

Views of employers

Introduction

This section draws from data collected from employers. A questionnaire was distributed to small and large businesses within Haringey. The response rate was low and therefore the data is not statistically significant. The questionnaire asked employers about the type of childcare support they offered for their employees and explored the different childcare issues affecting local businesses.

Childcare support for staff

The results show that the majority of employers operate shift patterns. Approximately half of all respondents said that they offer childcare support for their staff via childcare vouchers, flexible working arrangements and/or childcare information.

Childcare issues affecting business

There were only a few employers that stated childcare was a barrier to their recruitment and a problem in terms of staff retention. Potential barriers to Haringey employers were lack of appropriate childcare, inflexibility of childcare and the cost of childcare. The inflexibility of childcare was sighted as the main barrier to staff retention. One business commented that

“the lack of local authority managed nursery places means that private nurseries can charge a lot. Private nurseries are also not flexible for working parents on low incomes.”