



Dear Colleague,

Please find enclosed the consultation documents in respect of the proposed Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF). We have written separately to set out the arrangements for three roadshows, one in each of the network areas. I am now also in a position to confirm the details in respect of the final one of these which will be held on the 5th January 2010 at St. Thomas More School from 6 to 8pm.

I very much regret the short period of time available for consultation; we are aware that this is less than ideal. This results from the complexity of the issues and the time that it has therefore taken to formulate a proposal that was consistent with government regulations, and also from the need to study consultation responses prior to the consideration of budget issues by the Schools Forum and the authority in order that decisions can be made to provide all settings and schools with their indicative 2010-11 budgets in a timely fashion.

Clearly, whilst we have been developing our proposals alongside a working group drawn from the Schools Forum which represents of the key stakeholder groups, this wider consultation is an opportunity for you to review the work and let us know whether it will work in your particular case. The results from the consultation together with the outcome of an Equalities Impact Assessment will be used to inform the Schools Forum meeting on January 28th 2010.

If you have further questions that you wish to raise on the consultation outside of the roadshows please contact those individuals named in section 7 of the consultation documents.

I apologise again for the timescales involved and we look forward to receiving your views on the proposals set out in the consultation document in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Lewis
Director