



Transforming Learning

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Children's Services Overview & Scrutiny



Purpose of the presentation

- To comment on the aspirations of the transforming learning work so far
- To advise Members of any legal and statutory issues
- To explain issues that have arisen out of letters or questions
- To refer to the Lead Member for any matters regarding policy development or political accountability



Work so far:

- Development of thinking in the light of current legislative direction and the emergent Trusts in Central Bedfordshire
- Guiding principles for the Vision
- First review at its very early stages in Dunstable and Houghton Regis
- Transforming Learning Board as reference group for operational activity



Legal and Statutory Issues

- Elected Members personal and prejudicial interests
- Principle of pre-determination
- Lead Member & DCS accountabilities:
 - To support schools and encourage them to play a part in the Children's Trust (LM & DCS)
 - To use powers to address underperformance quickly inc. the creation of interim Executive Boards and other alternative governance arrangements and where necessary, school closures (DCS)
 - Base legislation 1944 Act, secure efficient and effective education (Chief Education Officer - now DCS)
 - Academies Bill?



Issues that have arisen out of letters or questions

- Learning Transformation Board is an officer group and reference only, not a decision making body.
- The three phases are represented by election and will endure through all four phases of the review, subject to peer re-election
- Secondment of Headteacher will end - summer term
- Role of Chief Executive and Chair of School Forum
- Prerogative of the Lead Member to re-call the Member Reference Group and invite discussion at any time



Lead Member Leadership

- DCS required to organise a fair process and to bring a report with the options to Executive
- All the options and the pros and cons will be brought to Scrutiny – January ? – although timescales are challenging
- DCS's duty to make recommendation to Members
- Lead Member's duty to take this through Executive – pre-determination particularly applies to Lead Member through the process