

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN, FAMILIES & LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** held in Committee Room 1, Council Offices, High Street North, Dunstable, Beds, LU6 1LF on Tuesday, 3 November 2009

PRESENT

Cllr J Street (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs D B Gurney (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors: P A Blaine
D Bowater
N B Costin
I Dalgarno
R Egan
P Hollick
A Shadbolt

Parental Co-optees: D Landman

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs H Chapman
F Image
K Janes
S F Male
B Sear

Members in Attendance: Cllrs J G Jamieson
Mrs A M Lewis
Mrs C Turner

Officers in Attendance: Mrs S Hobbs Democratic Services Officer
Ms K Peddie Head of Policy & Strategy - Children,
Families & Learning
Miss C Powell Overview and Scrutiny Officer
Mr M Pratt Deputy Director Children Families
and Learning and Assistant Director
Specialist Services

CFL/09/45 **The Development of a Single Children's Workforce in Central Bedfordshire**

Members received a report proposing that:

- a fully integrated local children's workforce was the most efficient way of meeting the five Every Child Matters outcomes for our children and young people;

- the current local workforce did not yet meet the definitions of a fully integrated workforce; and
- the draft Children's Workforce Strategy would be the means of achieving improved outcomes.

Members commented on the language used in the Strategy and requested that clear English be used in particular where it sets out the theme statements from an imaginary child. Members were advised that these statements had been taken from the '2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy' that was published in December 2008 by the Department of Children, Schools and Families. Also Members queried the meaning of 'voice the vision' and requested that this was put into plain English.

Members agreed that young people being praised in the newspapers and the media would make them feel valued and that they were making a positive contribution. Members requested further details on the membership of the Children Workforce Strategy Group.

Members were advised that the draft Children's Workforce Development Strategy would be considered by the Executive in January 2010.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the language in the Children's Workforce Development Strategy be made clearer and in plain English**
- 2) that further details on the membership of the Children Workforce Strategy Group be circulated to the Members of Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee.**