Opinion: RTC / Origin: Domestic

RPC reference number: RPC15-FT-DfE-2396

Date of implementation: January 2016



Amendments to the Childcare (provision of information about young children) Regulations 2009 Department for Education

RPC rating: Confirmed as low-cost regulation

Description of proposal

The proposal will require private, voluntary and independent providers (PVIs) to return data to the Department, through their local authority, on children eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP). The data will be provided as part of the Early Years census and the Alternative Provision census. The EYPP provides additional funding to support disadvantaged three and four year olds receiving government-funded early education. Funding is given to providers by local authorities who, in turn, are reimbursed by the Department. The proposal, therefore, ensures that funding provided to local authorities is based on actual numbers of children. It does not affect the provision of funding to providers.

Impacts of proposal

The Department explains that the proposal will have an impact on 22,700 PVIs, by requiring them to provide data on eligible pupils. This will provide DfE with accurate data with which to calculate the funding to be provided to local authorities, based on actual numbers of children eligible for the EYPP. The Department does not expect this to impose a significant burden, as the data will be provided along with data the PVIs already provide on the number of hours of care for this age group. The Department has assumed that the provision of additional data will take PVIs between 15 and 30 minutes at an hourly labour cost of £13.55. The Department estimates that this equates to total annual costs of between £77,000 and £154,000.

Quality of submission

Based on the evidence provided, the RPC can confirm this proposal as low cost. The Department should test, through consultation, the time required by PVIs to provide the additional data.

Initial departmental assessment

Classification	In scope – low-cost regulation
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RPC assessment

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Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman