

Member of Parliament visit checklist



Action Week - 10 June 2019. Join us!
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Fair Future Funding action week - 10 June 2019

Well done for getting your MP to accept an invitation to visit your setting during the Fair Future Funding Action Week.

In your letter to them, you have already set out why you want your MP to visit – to discuss how underfunding affects your setting and to ask them to support you by passing on your concerns to the Treasury.

Here are some tips to help you arrange a successful MP visit:

1. Once you have confirmed the date and time, confirm with the MP how long they can stay with you and what they would like to do:
 - a. Meet parents and staff?
 - b. Invite the local media for a photocall?
 - c. Invite a local radio station for interview?
 - d. Carry out an activity with the children?
 - e. Invite representatives from nearby childcare settings?
2. Make sure parents, local media and any other guests are sent invites and given plenty of notice.

3. If local press photographers or videographers are going to attend, or if you want to share photos on social media, you need to make sure permissions are sought from parents.
4. Make sure you let parents know photos or videos may be shared by your setting, the Early Years Alliance, local and national media, and any supporters on social media using the hashtag **#fairfuturefunding** to promote the Fair Future Funding campaign.
5. Work with your staff (and those parents who may be able to attend) to decide responsibilities on the day of the visit.
6. Make sure the children's safety and well-being are at the forefront of any plans.
7. Now prepare what you are going to tell or give to your MP. You can start with the Funding Factsheet within your campaign pack. You could also prepare a short note detailing:
 - a. how much funding per hour you get from your local authority
 - b. the biggest cost rises you have had to endure, such as minimum and national living wages, business rates (if applicable)
 - c. the impact of underfunding for you, which could be:
 - You fear you will have to close
 - You've had to cut back on staff hours
 - You have no choice but to charge for extras such as meals
 - You have been forced to put up prices for private hours
 - You are unable to recruit new staff because the pay is too low
 - d. what you could do better if the funded hours were funded properly.
 - e. anything else you think may add strength to the argument about underfunding
8. **Tell us about your MP visit by emailing Rebecca and Deri at feedback@eyalliance.org.uk. If you send pictures, don't forget to tell us who is in them!**

