

Request

1. How does your local authority (LA) fund its childcare and early years services? Please supply this information broken down by funding stream ie. government funding, LA budget, parent fees etc and what percentage of funding each element makes up.

2. How much Department for Education funding has your LA received each year, over the last five years, for early years entitlement for three-and four-year olds? Please provide this information in £s for:

2018-2019; 2019-2020; 2020-2021; 2021-2022; 2022-2023

3. Local authorities are allowed to retain a maximum of 5% of government funding for the universal and extended three-and four-year old entitlements to account for administration costs related to LA functions. How much of this available 5% does your local authority currently retain?

4. What is this retained funding spent on by your local authority? Please include as much detail as possible.

5. How has the proportion of the allowed 5% of funding retained by your local authority changed over the last five years? Please provide the following information:

Year	£total funding	£retained funding	% of total budget
2018-2019	£16.73m	£0.514m	3.07%
2019-2020	£16.85m	£0.555m	3.29%
2020-2021	£17.33m	£0.625m	3.61%
2021-2022	£17.511m	£0.684mm	3.91%
2022-2023	£18.173m	£0.846m	4.66%

6. Given the future extended entitlement implementation, will the retained percentage of funding reduce, remain the same, or increase? If there is an expected change, what will that be (i.e. the total percentage retained)?

Response

Childcare and early years services are funded via Government funding and LA Revenue budget. As a local authority we are not aware of the parent fees which are paid direct to the providers

2018/19 £16.73m
 2019/20 £16.85m
 2020/21 £17.33m
 2021/22 £17.511m
 2022/23 £18.173m

2023/24 £865,807 (4.39%)

The retained funding will continue to support staff within the Early Years Teams and also funding to settings. This includes; quality assurance, training, speech and language support, safeguarding, sufficiency & SEN inclusion fund.

Until the 24/25 guidance is released we are unable to confirm what the retained percentage of funding will be.