Family and Childcare Trust
Creating a family friendly UK

# West Worcestershire

## Childcare – a constituency profile

- 4,100 children aged 0-4
- 9,600 children aged 5-14
- 19% of children lived in poverty in 2013 (after housing costs)

### Childcare costs in West Worcestershire

- Nursery and childminder prices are generally similar to the regional average prices.
- After-school and holiday childcare tends to be 10-20 per cent more expensive than the regional average prices.
- West Midlands average prices are £112.77 per week for a part-time nursery place for a child under two, childminders = £3.80 per hour, after-school clubs = £43.18 per week and a holiday club = £108.00 per week.

### Gaps in provision in West Worcestershire

- Local authorities are obliged to carry out an annual childcare sufficiency report that examines the supply of and demand for childcare and also provides and action plan explaining how any gaps might be filled. This report is meant to be made available to councillors and parents. Worcestershire Council has not undertaken any childcare sufficiency reviews since 2011, so it is difficult to see if previous gaps have been filled.

### Free early education in West Worcestershire

- 2,228 two year olds were eligible for free early education in September 2014. Take up stood at 58 per cent in November 2014, similar to the national average (60 per cent).
- There is an almost universal take up of free early education among three year olds in this local authority.

### Comment

The local authority needs to ensure that it maps the supply of childcare to ensure that gaps in provision can be filled.

Sources: ONS Mid -year population estimates, End Child Poverty Campaign, Family and Childcare Trust costs survey dataset, Department for Education Provision for Children Under Five 2014 statistics.

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