

IT'S CLEAR YOU
HAVEN'T BEEN
PAYING ATTENTION...

Women's Policy Group NI

0/9

CHILDCARE STRATEGY CHECK-LIST



Will all children have access to high quality childcare that meets their educational and developmental needs in a safe, nurturing environment supporting them to achieve their full potential, including children with additional needs including SEN, language barriers, etc.?

IN FACT, CHILDREN WITH
ADDITIONAL NEEDS WILL LOSE
OUT MORE!



PARENTS ON BENEFITS CAN'T
EVEN ACCESS NICSS!

Will no child live in poverty as a result of a parent's inability to access or stay in paid work or due to the high cost of childcare?

THE DEPT. CONSIDERED
AND REJECTED CAPS -
WHY?

NICSS IS HAVING THE EFFECT OF
RAISING CHILDCARE PRICES, WHICH MAY
PUSH MORE PARENTS OUT OF WORK.



Will all types of childcare settings be enabled to deliver high quality, sustainable, accessible childcare across a range of settings through strategic investment by Government?

NO MENTION OF INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY
CHILDCARE INFRASTRUCTURE LIKE THE WOMEN'S
CENTRE CHILDCARE FUND (WCCF)...



NO
TIMELINES,
COSTINGS,
INVESTMENT
PLANS...

Will the childcare workforce be valued and supported through proper investment in skills development and career progression, and will workers be recognised as professionals and see that recognition reflected in fair pay and decent terms and conditions?

I WANT TO GIVE YOU A GOOD SCORE, BUT YOU NEED TO SHOW HOW YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT!



Will specific support for community based childcare be increased and expanded such as that delivered through the Women's Centre Childcare Fund (WCCF) model as this model best meets the needs of low-income women and especially those who live in areas of increased deprivation?

THE ONLY MENTION OF THE WCCF IS IN AN APPENDIX - NOTHING ON ITS
EXPANSION, ITS RESOURCING, OR RECOGNITION OF ITS GOOD PRACTICE...



Will all parents be able to access, stay in and progress in paid work, or education and training facilitated by affordable, accessible and flexible childcare?

GIVEN THE CURRENT COST OF CHILDCARE AND THAT THE PROPOSALS IN THIS
STRATEGY WILL CONTRIBUTE TO RISING COSTS WITHOUT NEW PLANS TO TACKLE
THIS, PARENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ACCESS ANY OF THE ABOVE.



DEFINITELY NOT!

Will all parents be supported to undertake the amount of paid work that suits the needs of their family with adequate financial support to live free from poverty?

THE STRATEGY IS ACTUALLY
MAKING IT WORSE BY ROLLING
BACK PRE-SCHOOL PROVISION.



Will there be a significant reduction in the gender pay gap and social inequality through ensuring that no-one's employment options are constrained by lack of access to affordable, flexible childcare?

THIS STRATEGY WILL NOT REDUCE
GENDER INEQUALITIES, ESPECIALLY
FOR LOW-INCOME WOMEN!



Will economic growth be stimulated through employers having access to a wider pool of skilled, experienced potential employees for recruitment?

THERE WAS AN OPPORTUNITY HERE TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC GROWTH, BUT LACK
OF AMBITION, FAILURE TO APPLY OR EXPAND ON BEST PRACTICE, AND NO
INVESTMENT PLAN RESULT IN A MISSED OPPORTUNITY...UNLESS CHANGES ARE MADE!