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**Meeting:** Central Bedfordshire Schools Forum

**Date:** 8 March 2010

**Subject:** Early Years Single Funding Formula

**Report of:** Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning

**Summary:** The Schools Forum to approve the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector's hourly rate for the Early Years Entitlement for 2010-11.

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Contact Officer: Bob Thompson

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. The Schools Forum agrees to increase the PVI sector's hourly rate for the delivery of the Early Years Entitlement by 2.8% to £3.70 an hour.**

#### **Background**

1. Now that the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) has been deferred until April 2011 Central Bedfordshire Council is required to review the PVI rate for the delivery of the Early Years Entitlement. Last year the rate was raised by 3.45% to £3.60 per hour which was close to the average for the local authorities researched. This increase was fully funded through the increase in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The recommended above inflation increase was due to the Holiday Entitlement for these settings being increased from 4.8 to 5.6 weeks, in addition to payroll and other cost increases.
2. A 2.8% increase for 2010-11 would equate broadly to the rise in the cost of living and is just above the Schools' Minimum Funding Guarantee (2.1%). This increase is affordable, fully funded through the increase in the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and recommended by the Early Years Reference Group.

#### **Recommendations**

3. The Schools Forum agrees to increase the PVI sector's hourly rate for the delivery of the Early Years Entitlement for 2010-11 by 2.8% to £3.70 an hour.

## **Reasons For Recommendations**

4. Central Bedfordshire Council is required to review the PVI rate for the delivery of the Early Years Entitlement now that the implementation the EYSFF has been deferred until April 2011.