

**Questions to consider to inform the basis of your needs analysis.**

**(This list is not exhaustive)**

1. Have you identified a need?
2. Who are your clients and where are they located? Are parents working locally or commuting? Are parents experiencing disadvantage in the local area? Are you going to operate in a DEIS area?
3. What are the childcare needs of families in your area?
4. Have you talked to other childcare providers in your area? Are they at full occupancy? Are they operating waiting lists?
5. Will your childcare service displace any existing service providers in the area?
6. Will your childcare service complement any existing childcare providers or community services in the area?
7. Are you aware of any new developments planned for the area: factories, shopping centres, community services etc. that may have plans to develop a similar service in the area?
8. Have you found out from local authorities if new housing developments have been planned for the area?
9. Have you consulted with government agencies, trade associations and consumer bodies for information on population, age, gender, consumer trends for the area?
10. Have you consulted with local primary schools and parish registers for information?
11. Have you consulted with local community groups such as parent and toddler groups, resident associations and family and community resource centres?