

Reference Number: FOI-101004681769

Response provided under: Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request and response:

Financial year 2018/19

- 1. Please provide information about whether any contingency was planned in the Early Years Block for the Financial Year 2018/19 including the amount of any contingency planned.**

The authorities Early Years funding formula for 2018/19 included a contingency of £200,000 funded from the universal entitlement for three and four year olds.

- 2. Please provide information about any underspend in the early years block for three and four-year-old places in 2018/19 and the amount of any underspend.**

Please see the below table. Figures with (-) denote an underspend.

	2018/19 Outturn
Early Years Block Contingency*	-25,172
3 & 4 Universal Entitlement	- 1,716
3 & 4 Extended Entitlement	16,030
Net position 3 & 4 Year Olds	-10,858

*The contingency was used to offset a £175k overspend in funding disadvantaged two year olds.

- 3. Please provide information about any overspend in the early years block for three and four-year-old places in 2018/19 and the amount of any overspend.**

Please see the response to question 2.

- 4. Please provide information about agreed actions relating to any underspend in the early years block for three and four-year-old places in 2018/19.**

The net underspend of £10,858 was moved to the Early Years DSG reserve.

- 5. Please provide information about agreed actions relating to any overspend in the early years block for three and four-year-old places in 2018/19.**

N/A

Financial year 2019/20

- 1. Please provide information about whether any contingency was planned in the Early Years Block for the Financial Year 2019/20 including the amount of any contingency planned.**

The 2019/20 Early Years funding formula includes a contingency of £200,000.

- 2. Please provide information on what calculations were made in planning this contingency budget.**

The contingency is based on historical overspending on disadvantaged two year olds, caused by a variance between the census count used by the Education and Skills Funding Agency to allocate funding to the authority, and the actual take up of funded places across the year.

- 3. Please provide information about any plans for any remaining unspent contingency budget at the end of the financial year.**

This has not been finalised. In the past accumulated surpluses held in the Early Years DSG reserve have been used to fund one off increases to the hourly rate paid to three and four year old providers.

Information provided by: Together for Families

Date of response: 26th November 2019