



Department
for Education

Fees and frequency of inspections regulations 2019 to 2020

Government consultation

Launch date 7 January 2019

Respond by 18 February 2019

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Introduction

The aim of this consultation is to seek views of key stakeholders on proposed changes to the Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills (Fees and Frequency of Inspections) (Children's Homes etc) Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations"), with a view to the changes coming into force in 2019-20.

The consultation will run for 6 weeks.

Who this is for

- Local authorities
- Providers of children's homes
- Registered managers of children's homes
- Providers of holiday schemes for disabled children
- Parents and carers
- Ofsted
- Boarding schools and residential further educational colleges
- Residential special schools
- Voluntary adoption agencies
- Independent fostering agencies
- Residential family centres
- Organisations providing support and services for children and young people

Issue date

The consultation was issued on 7 January 2019.

Enquiries

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the consultation you can contact the team by email at: FeesandFrequency.CONULTATION@education.gov.uk.

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the DfE Ministerial and Public Communications Division by email: Consultations.Coordinator@education.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the [DfE Contact us page](#).

Additional copies

Additional copies are available electronically and can be downloaded from [GOV.UK DfE consultations](#).

The response

The results of the consultation and the Department's response will be [published on GOV.UK](#) in Spring 2019.

About this consultation

The aim of this consultation is to seek the views of interested parties on proposed changes to [Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills \(Fees and Frequency of Inspections\) \(Children's Homes etc.\) Regulations 2015](#).

These relate to the role and responsibilities of Ofsted under the Care Standards Act 2000. Ofsted is the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. Its role is to inspect and regulate services that care for children and young people, and services providing education and skills for learners of all ages.

This consultation seeks views on:

- A 10% increase on current fees, for those settings where fees are not already at full cost recovery. Annexes A and B (annual fee and registration/variation fee respectively) set out the proposed 2019-20 fees.

Respond online

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible. You can reply to this consultation online at:

Other ways to respond

If for exceptional reasons, you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may download a word document version of the form and email it or post it.

By email

FeesandFrequency.CONULTATION@education.gov.uk

By post

Fees and Frequency Consultation
Children in Care and Permanence
Department for Education, 8th Floor
Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P 3BT

Deadline

The consultation closes on 18 February 2019.

1. Annual, registration and variation fees

- 1.1 Since 2010-11, the fees payable to Ofsted by children's social care providers, in accordance with the Regulations, have been set using a model for calculation developed by Ofsted in 2008-09 and updated on an annual basis. The cost of each inspection and regulatory activity is calculated based on a mix of direct and indirect costs, including the tariff for each inspection and/or visit and the wider costs of regulating the sector. Ofsted developed this model to give greater transparency to providers on how fees were set, providing a more accurate and readily understandable indication of the time and resource involved on inspection and regulatory activity.
- 1.2 The majority of providers are a long way from paying the full cost of the inspection and regulatory activity undertaken by Ofsted. A number of providers are paying less than 25% of full cost recovery with the majority paying less than 50% of full cost recovery. This means that the government continues to subsidise the regulation of the majority of children's social care settings. The government wants to limit the financial burden placed on providers while moving towards the full cost recovery of fees.
- 1.3 We therefore propose to continue with a 10% increase on fees for 2019-20 for those settings not yet at full cost recovery. The level of proposed increase has been designed to maintain stability in the market and avoid imposing unsustainable pressure on individual providers.
- 1.4 **Annexes A and B** set out proposed fees for different settings that take account of the proposed 10% increase.
- 1.5 As in previous years, the fees for settings that have already reached full-cost recovery level will be capped at the full-cost rate. This only applies to a small number of settings.
- 1.6 The annual fees for residential holiday schemes for disabled children remain capped at a reduced rate and the provider and manager registration fee remains the same as 2018-19. This continues to represent a proportionate fee structure in relation to the operating model for this specific setting

Questions on fees:

1. Do you agree with the proposed 10% increases for 2019-20 (as at Annexes A and B)?
2. How would the proposed annual increases affect you as a provider?

2. Fee structure review

2.1 In the Government response to the consultation on the fees and frequency of inspection regulations 2018-19, we set out that Ofsted would undertake a review of the basis on which fees are set at all levels (annual, registration and variation to conditions of registration).

2.2 Ofsted will still undertake this review but any revisions to the fee structure will not be implemented until April 2020, at the earliest. Any proposed changes to the fee structure will be fully consulted upon before implementation.

3. Equalities Assessment

3.1 This section asks for your help in identifying any impacts of our proposals on people with protected characteristics. The protected characteristics are: age; disability; marriage and civil partnership; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race (including ethnicity); religion or belief; sex; and sexual orientation.

Question on Equalities Assessment

1. Please provide any representations / evidence on the impact of our proposals on people with protected characteristics for the purposes of the Public Sector Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010).

Annex A: Proposed social care fees for 2019-20

Proposed annual inspection fees for 2019-20	2018-19 annual fee	2019-20 annual fee	Increase
Voluntary Adoption Agency (Small)	814	895	81
Voluntary Adoption Agency (Large)	1,535	1,689	154
Independent Fostering Agency	2,573	2,830	257
Adoption Support Agency (Small)	814	895	81
Adoption Support Agency (Large)	1,540	1,694	154
Residential Family Centre (0-3)	1,561	1,717	156
Residential Family Centre (4) **	1,757	1,913	156
Residential Family Centre (5+) **	1,834	1,913	79
Children's homes (0-3)	2,344	2,578	234
Children's homes (4-29)	2,344	2,578	234
Children's homes (4-29) per place fee	234	257	23
Children's homes (30) **	8,670	9,285	615
Children's homes (31) **	8,904	9,285	381
Children's homes (32+) **	9,107	9,285	178
Boarding School (0-3) *	842	842	0
Boarding School (4-12) *	842	842	0
Boarding School (4-12) per place fee *	51	51	0
Boarding School (13-50) *	1,323	1,323	0
Boarding School (51-500) *	1,851	1,851	0
Boarding School (500+) *	2,223	2,223	0
Residential FE College (0-3)	1,019	1,121	102
Residential FE College (4-11)	1,019	1,121	102
Residential FE College (4-11) per place fee	62	68	6
Residential FE College (12+)	1,561	1,717	156
Residential Special School (0-3)	1,874	2,061	187
Residential Special School (4-17)	1,874	2,061	187
Residential Special School (4-17) per place fee	186	205	19
Residential Special School (18) **	4,664	5,007	343
Residential Special School (19+) **	4,670	5,007	337
LA Adoption functions	1,872	2,059	187
LA Fostering functions	2,924	3,216	292
Holiday Schemes for Disabled Children *	500	500	0

* Full cost recovery achieved in 2019-20 / no increase as set out in the Fees and Frequency consultation for 2019-20 fees

** Proposed 2019-20 fees capped at full cost

Annex B: Proposed registration/variation fees for 2019-2020

Proposed registration/variation fees for 2019-20

Children's Home (small)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	873	960	87
Manager registration	no fee		
Minor variation	145	160	15
Variation requiring visit **	873	910	37

Children's Home (large)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration *	2,646	2,646	0
Manager registration **	873	910	37
Minor variation	145	160	15
Variation requiring visit *	1,322	1,322	0

Voluntary Adoption Agency (small)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	606	667	61
Manager registration	no fee		
Minor variation	101	111	10
Variation requiring visit	606	667	61

Voluntary Adoption Agency (large)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	2,223	2,445	222
Manager registration	no fee		
Minor variation	101	111	10
Variation requiring visit *	919	919	0

Independent Fostering Agency

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration *	2,646	2,646	0
Manager registration **	873	910	37
Minor variation	145	160	15
Variation requiring visit *	1,322	1,322	0

Adoption Support Agency (small)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	606	667	61
Manager registration	no fee		
Minor variation	101	111	10
Variation requiring visit	606	667	61

Adoption Support Agency (large)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	2,223	2,445	222
Manager registration	606	667	61
Minor variation	101	111	10
Variation requiring visit *	919	919	0

Residential Family Centre (small)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration	728	801	73
Manager registration	no fee		
Minor variation	121	133	12
Variation requiring visit	728	801	73

Residential Family Centre (large)

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration *	2,646	2,646	0
Manager registration	728	801	73
Minor variation	121	133	12
Variation requiring visit *	1,102	1,102	0

Holiday Schemes for Disabled Children

Type	2018-19 fee	2019-20 fee	Increase
Provider registration *	596	596	0
Manager registration *	596	596	0
Minor variation	no fee		
Variation requiring visit	no fee		

* Full cost recovery achieved in 2019-20 / no increase as set out in the Fees and Frequency consultation for 2019-20 fees

** Proposed 2019-20 fees capped at full cost



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