



Department
for Work &
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Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP

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Dear Stephen,

Following your predecessor's report on Universal Credit and Childcare, the previous Secretary of State committed to making expenditure information available to the Committee based on area level expenditure figures on an annual basis.

I am pleased to confirm that data for the 2019/20 financial year is now available, as the National Audit Office has signed off our Annual Report and Accounts. In addition, this information also includes separate data on childcare cost spend from the Flexible Support Fund (FSF).

Spend data for 2019/20 is based on the FSF categories that were collected in that year, which now includes childcare costs as a separate spend item, following the Committee's recommendation. However, please note the childcare spend only covers October 2019 to March 2020, because we did not record a separate category for childcare costs before this period.

The financial information is provided in the Annex below.

I hope you and the Work and Pensions Select Committee will find this information useful.

Mims Davies MP
Minister for Employment

Annex A

Department for Work and Pensions, FSF Expenditure 2019-20

Flexible Support Fund Expenditure by Region £'000

Region	Total
South	11,398
Scotland	2,896
Central & Wales	8,259
North	13,555
Other	303
Total	36,411

Source: Hyperion

Figures have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

The data provided in the above table forms part of the expenditure position reported within the DWP Annual Report & Accounts 2019-20.

Flexible Support Fund Expenditure by Category £'000

Category	Total
Partnerships	3,586
Removing Barriers	13,277
Training	16,923
Childcare *	1,569
Other	1,055
Total	36,411

Source: Hyperion

Figures have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

* Childcare is only reported as a separate category from October 2019. Childcare expenditure between April 19 – September 19 cannot be separately identified and is reported within the Removing Barriers category.

The data provided in the above table forms part of the expenditure position reported within the DWP Annual Report & Accounts 2019-20.