



Reference: FOI3028

Request:

1) How many and what proportion of the total children's centres (including Sure Start centres) in your local authority area have been closed temporarily since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic; and, of those that were closed temporarily, how many have a) subsequently reopened, b) been scheduled for reopening at a later date, c) closed permanently, or d) been proposed for permanent closure at a later date?

Two out of three centres were closed temporarily during the pandemic representing 66.66%. Of these, both have partially reopened to deliver childcare to under 5s / to deliver family time sessions to the families of looked after children.

The remaining centre was open throughout the pandemic.

2) For each of the last five financial years (2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20), how much has your local authority underspent its early years block of the dedicated schools grant (DSG); and, of that overspend, how much has been a) distributed across the early years sector, b) carried forward to the following year's budget or c) spent elsewhere? (Please provide a detailed breakdown of how any overspend was used.)

15/16 £0.417M UNDERSPEND

16/17 £0.605M OVERSPEND

17/18 £0.486M UNDERSPEND

18/19 £0.555M UNDERSPEND

19/20 £0.044M UNDERSPEND

CUMULATIVE UNDERSPEND £0.898M

(A) DISTRIBUTED ACROSS EARLY YEARS SECTOR £0.466M

(B) CARRIED FORWARD TO FOLLOWING YEAR'S BUDGET £0.431M

(C) SPENT ELSEWHERE £0.000M

3) For the first six months of this financial year (April to October 2020), how much of the early years block of the dedicated schools grant (DSG) has been spent so far; and, of that spending, how much has been used to a) fund free entitlements based on pre-coronavirus occupancy levels b) ensure sufficient childcare places are available for vulnerable children and those of critical workers, and c) serve other purposes? (Please provide a detailed breakdown of how this spending has been used).

APRIL TO OCTOBER FIGURES ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE; AUTUMN PAYMENT NOT FINALISED.