

16th September 2005

Achievement and Inclusion Division
People First
Executive Director
Lorraine O'Reilly

Dear Colleagues

Further to the briefing and discussions at the Heads' & Directors' day and for those of you unable to attend, I attach the key points from my presentation and a response sheet. As I said this is the second part of the service review embarked on last year and is in response to changes to the standards fund as well as a National Agenda to reform the Local Authority / School relationships.

We want to build a service to meet the needs of our schools and the harsh financial reality is that if we don't do this it will not be sustainable. Beyond the Local Authority's statutory roles and those areas that continue to be supported by the Standards Fund, services will need to be bought back by schools.

Please do take time to consider the type and nature of the support you feel would be helpful for your school and we will endeavour to take full account of your views in any re-organisation.

I would also like you to consider whether you would prefer a service level agreement or a pay as you go system.

There are advantages and disadvantages to both but the key issue may be the need to provide job security to retain the quality staff we have and allow us to recruit new ones where we are not currently meeting your needs. A service level agreement would provide the financial security to do this.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to receiving your thoughts on this issue.

Best wishes

Yours sincerely

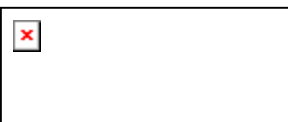


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