

NCMA manifesto launch

An audience of childminders and their children, MPs, peers, Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and Ofsted officials and various other representatives from the childcare sector attended the launch of the NCMA's manifesto for home-based childcare at the House of Commons on 18 March 2010.

The day included speeches from Conservative Spokesperson for the Family, Maria Miller MP, and Baroness Walmsley, Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Children, Schools and Families as well as NCMA's Chair Susanna Dawson and President Gillian Pugh. Labour MP Joan Humble sponsored the event, but unfortunately she was not able to attend.

The event was held as part of NCMA's work to raise awareness



about its manifesto, Childcare Choices for Children and Families. The manifesto was included in the last issue of *Who Minds?* and we asked for support from all our members in encouraging the prospective parliamentary candidates to sign up to four key principles:

- to improve access and parental choice
- to invest in quality
- to support parents with the cost of childcare
- improve recognition of the role and status of home-based childcare.

We would like to thank all our members who helped us to circulate the NCMA manifesto. If you would like to find out more about the manifesto, or download your own copy, visit www.ncma.org.uk/manifesto.

