REPORT TO SCHOOLS FORUM



8 February 2018

TITLE OF REPORT: Payments to Early Years Providers

Purpose of the Report

 To update Schools Forum on the recent consultation with Early Years providers regarding the frequency of payments to providers and to request agreement from Schools Forum on the process to be followed from April 2018.

Background

- 2. In December 2017, Schools Forum granted permission to consult with private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers of early education and primary academies with a nursery class to gather their preference between staying with the current payment system (two payments per term) or moving to a system of monthly payments.
- 3. Providers were invited to attend one of two briefings held on Wednesday, 10 January when the differences between the two systems were explained and discussed. The presentation was circulated to all providers on Thursday, 11 January and providers had until Wednesday, 24 January to express their preference.

Consultation

4. The outcome of the consultation was as follows:-

	Monthly	Current	No	Total
	System	System	Preference	
Childminders	10	2	1	13
Group providers	4	14	7	25
Total	14	16	8	38

Group providers can be further sub-divided as follows:-

	Monthly	Current	No	Total
	System	System	Preference	
Day nurseries	2	6	6	14
Pre-schools	2	8	1	11
Total	4	14	7	25

Although overall results were quite even, this masked a clear preference by childminders for a monthly payment system and a preference from group providers to retain the current system.

Options

- 5. Three options have been identified and the variability of their implementation assessed:-
 - 1. **Pay all providers on a monthly basis.** This is in line with Government guidance but goes against the preference of the majority of group providers.
 - 2. Pay each provider in accordance with their stated preference. This is in line with Government guidance and meets each providers preference. However, Early Years staff are concerned about running the two payment systems concurrently on this basis, without any experience of making payments on a monthly basis.
 - 3. Pay all childminders on a monthly basis and pay all group providers on the current system. This is in line with Government guidance and meets the preference of the vast majority of providers. It would also allow Early Years staff to implement monthly payments on a small, manageable scale. Once the amount of work involved and the additional time needed is more clearly understood, then it may be possible to re-consider Option 2.

Proposal

- 6. It is proposed that option 3 is implemented from April 2018, as this seems to offer the most practical solution, and meets the preferences of the vast majority of providers that responded to the consultation.
- 7. Each year, all providers receive a calendar of key dates. Appendix 1 shows the proposed key dates for the financial year 2018/19. The calendar will be shared with providers, should Schools Forum agree to the implementation of option 3.
- 8. To partly offset the additional BACS costs, payments for eligible two year olds and payments for three and four year olds will be made at the same time.

Recommendation

9. It is recommended that Schools Forum approve option 3 and that following implementation further information will be brought to Schools Forum for consideration.

For the following reasons:-

- To comply with Statutory Guidance.
- To comply with the timescales for the implementation of monthly payments.
- To give the vast majority of providers their preference.
- To allow the monthly payment system to be implemented initially on a small, manageable scale.

CONTACT Gillian Dodds

March Marc		Appendix KEY DATES IN THE MONTHLY PAYMENT PROCESS OF TWO, THREE AND FOUR YEAR OLDS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/19									Appendix 1			
March Marc														
													Spring Term	
Transfer of the control of the contr	1	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March
Provider Control Contr	2													
Provided	3			Providers										
Comment Comm														
Provider														
Command Comm														
Providers (Providers (4													
Provider														
Provider receive Provider P									second					
Provides retained for a province f														
Provides	5													
Spermoral 306 of Journal 1														
Desilite for process and proce														
Submission of	6													
a statute (shall death) Particular Part														
Some female Control of the contr					actuals (child			estimate			payment			
Providers (Score Bird Common) Deadline for Common														
submission of screen strong receive final payment of screen strong and screen strong receive final payment of screen screen strong receive final payment of screen strong receive final payment of screen scre	'							(According)		Deadline for	aujustinellis		Providers	Providers
Administration of Commercy (Spring) 200-74 (Sp					receive third					submission of			receive second	receive final
Ablume term Comment C														
Description	8									Autumn term				
By Section for Submission of Continues for Submission of S														
30 Provides Provid														
The second secon										payment				
Providers 12 Providers										(Autumn)				
1														
13 Provider for received first extracts of payment (Gering) 13 Deadline for submission of estimate for submission of estimates for submission of estimate for submission of estimates for submission														
Provider												payment		
Providers receive first exhibits on submission of extinates for Automatem Deadline for submission of extinates for October payment Deadline for Spring term Deadline for Summer												(Spring)		
submission of estimates for Autumn term 14						Deadline for								
Deadline for submission of estimate for of submission of estimate for submission of estimate for of submission of estimate for estimate for of estimate for estimate for estimate for of estimate for estimate for estimate for of estimate for estimate						submission of								
Deadline for submission of estimates or of est			payment											
submission of revised submission of settimate for October payment Deadline for submission of adjustments to actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of or submission of estimate for payment Deadline for submission of adjustments to actuals (child details) Spring term CENUS DAY. Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised	13		(Summer)			Autumi term		Des all as fee						
estimate for October Spring term 15 Deadline for Spring term 16 Term 17 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 10 Deadline for Spring term 10 Deadline for Spring term 11 Deadline for Spring term 12 Deadline for Spring term 13 Deadline for Spring term 14 Deadline for Spring term 15 Deadline for Spring term 16 Deadline for Spring term 17 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 10 Deadline for Spring term 11 Deadline for Spring term 12 Deadline for Spring term 13 Deadline for Spring term 14 Deadline for Spring term 15 Deadline for Spring term 16 Deadline for Spring term 17 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 10 Deadline for Spring term 11 Deadline for Spring term 12 Deadline for Spring term 13 Deadline for Spring term 14 Deadline for Spring term 15 Deadline for Spring term 16 Deadline for Spring term 17 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 18 Deadline for Spring term 19 Deadline for Spring term 10 Deadline for Spring term 11 Deadline for Spring term 12 Deadline for Spring term 13 Deadline for Spring term 14											Deadline for			
14 Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 15 Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 16 Term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 17 Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 18 Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 19 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of submission of submission of estimate for submission of s														
payment Deadline for submission of adjustment to actuals (Child decisis) Spring for submission of estimates for Summer submission of estimate for submission of estimate for submission of estimate for submission of revised estimate for November payment submission of estimate for submission of e														
Submission of adjustments to actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of term CENSUS DAY- Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term CENSUS DAY- Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for feel payment Deadline for submission of feel payment	14										-, 0			
adjustments to actuals (child details) Spring Deadline for submission of estimates for Summer 15														
Deadline for submission of estimates for summer Deadline for submission of estimates Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of rev													adjustments to	
Deadline for submission of estimates for Summer term CENSUS DAY-Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) spring term Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment														
Submission of estimates For Summer For Summer For Summer For Summer For Summer For Summission of actuals (child details) Spring For Submission of actuals (child details) Spring For Submission of revised For Submission Fo	15													
of estimates for Summer term 16 term 17 Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 18 Deadline for submission of of revised estimate for November Dayment 19 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November Dayment 20 May payment 21 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November Dayment 22 Submission of revised estimate for Deadline for Submission of revised estimate for November Dayment 23 Deadline for Submission of Payment 24 Deadline for Submission of Payment 25 Deadline for Submission of Payment 26 Submission of Feb payment 27 Submission of Feb payment 28 Submission Submission of Feb payment 30 Submission of Feb payment 31 Submission of Feb payment 32 Submission of Feb payment 33 Submission Submission of Feb payment 34 Submission of Feb payment 35 Submission of Feb payment 36 Submission of Feb payment 37 Submission of Feb payment 38 Submission of Feb payment 39 Submission of Feb payment														
term CENSUS DAY- Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised esti														
CENSUS DAY- Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Feb payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Feb payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Feb payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Feb payment		for Summer												
Deadline for submission of actuals (child details) Spring term 18 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 20 May payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 21 22 23 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 25 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 31	16	term										CENSUS DAY -		
actuals (child details) Spring term 18 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 20 May payment 21 22 23 24 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of of revised estimate for payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for plune payment plune												Deadline for		
17 18 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 20 May payment 21 22 23 24 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 25 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 26 27 28 29 30 31														
17 18 19 19 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment 20 May payment 21 22 23 24 Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for Submission of revised estimate for Submission of Feb payment Deadline for Submission of revised estimate for Payment 26 27 28 29 30 31												details) Spring		
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment														——
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for November payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for May payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June paymen	10								Deadline for					
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for May payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for May payment Deadline for submission of of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of r														
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for sub														
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for May payment Deadline for submission of revised estimate for submission of of revised estimate for June payment Deadline for submission o									November					
Submission of revised estimate for	19		Deadline for						payment					
estimate for May payment			submission of											
20														
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment June payment 26 27 28 29 30 31 June payment	20													
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment June payment 26 27 28 29 30 31 June payment	21													
Deadline for submission of revised estimate for June payment June payment 26 27 28 29 30 31 June payment	23													
Submission of of revised estimate for	24			Describer 6								Dec III v		
of revised estimate for June payment														
25 June payment Feb payment Feb payment				of revised								revised		
26	25													
27	26			payment								. se payment		
29 30 31	27					-								
30 31 31														
	30													
Optional Step	31													
		Optional Step												