

Childcare policy, maternal employment, and the UK policy debate: examining the evidence

Church House, Friday 2 December 2016

09.30 *Registration and refreshments*

10.00 Welcome and Introduction by Mike Brewer, Director, MiSoC

10.05 Elizabeth Cascio, Associate Professor of Economics, Dartmouth College

10.35 Stefan Bauernschuster, Professor of Economics, Universität Passau

11.05 Q&A

11.20 *Coffee Break*

11.40 Sarah Cattan, Senior Research Economist, Institute for Fiscal Studies

12.00 Q&A chaired by Hilary Spencer, Director, Government Equalities Office

12.30 *Lunch*

13.30 Introduction to the panel discussion, chaired by Paul Johnson, Director, Institute for Fiscal Studies

13.35 Panel discussion, featuring:

- Dalia Ben-Galim, Director of Policy, Advice & Communications, Gingerbread
- Sally Burlington, Head of Policy, Local Government Association
- Gillian Paull, Senior Associate, Frontier Economics
- Natalie Perera, Executive Director, Education Policy Institute

14.15 Q&A

15.15 *Finish*

*The event is organised by the **Institute for Fiscal Studies** and the **Research Centre for Micro-Social Change (MiSoC)** at the Institute for Social and Economic Research. We are grateful to the Economic and Social Research Council for funding this event through MiSoC and the Impact Acceleration Account held at the IFS.*



Speaker Biographies

Stefan Bauernschuster

Stefan has been Full Professor of Public Economics at the University of Passau since April 2013. He is also a Research Professor at the ifo Institute Munich, CESifo Affiliate, member of the committee for social policy of the German Economic Association, and member of the scientific council of the German General Social Survey (ALLBUS). Before joining the University of Passau, Professor Stefan Bauernschuster was deputy head of the centre for Social Policy and Labour Markets at the ifo Institute Munich. His research interest lies in the economic analysis of labour markets, families, and education. He has published his works in journals such as the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, the Journal of the European Economic Association, and the Journal of Public Economics.

Sally Burlington

Sally has had a wide ranging career in policy and strategy development in the Civil Service, particularly focusing on policies to tackle poverty and disadvantage. She spent 6 years in HM Treasury and a year at Kent County Council during which time she reviewed the council's procurement of social care and negotiated one of the first innovative Local Public Service Agreements with the Government. She was instrumental in developing the original Sure Start policy, and led work on the Social Exclusion Unit's Breaking the Cycle Report. From 2004-07 she led the secretariat for Sir Michael Lyons' Inquiry examining local government and how it is funded.

Sarah Cattan

Sarah is a Senior Research Economist in the Skills sector of the Institute for Fiscal Studies. She joined the IFS in 2012 and currently holds a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship to study child development and household behaviour in developed and developing countries. Sarah's general research interests include human capital formation, labour markets and inequality. In the recent past, she has conducted research into the following specific areas: early childhood development; the impact of childcare policies on maternal labour supply; and the gender wage gap.

Natalie Perera

Natalie worked in the Department for Education from 2002 to 2014. She helped to deliver the 2005 Childcare Act through Parliament, leading on the delivery of a new duty on local authorities to secure sufficient childcare. Natalie also led on research and policy interventions to narrow the gap between disadvantaged children and the rest, including the design and delivery of two new early years programmes to support children's early language and social and emotional development. After leading on the Department's spending review bid for children and family services in 2010, Natalie then took up post as the Head of the School Funding Reform Unit where she led on the design of a new national funding formula, allocation of the Pupil Premium, reform of academies funding and funding for universal free school meals.

Dalia Ben-Galim

As the Director of Policy, Advice and Communications, Dalia leads Gingerbread's policy work as well as overseeing their communications, campaigns and advice services. Prior to joining Gingerbread, Dalia was as Associate Director at IPPR, taught social policy at the University of Oxford and held research posts at the LSE. Dalia holds a PhD in social policy from the University of Oxford. Dalia has a sound policy and research background, and a strong grasp of the issues facing single parents today. She also has extensive broadcast and media experience.

Elizabeth Cascio

Elizabeth is an applied economist with research interests at the intersection of education, public policy, and the young child. Her current projects concern the design of optimal preschool education policy, how and why the test score advantages from early intervention "fade out" across the lifecycle, and the relationship between broader social policy and child well-being. In addition to her faculty appointment at Dartmouth College, she is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a Research Associate at the Institute for the Study of Labor, and Co-editor of the Journal of Human Resources. She received her PhD in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley in 2003 and joined the Dartmouth faculty in 2006.

Gillian Paul

Gillian is a senior associate in Frontier's public policy practice and undertakes work focusing on the labour market, education and skills, and family-related policy. She has worked across government departments and undertaken research for a variety of non-government organisations focused on policy development. She has previously worked for the Institute for Fiscal Studies, World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and has held research and teaching positions at the London School of Economics and Princeton University. Gillian specialises in analysing and evaluating policy relating to mothers' employment, childcare and poverty, with a particular focus on examining patterns of behaviour over time.