

Early Years Single Funding Formula – request to be considered as a 2010/11 pathfinder

Name of LA:

Name of LA contact completing application:

Telephone number:

Email address:

Please complete the table below and return to eysinglefunding.formula@dcsf.gsi.gov.uk by 29 January 2010 if you wish your authority to be considered as a pathfinder for the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) for 2010/11. The form must be signed by the Director of Children’s Services.

No return is necessary if your authority does not wish to introduce the single formula in 2010/11.

<p>What consultation on the single formula has taken place with providers? (please outline who has been consulted, dates of consultation process)</p>	
<p>Has your Schools Forum supported your application to introduce the single formula from April 2010? (Please attach relevant minutes) <i>If your Schools Forum does not meet before the deadline, please submit your application and provide the outcome of the SF meeting as soon as possible.</i></p>	
<p>Does your early years reference group and/or PVI Schools Forum representative support your application to introduce the single formula from April 2010? (Please attach evidence of this)</p>	
<p>What financial impact would the introduction of the single formula have on different types of setting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained nursery schools • Maintained nursery classes in infant and primary schools • Private nurseries 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary providers • Independent sector • Childminders <p>(Please also attach copies of any modelling showing gains and losses at individual provider level in both cash terms and as a % of last years' funding)</p>	
<p>Does your authority fund any full time places? Please provide details of where and how. Is this universal across the whole of the LA or only some providers?</p>	
<p>If yes, how will the introduction of the EYSFF impact on the offer of full time places?</p>	
<p>Approximately how many surplus places are there in maintained nursery schools? Maintained nursery classes? What has been done to mitigate losses in providers (maintained or PVI) with surplus places as a result of moving to participation funding?</p>	
<p>Will the introduction of the EYSFF directly lead to the closure of any of the following providers in the future? Maintained nursery schools? Maintained nursery classes? Other providers?</p>	
<p>What transitional arrangements are you proposing and for how long would these last?</p>	
<p>What arrangements are you making to hold a contingency?</p>	
<p>Are there any other comments you wish to make in support of your application?</p>	

For an authority to implement an early years single funding formula in 2010/11, it will be necessary for DCSF to allow the authority to set aside certain of the School Finance (England) Regulations 2009; these are to be laid before Parliament in the New Year. References to regulation numbers relate to the 2008 Regulations. Please complete the table below for any regulations you wish to be set aside depending on your proposed formula.

The regulations which are most likely to be relevant are:

- Regulation 13 – budget shares may not be redetermined after 31 March; the single formula is likely to require redeterminations in year
- Regulation 17 – requires a count on a single date of pupils in nursery classes or nursery schools; the single formula is likely to take account of pupil numbers through the year
- Regulation 21(3) allows local authorities to abate their sixth form funding for items duplicated in the LSC (in future YPLA) formula. Some authorities may wish to be allowed to do the same for their nursery funding. If you require this facility, it is suggested that you apply to allow regulation 21(3) to be applied to funding which has been duplicated in the Early years single funding formula.

There are two other regulations which authorities might wish to set aside, but where we would need to be reassured that the implications had been properly been considered. These are:

- Regulation 19(2) requires primary and secondary formulae to have a deprivation factor. Given ministers’ emphasis on targeting deprivation and “narrowing the gap”, we would expect early years single formulae to have a deprivation factor as previously anticipated in the draft regulations and therefore will not approve a pathfinder application without a deprivation factor in the formula.
- Regulation 20 states that maintained nursery schools and primary schools with nursery classes should be covered by the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) through to 2011. If you wish to exempt nursery schools, or schools with nursery classes from the MFG, which you can do with agreement of your Schools Forum, then you should ensure that there has been proper consideration of the need for adequate transitional arrangements.

Regulation number	How the single formula is to be implemented	Why this regulation stops implementation

I confirm thatLA wishes to be considered as a pathfinder for the early years single funding formula and to have the above regulations disapplied for the 2010/11 financial year.

Signed (Director of Children's Services)

Date