

Resource Teachers: Learning and Behaviour



4 May 2011

We are well underway to transform the RTLB service alongside the school sector.

We want you to know of changes that will affect your school. Two ways for you to keep up to date are via this newsletter and Te Kete Ipurangi <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/Transforming-RTLb-service>

Latest update

- The Practitioners' Working Group met on 14 April 2011. The group gave feedback on draft operational documents from the Principals' working group, had the opportunity to share concerns from members of their respective organisations and discussed the May-June regional hui. Their full update is here: <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/Transforming-RTLb-service/Practitioners-Working-Group/April-2011-meeting>
- There is a lot of interest in the proposed clusters management structure and what this might look like and how lead schools will be selected. Both the working groups have provided feedback on documents about these topics. You can find them here: <http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/Transforming-RTLb-service/Principals-Working-Group/March-2011#operations>

Upcoming meetings

Practitioners' working group

- Next meeting 10 May
- Joint meeting with Principals' working group 11 May

Principals' working group

- Joint meeting with Practitioners' working group 11 May
- Next group meeting 12 May

UPDATE on RTLb Transformation

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Operation of the RTLb service

This document attempts to answer the concerns and questions of RTLb and principals about the new service.

The draft operations document includes:

- How the service will work with lead school (Board of Trustees) and the employing principal.
- The cluster management structure such as coordination, personnel and service management, financial and outcomes reporting.
- RTLb service delivery including principles for access to the service, referral, communication, networks, and housing and administrative support.
- The potential RTLb career pathway.
- Key roles and responsibilities of the key positions in the transformed RTLb service including:
 - Lead (employing) school board of trustees
 - Cluster advisory committee
 - Lead school (employing) principal
 - Cluster manager
 - RTLb practice leaders
 - RTLb satellite schools

The draft document is available online:

<http://rtlb.tki.org.nz/content/download/750/3343/file/How%20the%20service%20will%20operate.pdf>

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Where did the impetus for making changes to the current system come from?

A. The 2009 ERO evaluation of RTLB cluster management found just over half of the RTLB clusters evaluated were not well governed or managed. This showed little improvement from their 2004 evaluation. They recommended a review of the cluster model to determine the best approach to governing and managing the RTLB service. Key issues to be addressed include inconsistency of practices between clusters and directing resources to where they are most needed.

Q. Why not just address issues of clusters identified as poorly governed or managed?

A. We are looking for a model that helps promote best practice across ALL clusters. This is in accordance with ERO's view 'that the existing governance and management model should be reviewed to ensure a more cohesive and consistent approach to the service that RTLB provide for schools'.

Q. Will all RTLB have to relocate to the lead school or other satellite schools in the cluster?

A. It is envisaged that most RTLB will continue to be based at their current satellite schools. Although it won't be a requirement to relocate RTLB, clusters may choose to relocate RTLB where it is appropriate. This may be due to changes in needs across the cluster and there needs to be flexibility for RTLB to respond to identified needs.

Q. What happens to current RTLB resources held by existing clusters but on the asset register of the current employing school?

A. All assets and resources purchased by RTLB funding belong to the cluster and will need to be transferred to the lead schools. The Ministry is working on a process for managing the transfer of assets for the new structure. It is anticipated that some funding will be redirected from the new lead schools to cover costs in satellite schools.

Q. Are the unions involved in addressing the

employment issues?

A. Yes, the Ministry will be working through all employment issues with the unions. There have already been meetings to discuss the transfer of employment process. However, a formal engagement process can only occur after the design work is complete. Further information on all industrial issues will be provided after this. This will include responses to the following questions.

- *Some clusters already employ a manager and have RTLB employed with additional units. How will current contractual liabilities be met by the new employing boards?*
- *Board insurers need notification of potential risks. What employment liabilities will the new employing board of trustees be taking on?*
- *What will happen if an RTLB refuses to change employers? Are they eligible for redundancy?*
- *At what level will cluster managers and practice leaders be remunerated?*

Regional hui

- Regional meetings about the transformation are being organised for May and June.
- We will publish dates in the next newsletter and on [TKI RTLB transformation](#).

Have your say

Throughout the design phase, we encourage you to discuss ideas with members on the two working groups.

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