17 January 2019

Tracy Brabin MP
House of Commons
Westminster
SW1A 0AA

Dear Tracy,

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NUMBERS 206885:

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many childminder agencies there are; and how many childminders are members of childminder agencies.

Your Parliamentary Question was passed to me, as Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector, for response.

On 31 August 2018, 11 childminder agencies were registered with Ofsted. They are only eligible for inspection when they have childminders on roll. By that date, six had childminders on roll and were therefore eligible for inspection. There are only two overall effectiveness inspection outcomes: ‘Effective’ and ‘Ineffective’. All six have been inspected and all have been judged ‘Effective’. More information can be found in our latest official statistics.¹

Childminder agencies are responsible for inspecting childminders registered with them, with Ofsted inspecting only the agencies. These agencies are not statutorily required to inform us of the number of childminders they have on roll, only whether or not they have any. I am therefore unable to answer your question about the number of childminders belonging to agencies.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Spielman
Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector