



Report of the Convener

Schools Performance Scrutiny Panel - 17 December 2018

Pre-decision Scrutiny of Small Schools Review

Purpose:	To undertake pre-decision scrutiny of Cabinet Report on Small Schools Review
Content:	Cabinet report 20 December 2018
Councillors are being asked to:	Consider the report and give views via the Convener of the Panel to Cabinet on 20 December 2018
Lead Councillor:	Councillor Mo Sykes, Convener of the Schools Performance Scrutiny Panel
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Schools Performance Scrutiny Panel wish to undertake pre-decision scrutiny of the Cabinet report on 'Small Schools Review' ahead of its consideration at Cabinet on 20 December.

2. Cabinet Report

- 2.1 It is a report of the Cabinet Member for Education Improvement, Learning and Skills.

3. Role Of The Panel

- 3.1 Pre-decision scrutiny provides the opportunity for consultation with non-Executive Members on fully developed proposals, where a clear recommendation exists, before decisions are taken by the Executive.
- 3.2 This meeting will enable the committee to gain information and develop an understanding of this matter, and, acting as a 'critical friend', to ask questions and comment on the report. This gives scrutiny a valuable opportunity to inform and influence decision-making through debate and challenge.

3.3 Councillor Jennifer Raynor, supported by relevant officers, will attend the meeting to present the report, answer questions, and provide any clarification on the report as required. Officers involved in the development of the report will be present to provide appropriate advice. Nick Williams, Director of Education will attend to assist the Committee.

3.4 In terms of key questions, the Committee may want to consider:

- the rationale for the report
- robustness of the proposed decision and process
- potential impact and implications (including policy/ performance / budget issues) and risks
- how different options have been considered
- the extent of consultation undertaken

3.5 In sharing its views with cabinet this may include giving support, providing other suggestions on the way forward, or flagging up any concerns.

3.6 The committee (through the chair) will have the opportunity to present its views, conclusions and recommendations about the report to Cabinet on 20 December 2018. These views are required to be formally considered by Cabinet before it makes the decision and feedback should be given to the committee including explanation for any rejection of views expressed.