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Dear Colleague

### **Implementation of the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) - postponement**

In June 2007, the Government announced that all local authorities (LAs) would be required to use a single funding formula for early years provisions in the Maintained and Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) settings from April 2010. LAs were required to design and implement a single local formula, to fund the free entitlement to early year's provision for 3 and 4 year olds across all sectors.

In 2009, Lincolnshire undertook a detailed exercise to develop a theoretical cost model using evidence based approach. This formed the basis of the proposed formula. A consultation exercise was undertaken between October and December 2009, to enable the draft proposals to be refined.

However, on the 10 December 2009, Dawn Primarolo, Minister for Children, Young People and Families, took the decision to postpone implementation of the Early Years Single Funding Formula by one year. The decision was taken due to many providers, parents and local authorities having concerns about the potential disruption to the early years sector that an under-developed formula could cause. The Minister therefore decided that local authorities will not be required to implement their EYSFF until April 2011. Please may I take this opportunity to thank you for your assistance in the extensive consultation which Lincolnshire completed and reassure you that Lincolnshire was one of the Authority's who would have been ready to implement a single funding formulae.

However postponing implementation will allow Lincolnshire more time to resolve a number of minor issues and anomalies within the current provision. Some of these may have an impact in 2010/11 and the few providers affected will be contacted directly. I will update you on any further information from Government as soon as received

If you require any additional information, please contact Stephanie Douglas, Head of Service, Birth to Five 01522 587574/ [steph.douglas@cftb.com](mailto:steph.douglas@cftb.com)

Yours sincerely



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