

COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY REPORT

General comments

- An in-depth and very concise report that is easy to read and understand from a 'non childcare' persons point of view (*professional*)
- Report is good (*parent*)
- Will log on and read properly once it goes on line, but initial thoughts are that you have worked really hard to identify the needs of families – Thank you (*parent*)
- I agree with findings of report – it reflects where I live. (Sandhurst) Was surprised at the number of ethnics – isn't that higher? (*parent*)
- Report is easy to read and understand – not like most of the stuff the government writes (*parent*)
- Report makes a lot of sense. Hope that the findings are going to be addressed (*professional*)
- I've read it!! Took a while! All looks good to me. Very interesting statistics etc...! It appears to be a well written and I feel is a really interesting read (*professional*)
- The report is easy to understand and the I think the findings are true about what is available in the area of Bracknell where I live (The Rowans Children's Centre Area) (*parent*)
- Childcare isn't really an issue for me – or so I thought! Reading the report, especially the bit about employers, has made me think that I need to consider supporting the needs of my working parents more than I currently do (*employer*)
- I have just finished reading your report and found it to be an excellent source of information on what is happening within Bracknell Forest with regard to the issue of Childcare. The report was easy to read and the information was presented in a clear and concise manner. Would you have any objections to me asking the Managers of Bracknell Jobcentre Plus if we could put the report in our customer service book which is available for all customers to access? (*professional*)
- From what I have read relative to Out of School Clubs, it all seems to paint an accurate picture.
I would say this is very comprehensive. One other thing that I picked out immediately is that it does not appear that there is sufficient holiday club provision in The Alders catchment area. Is this area serviced by The Chestnuts Area? I guess this is exactly the sort of thing that is meant to be thrown up by this document.
-

Cost

- Report's right when it says that childcare is expensive, but more choices than I thought. (*parent*)
- It needs to be free of charge (*parent*)
- Whoever paid for all this work to be done should have put the money towards cutting the cost of childcare for us. (It is interesting though) (*parent*)
- Childcare really needs to be free for people who want to go back to work (*parent*)

- Hope to get back to work when she's older (baby) but if what you are saying is anything to go by, I will be using my mum and my sister who will be free (*parent*)
- Hadn't really thought about it much, but would want to work even if childcare was free as my benefits would stop (*parent*)
- I can't afford to work as I can't afford the childcare (*parent*)
- You're right – there is not enough flexibility or free stuff to entice me to go back to work. Couldn't afford it anyway (*parent*)
- Was surprised at how few employers operate childcare voucher scheme – this surely helps a little with childcare costs; more employers should be encouraged to offer this (*employer*)
- Interesting, but use my mum and nan so I can afford to work (*parent*)
- Agree that I have found that childcare is too expensive (*parent*)
- High costs for childcare for short periods of time in order to meet my work commitments (*parent*)
- I agree with what the report says about childcare being expensive – I now have 2 children and don't think I will be returning to work once I feel ready to leave my baby (*parent*)

Scope and range of available childcare

- Didn't know we had all this childcare in Bracknell (*parent*)
- Report is easy to understand. Never dreamed there was so many childminders in Bracknell – I had hoped to do this myself, but won't bother now (*parent*)
- Never had a problem with finding childcare and my childminder is worth the money I pay her. Didn't know about Children's Information Service; I may use them to compare her with other childminders. I had no idea there were so many out there (*parent*)
- My childcare needs are now being met – Koosa Kids is brilliant! If council has any sense, they will open these all across the borough as they would fill most of the gaps - that should go in the report findings (*parent*)
- When our discussion group looked at key findings, I was really surprised about the amount of childcare available out there – I had no idea (*parent*)
- The information relating to out of school care has not highlighted any gaps that we were not already aware of. The information has reinforced the work that the Play Team are undertaking and will support this work as additional evidence of parental need (*professional*)
- I agree where the report says that there isn't enough childcare for babies – I had to put my name down when I was 4 months pregnant to ensure I got a Day care place in order to go back to work – this didn't feel right (*parent*)

Flexibility

- It seems that the need for child care in this area is still high and more and more parents need childcare when their children go to school (holiday and after school care). Being day care we are open all year round but of course this only covers 3 months to 5 years. I do feel that Bracknell give a lot of childcare facilities and the support given to nurseries is good. Training is an issue trying to allow staff to attend we find that if we can do workshops and training at staff meetings it helps as letting staff out during the day time can be difficult. (*provider*)
- Childcare isn't flexible enough and I'm glad the report says this too (*parent*)
- Agree with findings of report – there is a lack of flexibility (*parent*)
- Flexibility is an issue (*provider*)

- Report highlights the need for more flexibility in childcare. This has an impact on staff attendance (*employer*)

Childcare for children 11-14

- It's true. I can't get anything for my older children (*parent*)
- Agree with findings about lack of provision for senior school children – I want to know exactly where my 13 year old is and who is responsible for her well being while I am at work and I am happy to pay for this peace of mind (*parent*)
- We need activities rather than childcare for our older children – something that doesn't make them feel that they are being cared for, when they really are! (*parent*)
- Report highlights the gap in provision for secondary school age children (*professional*)