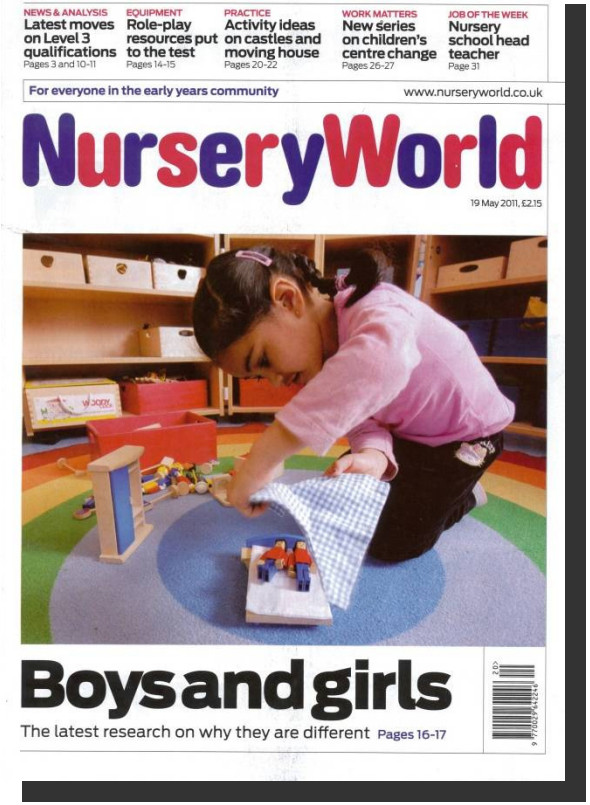
theguardian

Funding cuts leave charities scared to speak up, says study

The Guardian, Tuesday 22 January 2013



May 2012

Despite the Government spending £7bn on childcare, British parents currently pay 27% of their income on childcare. A poorly structured system means that we are not getting value for money.

Elizabeth Truss MP, 14 May 2012

Department for Education

Menu | In the news

On funding streams

There's a confusing number of funding streams. The funding isn't transparent. [That doesn't] contribute to those two objectives of quality and safety.

At the moment in our system not enough of the £6bn spent by government …

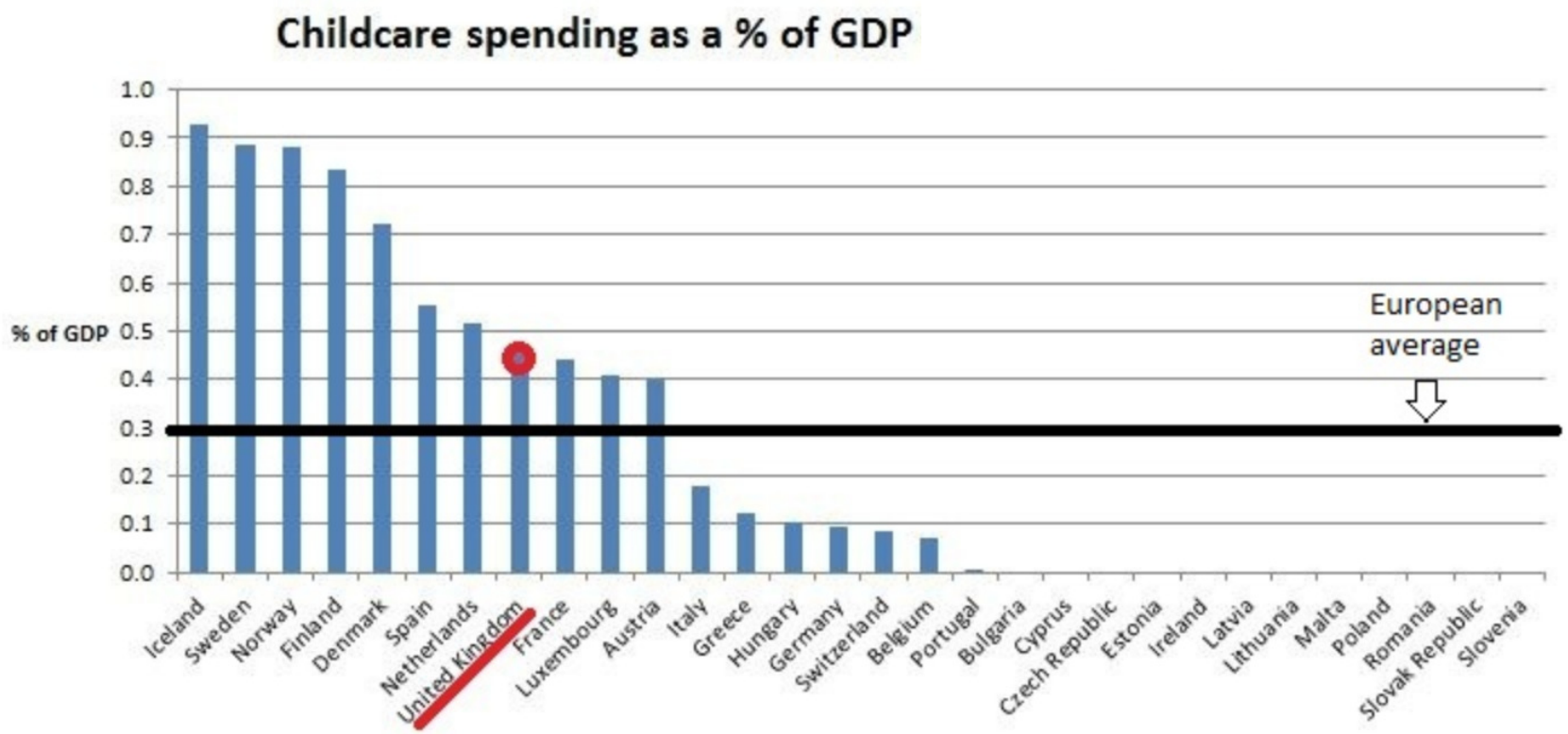
DfE website posted 12 November 2012
http://www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00216888/trussnurseryworld

conservativehome

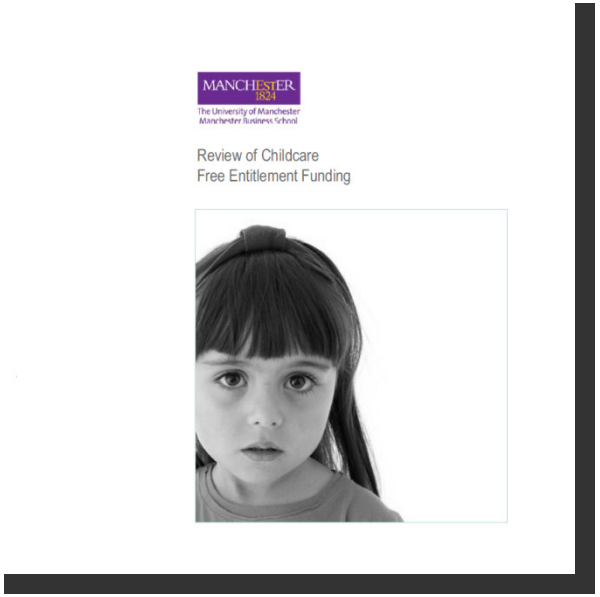
the home of conservatism

Yet the Government spends double the OECD average on the early years, a figure of around £5bn a year.

http://conservativehome.blogs.com/platform/2013/01/elizabeth-truss-mp-.html



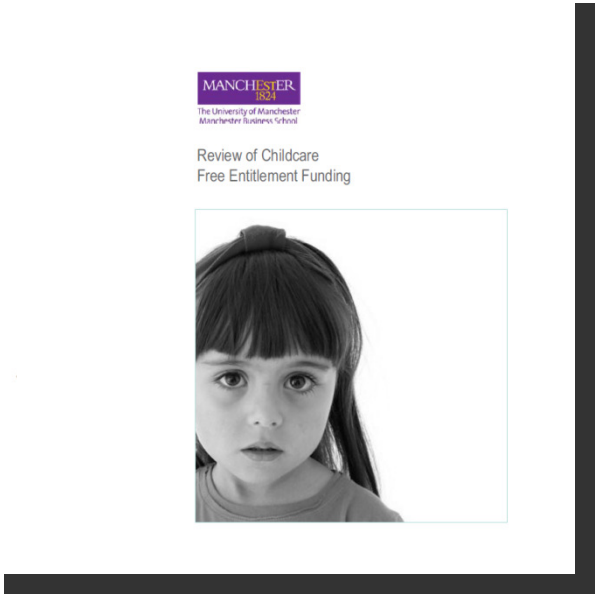
OECD data reproduced by *FULLfact*



Wide interpretation of guidelines and substantial variance in the percentages used to cover overheads.

3% - 40% variation

Value of £912m lost



“You can’t trust the returns… they’re unreliable”

National Audit Office

REPORT BY THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL
HC 1789
SESSION 2010–2012
3 FEBRUARY 2012

Department for Education

Delivering the free en
education for three- a

House of Commons
Committee of Public Accounts

The free entitlement to education for three and four year olds

Eighty–sixth Report of Session 2010–12

Report, together with formal minutes, oral and written evidence

Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 25 April 2012

HC 1893
Published on 22 May 2012
by authority of the House of Commons
London: The Stationery Office Limited
£11.00

Feb 2012

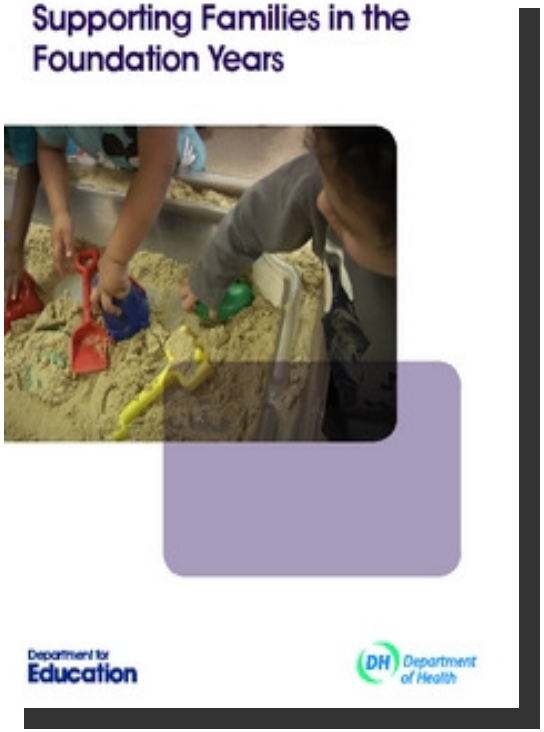
Errors, gaps and inconsistency in reporting of funding

DfE have limited funding comparisons

NAO report HC 1789 February 2012
Public Accounts Committee Report 86 May 2012

Reviews agree that: *...the strongest and most consistent predictor of observed positive caregiving in group-based early childhood settings was the adult:child ratio...*

Caregivers provided more sensitive, frequent and positive care when they were responsible for fewer children...



This process of co-production **signals a new approach by Government to working with the professionals and organisations** which make up the foundation years sector.

We want to continue to work in this way in the future, **so that practitioners, leaders and commissioners can contribute at an early stage in the policy development and implementation process.**