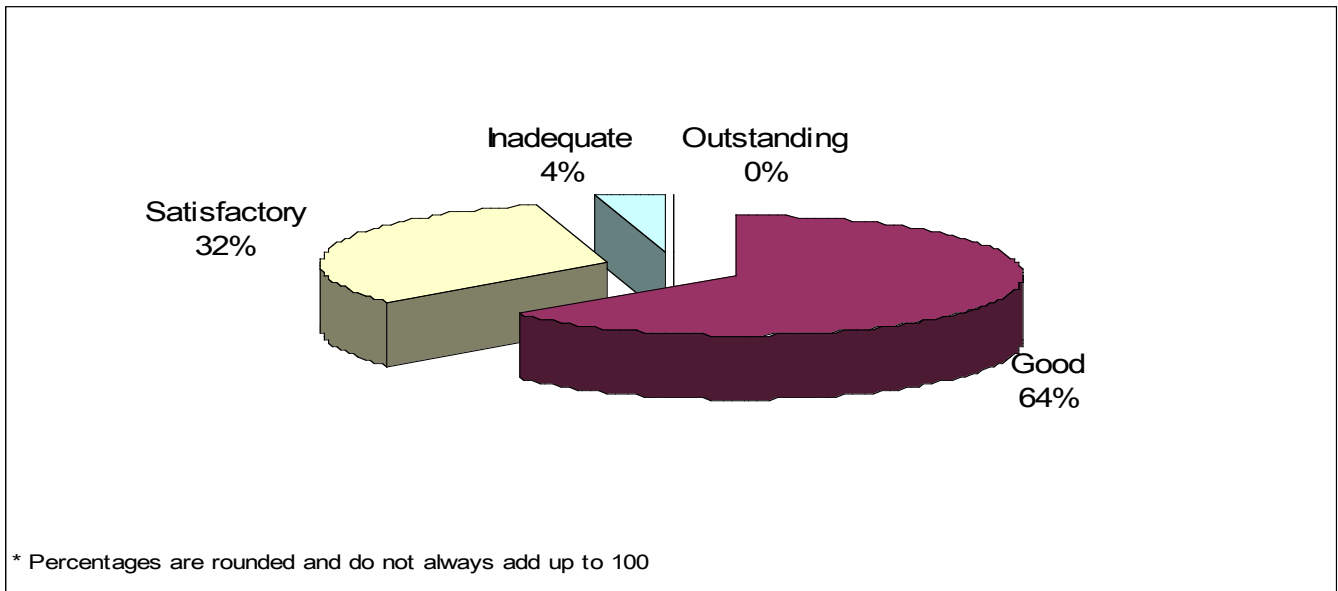
**Graph 6: Ofsted Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009 for all provision types**



**Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009-10**

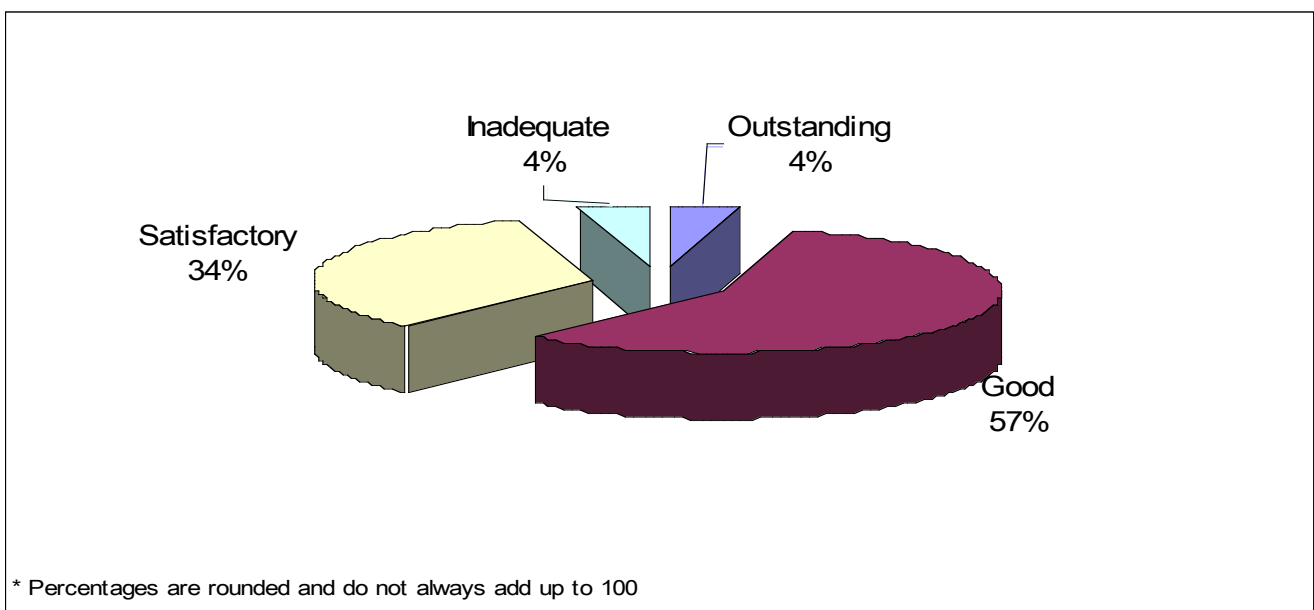
Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009, 28 childcare on non domestic settings were inspected. Of these, 0 settings were judged to be Outstanding, 18 settings were judged to be Good, 9 settings were judged to be Satisfactory, and 1 setting was judged to be inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **childcare on non domestic settings** as a percentage.

**Graph 7: Ofsted Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009 for all non domestic settings**



Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009, 47 childcare on non domestic settings were inspected. Of these, 2 settings were judged to be Outstanding, 27 settings were judged to be Good, 16 settings were judged to be Satisfactory, and 2 settings were judged to be inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **childcare on non domestic settings** as a percentage.

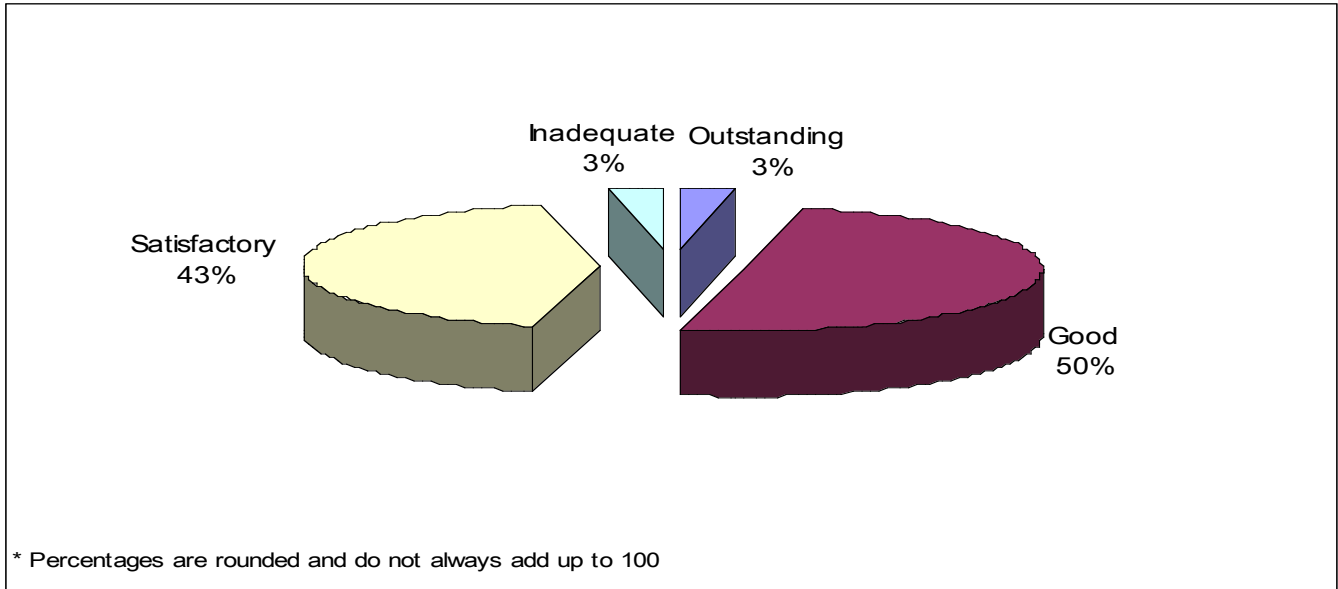
**Graph 8: Ofsted Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009 for all non domestic settings**



**Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009-10**

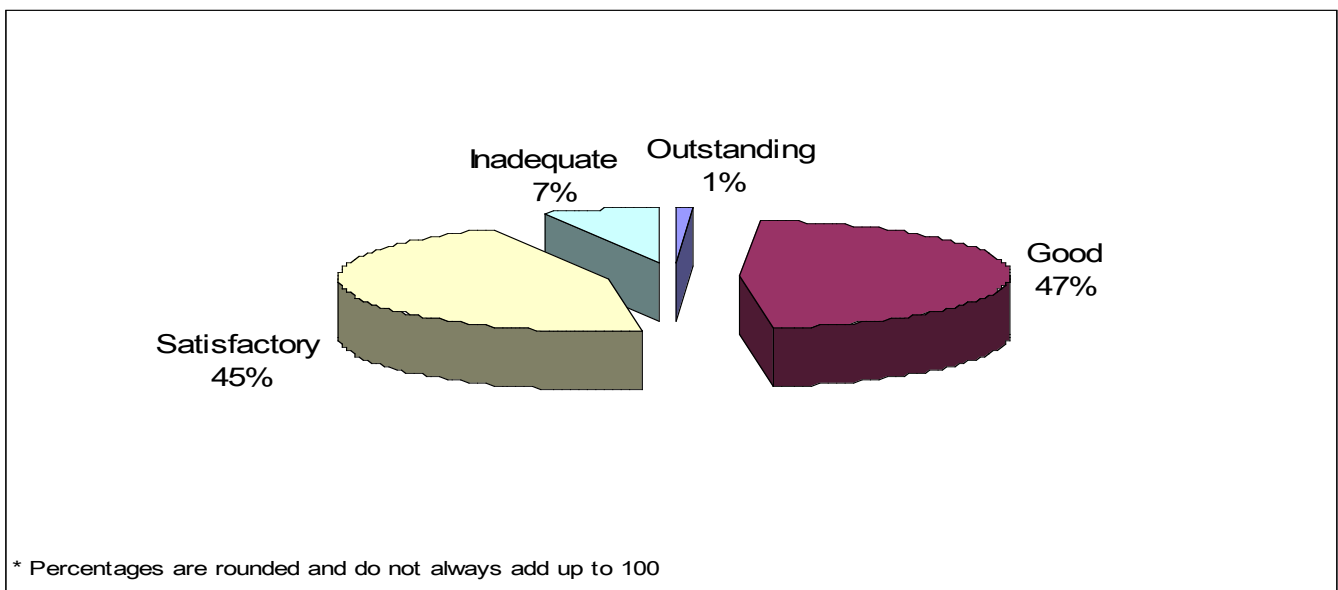
Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009, 30 Childminders were inspected. Of these, 1 was judged to be Outstanding, 15 were judged to be Good, 13 were judged to be Satisfactory, and 1 was judged to be inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **childminders** as a percentage.

**Graph 9: Ofsted Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 March 2009 for childminders**



Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009, 88 Childminders were inspected. Of these, 1 was judged to be Outstanding, 41 were judged to be Good, 40 were judged to be Satisfactory, and 6 were judged to be inadequate. The graph below illustrates the inspection outcomes for **childminders** as a percentage.

**Graph 10: Ofsted Judgements Between 1 September 2008 and 31 December 2009 for childminders**



**Wigan Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Annual Review 2009-10**

Overall, the Ofsted judgment data illustrates that quality in Wigan childcare is declining. If a line on judgment outcomes is drawn between the Inadequate, Satisfactory scores vs. the Good, Outstanding scores across the two cumulative timeframes, the percentage of judgments on the Inadequate, Satisfactory end of the scale increases, whilst the Good, Outstanding percentages decrease. This is shown more clearly in table 13 below.

**Table 13: Comparison of cumulative Ofsted Judgments by percentage**

TYPE	Cumulative to March 2009 (Sept 2008 to Mar 2009)		Cumulative to December 2009 (Sept 2008 to Dec 2009)	
	Inadequate, Satisfactory	Good, Outstanding	Inadequate, Satisfactory	Good, Outstanding
All Provision	41%	59%	47%	52%
Non-Domestic	36%	64%	38%	61%
Childminders	46%	53%	52%	48%

## 3.4 EARLY YEARS PROVISION

### (Formerly the Free Early Education Entitlement)

From September 2010, free childcare provision for three- and four-year-olds **will increase from 12.5 to 15 hours a week**, and be delivered on a **more flexible basis**. Flexible delivery will allow parents to access the entitlement in a way that better suits their work and family commitments.

Wigan council has provided support and guidance to help providers to deliver the free provision in a flexible way.

In terms of **Two Year Old Funding**, Wigan had an allocation to fund 106 ten hour places from September 2009 for the 15% most disadvantaged two year olds in the borough.

Wigan had an under spend on some budget streams, for example, the project worker allocation. As a result of recruitment restrictions, this post has yet to be filled, and budget slippage has accrued. In order that more children benefit, the slippage has been used to create additional places. Thus, the places currently offered and filled are 126 two year old places.

This Government has made a commitment to a further roll out of free part time places for two year olds from 2011.



### 3.5 EARLY YEARS CAPITAL GRANT

Wigan was allocated £3.6 million over three years (2008-11) from the Early Years Capital Grant.

The aim of the grant was:

1. To improve the quality of the learning environment in early years settings to support delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), with a particular emphasis on improving play and physical activities; and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) resources.
2. To ensure that all children, including disabled children, are able to access provision.
3. To enable private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers to deliver the extension to the free offer for three and four year olds and to do so flexibly; rather than as AM/PM sessions.

The majority of this capital grant was to be used to improve the quality of the outdoor play environment in private, voluntary and independent (PVI) early years and childcare settings, although maintained providers were also allowed to apply, both to support higher quality experiences for young children and to ensure that all children could access services and benefit fully from those services.

A programme board was set up to administer the grant funding on behalf of the Local Authority and a strategic plan was developed, employing a phased approach, to effectively commission the grant for maximum impact and value for money.

Phase 1 Audits were sent out to all providers who offer early years provision. These were comprised of two parts: Audit A was to support applications for grant funding to develop buildings, access and outdoor provision, whilst Audit B was to provide information about resources needed to develop quality, accessible and flexible provision. Overall, a total of 485 Phase 1 Audits were sent out in summer 2008, of which 217 were returned, giving an overall return rate of 45%.

The following table outlines the return rate of the audit for each sector:

**Table 14: Grant Audits Returned by Sector – Summer 2008**

Sector	Number of audits sent out	Number of audits returned	Return rate (%)
Maintained	30	30	100%
PVI Settings	150	85	57%
Childminders	305	102	33%

Based on the findings of the audits returned in Phase 1, the key categories for the allocation of funding are:

**RESOURCES AND TRAINING:**

- ICT (Information Communication Technology)
- CLLD (Communication, Language and Literacy Development)
- Outdoor provision
- Multi-cultural resources

**OUTDOOR PLAY:**

- Landscaping
- Storage

**FLEXIBLE DELIVERY:**

- Refurbishment work to meet criteria for flexible delivery

Phase 2 Audit was undertaken in summer 2009. Overall, a total of 260 Phase 2 Audits were sent out in 2009, of which 49 were returned, giving an overall return rate of 19%.

The following table outlines the return rate of the audit for each sector:

**Table 15: Grant Audits Returned by Sector – Summer 2009**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Number of audits sent out</b>	<b>Number of audits returned</b>	<b>Return rate (%)</b>
Maintained	10	3	30%
PVI Settings	66	27	41%
Childminders	184	19	10%

Due to the low Phase 2 Audit response in summer 2009, the EYCG board reviewed the strategy and decided to issue all providers, including childminders, with ICT, CLLD, Multi cultural and Outdoor provision resource packs.

Outdoor play and Flexible delivery capital expenditure would continue to be implemented as detailed in the Early Years Capital Grant strategic plan.

**PROGRESS TO DATE:**

**RESOURCES AND TRAINING:**

**Childminders:**

242 childminders out of 280 have taken receipt of their resource packs.

**Settings:**

Phase 1 of the ICT, CLLD and Multi cultural resource has been issued.

Phase 2 of the ICT, CLLD and Multi cultural resources resource packs are currently in the process of being commissioned.

**OUTDOOR PLAY:**

Outdoor play developments are progressing steadily. Some delays have occurred due to planning consent and/or landlord consent being required prior to commencing.

**FLEXIBLE DELIVERY:**

All settings identified have had works completed.

## **4. Next Steps**

### **4.1 CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2011**

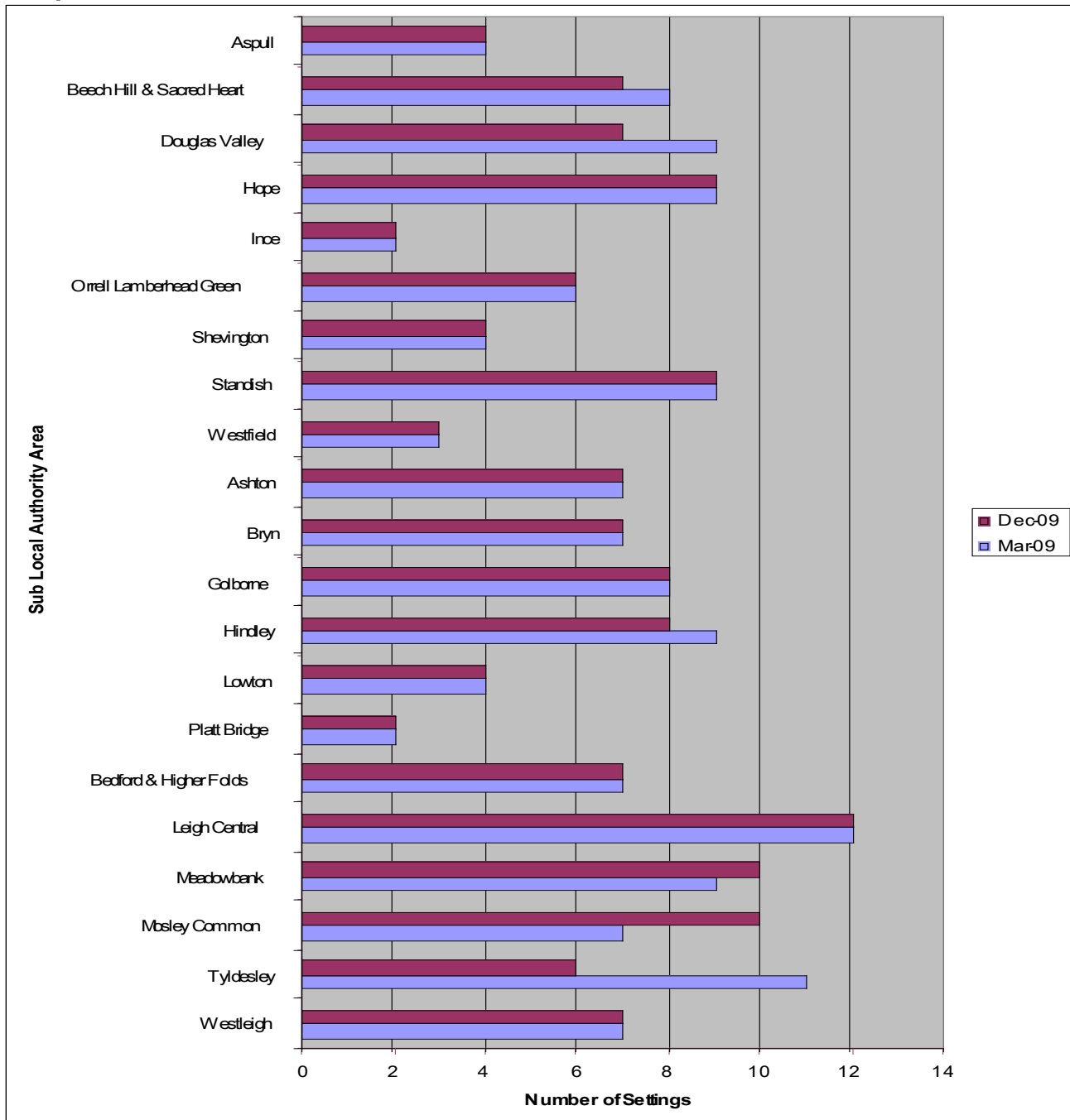
A detailed and comprehensive project plan has been written for the CSA 2011. The project began in January 2010 and will run through to April 2011 when the report is published. A strategy for addressing any gaps identified within the 2011 Assessment is also required to be published by April 2011.

The CSA project plan summary/overview is supplied in Appendix 2.

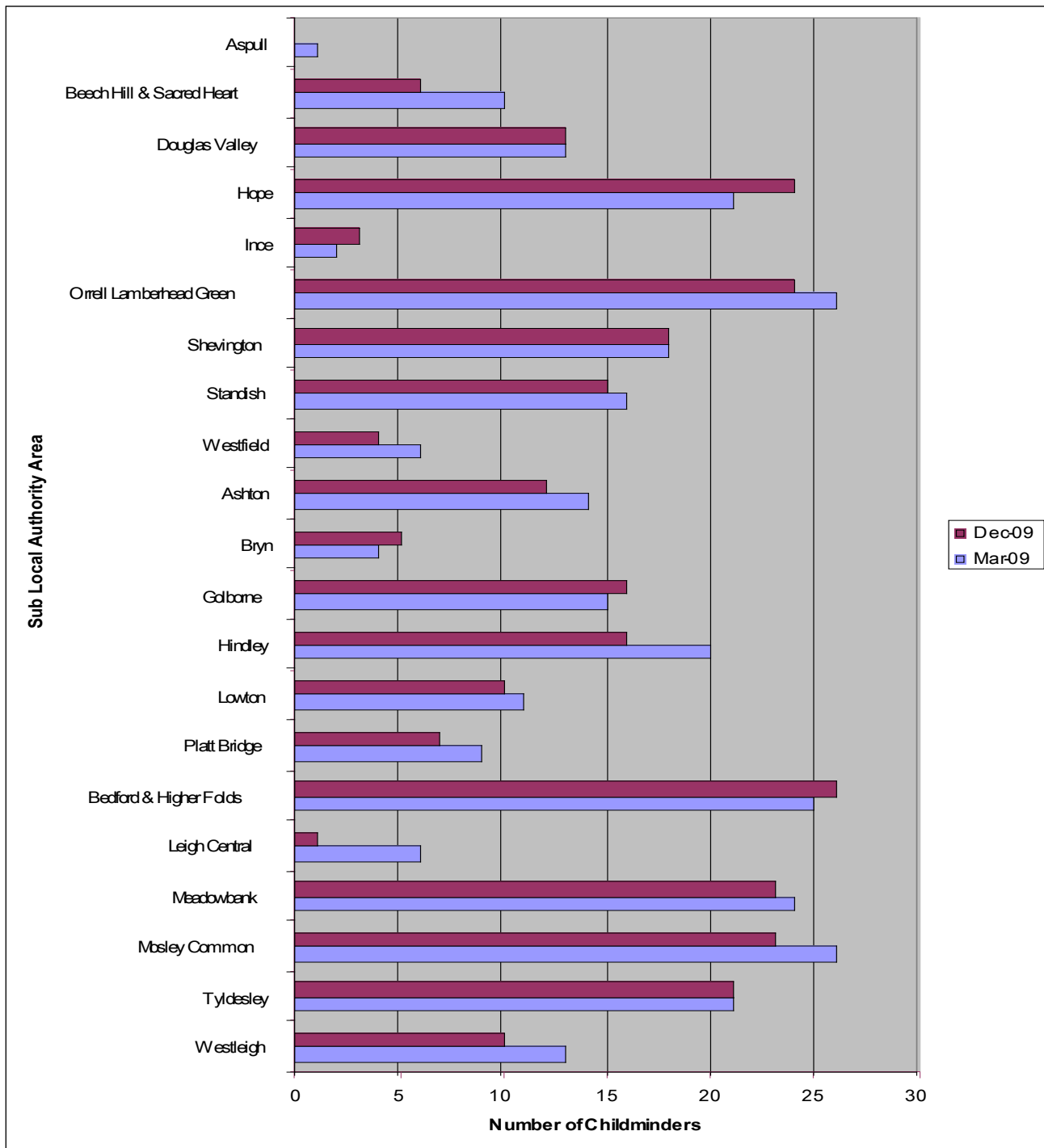
# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX ONE: Number of Providers by Sub-Local Authority Area

Graph A: Number of Settings in each Sub-Local Authority Area as at March 2009 compared to as at December 2009



Graph B: Number of Childminders in each Sub-Local Authority Area as at March 2009 compared to as at December 2009



## APPENDIX TWO: CSA 2011 Project Plan Summary

Table A: CSA 2011 Project Plan Summary

CSA 2011 PROJECT PLAN SUMMARY		
ACTION	TASKS	DATE
<b>SET UP</b>	Create project plan	Nov 09 - Mar 10
	Data	By May 10
<b>MEDIA LAUNCH</b>	Posters	Jan -Feb10
	Flyers	Jan -Feb10
	ICT	Feb-10
	Publications	Dec 09 -Feb10
<b>PREPARATION</b>	Printing and posting	By Mar 10
	Supply and demand cover letters and chase material	Jan - Feb 10
	Design supply consultation material	Dec 09 - Feb 10
	Design demand consultation material	Feb - May 10
	Distribution and input of questionnaires	Mar - July 10
<b>SUPPLY</b>	Distribution and input of questionnaires	May - Aug 10
	Set up	By April 10
<b>DEMAND - QUANTITATIVE</b>	Focus groups - children (age 0- 5, 5- 11, 5-14)	May - Jun 10
	Focus groups - BME	May - Jun 10
<b>DEMAND - QUALITATIVE</b>	Focus groups - parents with disabled children	May - Jun 10
	Focus groups - teenage parents	May - Jun 10
	Focus groups - parents	May - Jun 10
	Fieldwork with employers	May - Jun 10
<b>GAP ANALYSIS</b>	Final evidence gathering and data input	Jul - Aug 10
	Factors affecting demand and ability to pay	By Oct 10
	Analysis	Aug - Oct 10
<b>CONSULTATION &amp; ACTION PLANNING</b>	Assessment	Oct - Nov 10
	Consultation and finalising documents	Nov 10 - Feb 11
	Printing and publishing	Feb - Apr 11





We can make this information available in other formats and languages on request.

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