## <u>17473 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions</u>

- first 3 years are the most important when it comes to brain development. Early learning / childcare salaries and support does not reflect the impact on humanity
- Research shows children are better off with a nanny / caregiver, yet that is the only option not currently subsidised
- Paid parental leave is woefully underfunded and supported. Maternity leave should enable a woman to fully immerse herself in the development of her child in the first 3 years of life if she so chooses, without putting her family into huge financial stress due to loss of a second salary.