

CABINET

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham. S60
2TH**

Date: Wednesday, 16 October 2013

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To consider questions from Members of the Public.
2. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
3. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 18th September, 2013 (copy supplied separately)
6. Minutes of a meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 9th September, 2013 (herewith) (Pages 1 - 5)
 - Chief Executive to report.
7. Minutes of a meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 13th September 2013 (herewith) (Pages 6 - 13)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
8. Proposed Restructure of RMBC Pupil Referral Units (report herewith) (Pages 14 - 26)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
9. Appointment of Recommended Sponsor for the New Central Primary School (report herewith) (Pages 27 - 29)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
10. Scrutiny Review - Childhood Obesity (report herewith) (Pages 30 - 37)
 - Chief Executive to report.

11. Capital Programme Monitoring 2013/14 and Capital Programme Budget 2014/15 to 2015/16 (report herewith) (Pages 38 - 59)
 - Director of Finance to report.
12. Revenue Budget Monitoring for the period ending 31st August 2013 (report herewith) (Pages 60 - 72)
 - Director of Finance to report.
13. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2014-2015 (report herewith) (Pages 73 - 80)
 - Director of Finance to report.
14. Living Wage (report herewith) (Pages 81 - 87)
 - Chief Executive to report.
15. Adult Community Learning Fees and Funding Policy (report herewith) (Pages 88 - 101)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
16. Exclusion of the Press and Public.
The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended March 2006) (information relating to the financial or business affairs).
17. Rationalisation of Property Assets - Former Council Offices (advance notice given) (report herewith) (Pages 102 - 109)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
18. New Applications for Hardship Relief 2013/14 (advance notice given) (report herewith) (Pages 110 - 112)
 - Director of Finance to report.
19. New Application for Discretionary Rate Relief 2013/14 (advance notice given) (report herewith) (Pages 113 - 116)
 - Director of Finance to report.

Extra Item:-

20. Core Strategy Examination (report herewith) (Pages 117 - 119)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	CABINET
2.	Date:	16TH OCTOBER, 2013
3.	Title:	MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL MINUTES
4.	Directorate:	RESOURCES

5. Summary

To consider Members' training matters.

6. Recommendations

To receive the minutes of the meetings of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 9th September, 2013.

7. Proposals and Details

To ensure implementation of the Council's Training and Development Policy in accordance with the meeting's Terms of Reference.

8. Finance

The Panel has its own training budget.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Without proper training and support being in place there is a risk that Members' capacity to make decisions is not soundly based.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

To consider best practice in relation to Member training and development.

The aim is for every Elected Member to be given suitable opportunities for development and training to help support all aspects of their role.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 9th September, 2013, are attached.

Contact Name : Tracey Parkin, Human Resources Manager, Resources Directorate
– Tel. 01709 823742 tracey.parkin@rotherham.gov.uk

**MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL
MONDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 2013**

Present:- Councillor Stone (in the Chair); Councillors Buckley, Dodson, Falvey, Gosling, Lakin and Smith.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Havenhand, Steele and Wootton.

28. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Agreed:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th June, 2013, were agreed as a correct record.

With regards to Minute No. 24 (Report Writing and Plain English) it was noted that training sessions were being arranged to start work on improving standards of reports.

Reference was also made to Minute No. 25 (Member Development Charter) and the decision by Rotherham not to pursue formal Charter status for Member Development. Barnsley, however, had agreed to pursue Charter status, but were told to place this on hold due to cost. A further update would be provided for the next meeting.

29. REVISED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2013

Consideration was given to the report presented by Tracey Parkin, Human Resources Manager, which detailed how the Member Development Strategy had been reviewed and updated to reflect the current priorities and direction of the Council and recent developments in management of Member development needs.

The core programme had also been updated to reflect the various roles of Members and the challenges presented in terms of Member skills and knowledge as set out in the Member Skills Profile. Development may be provided by a range of means, including local and regional/sub-region provision.

Reference was made to the many changes faced by Local Government and whether this could be itemised.

Agreed:- (1) That the revisions to the Member Development Strategy be approved.

(2) That information be sought from the Local Government Association with regards to changes being faced by Local Government.

30. MEMBER INDUCTION 2014

Consideration was given to the report presented by Tracey Parkin, Human Resources Manager, which referred to the preparations for the 2014 Member Induction programme and asked whether or not the views of Members elected since 2011 be taken into consideration to inform the planning of this programme, as well as this Panel's view on the content/design of the programme.

It was noted that feedback was sought on attendance and an evaluation was made of content/delivery, but an evaluation of the impact of the induction programme had not taken place. This was now planned to take place as part of the Personal Development Plan process. However, it was unlikely that these would be completed prior to December, 2013.

Although it was difficult to anticipate the number of new Councillors, in order to ensure the best use of resources and plan an effective induction programme for future years, it would be helpful to seek the view of Members elected since 2011 to identify potential gaps/areas of improvement. This could be done through survey or a small working group. Using the findings from this work, a further report on preparation for induction would be submitted to this Panel at its December 2013 meeting.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the content of 2014 induction programme as presented be approved.

(3) That the views of Members elected since 2011 be sought on the content/design of the programme.

(4) That further progress reports be presented to the next meeting of this Panel.

31. MEMBER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME - UPDATE (AUTUMN 2013)

Consideration was given to the report presented by Tracey Parkin, Human Resources Manager, which provided an update on progress in respect of Member Development.

A generic programme has been developed based on issues raised by this Panel with feedback from other sessions and updates on current policy/legislative developments. Future programmes would be more reflective of issues raised in Personal Development Plans once a sufficient number had taken place to assess learning and development needs.

This programme would run from September and include a variety of sessions.

In addition to the organised programme, Members have access to one-to-one ICT support via Jean Tracey in Human Resources. A number of Members have received training on email, e-casework and navigating intranet/internet. Options were currently being explored for externally accredited basic skills ICT sessions. Details of these would be circulated in due course.

Discussion ensued on the programme and it was noted that Safeguarding had previously encompassed both children and adults, but only adults were currently identified. It was suggested that, if a joint session could not be included, that a separate session for safeguarding children be arranged.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That Safeguarding Children be considered for inclusion as a priority area for development in the programme.

32. SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITY

Consideration was given to a verbal report by Tracey Parkin, Human Resources Manager, which provided an update on activity that was taking place sub-regionally with regards to training.

Contact had been made with the Local Government Information Unit regarding a shared proposal in this region with Rotherham, Barnsley and the South Yorkshire Joint Secretariat looking specifically at:-

- Regeneration of the Local Economy.
- Local Government Finance.
- Police and Crime Commissioner.

Some places would be provided free of charge for hosting some form of training in the region with priority booking arrangements.

Further information would be provided in due course.

Agreed:- That the information be welcomed and noted.

33. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel be held on Monday, 16th December, 2013 commencing at 11.00 a.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	CABINET
2.	Date:	16TH OCTOBER, 2013
3.	Title:	MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN MEMBERS' STEERING GROUP HELD ON 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2013
4.	Directorate:	ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

5. Summary

In accordance with Minute No. B29 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 11th August, 2004, minutes of the Rotherham Local Plan Members' Steering Group are submitted to the Cabinet.

A copy of the minutes of the Rotherham Local Plan Members' Steering Group held on 13th September, 2013 is therefore attached.

6. Recommendations:-

That progress to date and the emerging issues be noted, and the minutes be received.

7. Proposals and Details

The Council is required to review the Unitary Development Plan and to produce a Local Development Plan under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

The policy change of the coalition Government should be noted re: the Localism Act 2011 and implications for the Local Plan.

8. Finance

The resource and funding implications as the Local Plan work progresses should be noted.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- Failure to comply with the Regulations.
- Consultation and responses to consultation.
- Aspirations of the community.
- Changing Government policy and funding regimes.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

There are local, sub-region and regional implications. The Local Development Scheme will form the spatial dimension of the Council's Community Strategy.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Minutes of and reports to the Rotherham Local Plan Members' Steering Group.

Attachments:-

- A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 13th September, 2013.

**Contact Name : Karl Battersby, Strategic Director,
Environment and Development Services.
Ext 23815
karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk**

ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN STEERING GROUP
Friday, 13th September, 2013

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); Councillors Clark, Dodson, Falvey, Godfrey, McNeely and Pickering.

together with:- Bronwen Knight, Helen Sleigh, Andrew Duncan, Noel Bell, David Edwards and Ryan Shepherd (Planning Service) and Ann Todd (Press Office).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Currie, Lakin and Whelbourn.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 5TH JULY, 2013

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group, held on 5th July, 2013.

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

7. SITES AND POLICIES DOCUMENT CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Further to Minute No. 79 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 19th April, 2013, consideration was given to a report presented by the Planning Officer containing an update for Members about the consultation on the Rotherham Sites and Policies Document (which had begun during May 2013) and its accompanying Integrated Impact Assessment.

Various notes and statistics about the consultation process were appended to the report. An estimated 7,000 individual comments and representations had been received.

Annex 2 to the report provided detailed statistics of the number of individual representations submitted for the various chapters and appendices of the draft Sites and Policies. Accompanying these statistics was a tally of the numbers of standard representations and petition signatures submitted.

Annex 3 to the report contained an overview of the comments received for individual sites, categorised by settlement grouping. These include those provided by residents as well as organisations such as the Environment Agency, English Heritage, the Sheffield and Rotherham Wildlife Trust, National Grid, Yorkshire Water and the South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive.

The key causes for concern related to development on Green Belt land; the scale and necessity for development; loss of views; impact on house prices; loss of farmland and the subsequent impact on food availability; impact on wildlife and the built environment; loss of recreational land;

development altering the character of settlements and losing the natural break from other communities; flooding and drainage problems; impact of new development on local infrastructure: specifically school places, doctor's surgeries and increased congestion arising from increased traffic generation associated with the building of new homes and employment opportunities.

Discussion took place on various locations, situated throughout the Borough area, which had been raised as issues of concern during the consultation process.

Examples mentioned were : Lathe Road; Worrygoose Lane; Brecks Lane; Harding Avenue (Upper Haugh); Eastwood Trading Estate; Bassingthorpe Farm; Dinnington; Wath upon Dearne, Brampton and West Melton; Kiveton Park and Wales (including the proposed gypsy encampment site); Maltby and Hellaby (site off Stainton Lane; Queen's Hotel crossroads in Malbty; sites off Cumwell Lane, Hellaby); Aston, Aughton and Swallownest (flooding of land to the East of Wetherby Drive and East of Lodge Lane; natural environment at The Warren); Swinton and Kilnhurst; Catcliffe, Treeton and Orgreave (local opposition to the use of Green Belt land; the HS2 railway proposals; retail provision within the Waverley development); Thurcroft and Brampton-en-le-Morthen (use of urban green space); Thorpe Hesley (request made to revert land allocated for housing to Green Belt land); Todwick (wildlife habitat off Goosecarr Lane); Harthill (redevelopment of the North Farm site).

Members raised the following salient issues:-

: the sites of the former (i) Herringthorpe Leisure Centre and (ii) the horticultural nurseries and sports pavilion adjacent Herringthorpe playing field – the suitability for development of these three specific sites was discussed and emphasis was placed upon the retention of the playing field as an important area of urban green space;

: the availability of appropriate types of housing (eg: 2 and 3 bedroom properties, rather than 4 and 5 bedroom properties) and the preference of housing developers to build different types of housing;

: the suitability of alternative areas of land, throughout the Borough, as a possible location for a gypsy encampment site;

: there would be further public consultation about the final draft of the sites and policies document, which was expected to take place during the early months of 2014 (after receipt of the Inspector's report of the outcome of the Examination in Public).

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the Local Plan Steering Group endorses the publication of the information contained in the report and annexes, as now submitted,

relating to the statistics of the consultation and workshop notes to support the emerging Sites and Policies Final Draft and the Examination in Public into the Core Strategy, as appropriate.

(3) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group detailing the updated position on development sites established as a consequence of the outcomes of the last round of consultation.

8. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY CONSULTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY

Further to Minute No. 3 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 3rd July, 2013, consideration was given to a report presented by the Senior Planning Officer containing an update on consultation on a Rotherham Community Infrastructure Levy Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule and associated work on infrastructure delivery. In addition to the report, Members received a presentation which included the following salient issues:-

- : definition of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL);
- : payment of levy is mandatory (for developers);
- : needed to support new development;
- : the money is ring-fenced for new infrastructure (and Councils must utilise the money for this purpose);
- : details of the calculation of CIL (nb: geographical / land use differences);
- : details of the application of CIL;
- : CIL can be charged on relevant permitted development, as well as on development receiving planning permission;
- : Section 106 may still be used for site-specific impacts and limited pooling for infrastructure;
- : CIL is expected to have a positive economic impact upon an area;
- : identify the aggregate infrastructure gap and whether CIL is necessary (charges must be based upon a sound economic argument, with appropriate available supporting evidence);
- : use of CIL will be subject to independent examination;
- : striking the balance between desirability of funding the infrastructure gap to support the development of an area and the potential effects of the imposition of CIL upon the economic viability of development across the area;
- : CIL can be used for infrastructure outside the Borough area;
- : the purpose of the Regulation 123 list – a published list of infrastructure projects which CIL can be spent on (but which Section 106 funding cannot);
- : the Rotherham CIL study is being prepared alongside the Local Plan Core Strategy and the Sites and Policies document (including : viability assumptions reflecting development currently taking place);
- : details of the CIL study approach were provided;
- : Economic Viability Appraisal (key to setting CIL rates);
- : a summary of the infrastructure funding gap was provided;

- : a map of the various charging zones, throughout the Rotherham Borough area, was displayed;
- : CIL is able to be used as match-funding;
- : an information sharing session about CIL has been held with Parish Councils in Rotherham (nb: CIL amounts payable to Parishes would be higher where a Parish has a Neighbourhood Plan);
- : impact of the CIL (Amendment) Regulations 2013;
- : CIL funds should be received by the Borough Council within 90 days of the commencement of a development;
- : the desirability of joint Borough Council and Parish Council, working in order to agree infrastructure priorities;
- : statutory consultation on the Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule is taking place from 5th August to 7th October 2013.

The submitted report included details of both (i) the Utilities Infrastructure Forum and (ii) the Infrastructure Delivery Group, the latter being a re-shaping of the existing internal, corporate Section 106 Group. The purposes and remits of these two Officer Groups were detailed in the report.

During discussion of this item, Members raised the following matters:-

- : infrastructure and schemes (eg: transport and highway infrastructure; education) which might be the largest users of CIL; (recreation is another possible use);
- : a comparison of the income estimated to be received from CIL, with funds received as part of Section 106 agreements; (it is unlikely that CIL will have a greater impact upon developers than the current Section 106 system); future planning permissions will clearly specify the CIL amounts payable;
- : CIL income will be accounted for centrally within the Borough Council and decisions will be made about priorities for its future use;
- : the use of CIL for cross-boundary infrastructure, in partnership with other local authorities;
- : arrangements for the use of and accounting for CIL funding payable to Parish Councils.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the progress with the consultation on a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for a Rotherham Community Infrastructure Levy, as detailed in the presentation and the report submitted, be noted.

(3) That the progress with the implementation of an infrastructure delivery mechanism to support development in the Core Strategy, as detailed in the presentation and the report submitted, be noted.

9. CORE STRATEGY EXAMINATION UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 4 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 5th July, 2013, consideration was given to a report presented by the Senior Planning Officer providing an update about the forthcoming Examination in Public of Rotherham's Local Plan Core Strategy. Members noted that, during July 2013, the Inspector (appointed for the Examination in Public) had published his initial matters, issues and questions on which the examination will focus (details of which were listed in the submitted report). Officers are preparing the Council's responses to these matters, issues and questions. The Examination in Public will take place at Riverside House from 22nd October until 8th November, 2013.

Discussion took place on the arrangements for approval of any changes to the Core Strategy and development plan documents, which may arise because of being either (i) Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector, or (ii) included in a schedule of minor changes to be complied at the Examination in Public hearing sessions. There is a statutory requirement for public consultation on any changes, to take place for a period of six weeks and beginning as soon as possible after the Examination in Public has ended.

It was agreed that the Cabinet be asked to approve that the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development shall be granted the delegated authority to approve any changes to the Core Strategy, including a schedule of minor changes which may be complied at the Examination in Public hearing sessions.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the revised delegation arrangements in respect of any changes to the contents of the Core Strategy, as described above, be agreed subject to Cabinet approval.

10. MINERALS PLANNING UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Senior Planning Officer providing an update about the minerals planning matters, including the re-establishment of a Yorkshire and Humber Aggregate Working Party, the production of a draft Local Aggregate Assessment and the agreement of a joint position statement between the Rotherham, Doncaster, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Councils.

The report stated that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) required local authorities to prepare an annual Local Aggregate Assessment. The NPPF also indicated that Councils should participate in the operation of an Aggregate Working Party and take the advice of that Party into account when preparing their Local Aggregate Assessment.

The Localism Act 2011 and the NPPF placed a duty on local planning authorities and other bodies to co-operate with each other to address strategic issues relevant to their areas. The duty required continued constructive and active engagement in the preparation of development plan documents and other activities relating to the sustainable development and use of land, including minerals.

Within the submitted report were details of:-

- : Yorkshire and Humber Aggregate Working Party;
- : Draft Local Aggregate Assessment (prepared jointly with the partner local authorities);
- : Minerals position statement (prepared jointly with the partner local authorities).

Resolved:- That the report be received and its contents noted.

11. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group take place at the Town Hall, Rotherham on Friday, 25th October, 2013, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16th October 2013
3.	Title:	Proposed Restructure of RMBC Pupil Referral Units
4.	Programme Area:	Children and Young People’s Services

5. Summary

In recent years, there has been a changing landscape for the national Alternative Provision sector. The Charlie Taylor Report on Improving Alternative Provision made a range of recommendations to re-shape provision and better meet the needs of those children on the periphery and outside of mainstream education. In acknowledging the principles of the report, the Local Authority, in partnership with schools, conducted a review of existing pupil referral unit provision in Rotherham and at the same time has had to take account of the implementation of the Schools Funding Reforms 2013-14.

The existing pupil referral unit provision consists of 3 ‘partnership’ pupil referral units (Riverside, St Mary’s and the Bridge), the Rowan Centre (for pregnant schoolgirls and teenage mothers) and the ARC (for primary pupils (Y1-4) plus some KS3 pupils with more complex needs). In addition there is a primary SEN unit at Thorogate School for Y5/6 pupils and an Alternative Curriculum Service that organises and manages offsite provision for pupils that schools feel unable to cater for.

6. Recommendation

- **That the existing ‘five’ registered pupil referral unit model in Rotherham is streamlined into a ‘two’ registered pupil referral unit model that more appropriately meets the needs of those vulnerable pupils who are unable to access mainstream school (as per statutory guidance).**

7. Proposals and Details

The wider picture

Where children and young people manifest challenging behaviour which cannot be managed in mainstream education, a time limited period in a pupil referral unit will also be accompanied by holistic, whole family support which facilitates sustained improvement in the home. Rotherham's Early Help strategy outlines the importance of both preventing escalation of need, and also intervening earlier to reduce the risk of further escalation where this is possible. As children do not live in isolation, access to support children and young people on a pupil referral unit roll may be solicited from the Early Help Support Panel, where partner agencies delivering services to adults as well as children (such as Choices and Options, Adult Mental Health and Housing) can be engaged to provide a tight package of support coordinated by the Family CAF. Often, parenting is seen as the root cause of many children's behavioural issues. However, parenting itself can only be improved if the adult in question has the mental health capacity to recognise the need to change and commit to this, which on occasion can only be achieved following adult mental health interventions. Where mental health issues are prevalent in the child or young person, CAMHS will likewise be pivotal in affecting positive change in partnership with the Local Authority.

The current local offer

'Partnership' pupil referral units were set up as 'Behaviour and Attendance' partnerships (in approx. 2009) by the LA and secondary schools where clusters of schools across geographical areas worked together with pupils from those schools accessing 'their' pupil referral unit. Riverside (at Catcliffe) serves the Southern partnership (Wales, Brinsworth, Maltby, Aston and Dinnington. St Mary's (at Rawmarsh) serves the Northern partnership (Clifton, Wath, St Pius, Swinton and Rawmarsh). The Bridge pupil referral unit (at Whiston, adjacent to Newman Special School) serves the Central partnership (Wickersley, St Bernard's, Oakwood, Thrybergh, Wingfield and Winterhill).

Only one of the 'partnership' pupil referral units has any fully qualified teaching staff and none of them offer the opportunity to access GCSEs. There is a focus on 'vocational' courses. These pupil referral units have a notional 25 places each and generally work on offering 20 full-time equivalent places. Most placements are part-time.

Rowan is based in Rawmarsh, has an onsite nursery, and is a joint venture between RMBC and Barnardo's. Rowan has fully qualified teaching staff and offers 6 GCSEs plus additional accreditation. Rowan can cater for 15 pupils of compulsory school age. Pupils are also able to continue with partially completed courses in conjunction with their mainstream school so have the opportunity to achieve more where appropriate. Placements are full-time and long-term. There is a focus on the development of parenting skills and there is a post-16 offer onsite through RCAT.

The ARC pupil referral unit is located across two sites, Swinton (KS3) and the Welcome Centre (Y1-4), and also hosts the Home Tuition and CAMHS Education

Services. The CAMHS Education classroom is currently located at CAMHS in Kimberworth Place.

The Thorogate unit does not currently sit under the 'pupil referral unit' umbrella. It can have up to 9 pupils on roll with 6 pupils onsite in the unit at any one time. It caters for pupils with statements (SEN) who are unable to currently access a full-time programme in mainstream school, pupils who have been permanently excluded (PX) and who are therefore the full responsibility of the LA to provide a full-time, appropriate education, and pupils who schools require support with and who are very close to being permanently excluded.

In order to improve outcomes for children attending the PRU provision it is proposed to have:

PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT 1:

- This would be a 65-place (secondary) pupil referral unit located across 2 sites (currently St Mary's and Riverside). It will offer part-time, full-time, short and long-term placements. GCSEs will be offered as well as appropriate vocational courses. Links to both pre and post-16 offers at FE are intended. This would be operational with effect from January 2014 which would leave the Bridge premises vacant.
- Primary provision is still under review as the current system is not meeting pupil or school needs. There is massive pressure on the system with many schools struggling with children displaying extreme and often violent behaviours. It is the preferred choice that primary pupil referral unit provision takes place in a total of four small nurture group centres. Three of these would ideally be located on primary school sites (as per the Thorogate model) and would cater for Y1 & 2, Y3 & 4, and Y5 & 6. This Y5 & 6 centre would replace the Thorogate unit (as Thorogate school no longer wish to host that unit). The fourth would need to cater for pupils with more extreme behaviours who are unlikely to be able to access any primary school site for a time. It is anticipated that each of these centres would cater for a total of 6 pupils each onsite at any one time. Host primary schools are currently being sought so it is anticipated that the primary provision at the unit adjacent to Kimberworth Place would need to continue until probably summer 2014. These primary units would be under the leadership and governance of pupil referral unit 1 with the Head Teachers of the host primary schools being required to sit on the management committee of that pupil referral unit (as per guidance from the DfE).
- An increased number of staff would be required for these units.
- Dalton Foljambe primary school is interested in hosting a primary unit for Y1 & 2 pupils. This option is currently being investigated further.
- If the proposal for the complex needs provision proceeds then it might be appropriate to consider placing the complex needs primary pupils there as a separate unit under the management and staffing of pupil referral unit 1.

- If two further units cannot be found on primary school sites then it might be appropriate to consider finding an alternative location for Riverside secondary pupil referral unit at Catcliffe and placing the primary pupils in the unit premises there where they would benefit from being in close proximity to a mainstream primary school.
- Pupils currently accessing ARC KS3 (Swinton) will either be reintegrated back into their mainstream school, be relocated into one of the two sites at St Mary's and Riverside, or would be eligible for the proposed complex needs provision (should that proposal proceed).
- Schools will be offered the opportunity to commission part-time places at pupil referral unit 1 (at both secondary and primary phases). Capacity for school commissioned places will be dependent upon LA demand.

PUPIL REFERRAL UNIT 2:

- This will be a 25-place specialist centre (jointly funded through the LA and Barnardo's at Rowan in Rawmarsh) that will support the education of pupils with a range of health needs including teenage pregnancy. It is proposed that transition to this wider range of provision takes place from September to October with the centre being fully operational with its revised remit from October half-term 2013. The Centre will be re-branded to reflect the change from being a teen parent unit to an education centre for pupils with a range of health needs. There will continue to be an on-site nursery for the children of teenage parents.
- The CAMHS Education service offer will be incorporated into the Rowan centre with Rowan working closely with CAMHS and other health and RMBC colleagues. This will enable the resources at Rowan to be utilised to maximum effect. Fully qualified teaching staff will teach all pupils across the range of need. CAMHS Education service is required to be part of the planned pupil referral unit places (i.e. with delegated budget) rather than be a service. It also needs to be located within an educational rather than a health setting. These stipulations are as per guidance from the DfE. Through this CAMHS Education pupils would receive an improved offer from the LA if they are not well enough to access their mainstream school. A range of accreditation will be offered to all pupils irrespective of the reasons for being placed there. There will be a focus on pupils returning to mainstream school as soon as they are well enough to do so. Discussions are already taking place with CAMHS to develop an appropriate operating procedure with joint input from Education and CAMHS.
- The home tuition service will operate from Rowan with a SLA being put in place for this between Rowan and the LA. Tuition will be delivered by sessional tutors. Revised statutory guidance from the DfE on health needs (Jan 2013) indicates that the LA must be able to offer up to a full-time onsite offer for health needs if required which it is currently unable to do. The oversight and line management of the hospital school will also be located at this centre. This is to ensure that there is continuity of provision with a cohesive approach for all pupils requiring education outside of school for health reasons. The hospital school currently caters for pupils who have very

short stays in hospital (generally 1 or 2 days). If, on occasions, there are longer term pupils then home tutors are likely to be already be working with them so it would then be appropriate for the home tutors to continue working with those pupils at the hospital.

- Training related to health issues (as well as educational issues) would be targeted to all staff working across the range of health needs pupils.
- Schools will be offered the opportunity to commission places at this centre for vulnerable pupils who fulfil the entry criteria on health needs. There are already a number of requests from schools for those places.

Staffing establishment (staffing figures are given as number of people not number of full-time equivalent posts)

Pre-proposal staffing levels

St Mary's	13
The Bridge	14
Riverside	12

Rowan	7 RMBC
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staff (Barnardo's staff numbers are not included here)

Alternative Curriculum	2
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Thorogate unit	3
ARC	21

(ARC staffing figures include primary, KS3, CAMHS Education, and Home tuition but do not include sessional tutors)

Hospital school	3
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Total staff	75
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Proposed staffing levels by July 2014

Pupil referral unit 1(secondary only)

29

Primary provision is still being reviewed. Proposed interim staffing levels:

ARC KS3	6 (to be reduced by 2 in January as pupil numbers fall). 0 staff by April 2013. (1 member of staff transferring across to primary with immediate effect)
ARC primary	9 plus ARC Head of Centre

By July 2014 it is intended that primary provision will sit under pupil referral unit 1 which means the post of ARC Head of Centre will no longer be required. It is not clear at this time what level of staffing will be required for primary provision – current numbers are not at risk at the moment.

One possible proposal for staffing of primary pupil referral unit provision (figures are included within proposed HN allocation for 2014/15):

18 people across the primary units which also include a support/cover team from the pupil referral unit which can also link with schools. This broadly equates to the current numbers of staff at ARC primary (10), ARC KS3 (6) and Thorogate (3) but would change some of the levels.

Pupil referral unit 2 (Rowan)	7 RMBC staff. In addition, CAMHS Education staff, existing home tutors, and staff at the hospital school will transfer across to the management of Rowan. Current vacancies of Team Leaders for CAMHS Education and Home Tuition will not be filled. Staff at Rowan will work with a wider range of pupil need.
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Total number in proposed structure 63

There are many staffing anomalies across the pupil referral units currently, with staff doing similar roles on different pay grades and different terms and conditions. These issues will be rectified giving parity for all staff grades as the result of this restructure.

Of the pre-proposal staffing levels, 11 posts are currently vacant – most of these vacancies will not be replaced, 2 members of staff are currently employed as casual staff and are not eligible to apply for posts in the new structure, and 2 members of staff are considering retirement at Xmas.

2 of the vacancies are at Rowan – both posts have been ring-fenced to staff at risk from the restructure of the partnership pupil referral units in the first instance.

Premises:

The following is proposed:

Rowan (Rawmarsh) will continue to be used.
St Mary's (Rawmarsh) will continue to be used.

Riverside (Catcliffe) will either continue to house secondary pupil referral unit or it will house a centralised primary provision for 2 of the primary units (Y3/4 and Y5/6).

There is a possibility that Riverside pupil referral unit could be relocated to other suitable premises if they can be found. There would be financial implications with this option and would have to be discussed at CSART.

There is a possibility that Y1 and Y2 pupils who need to access Alternative Provision could be located at Dalton Foljambe school in a primary unit should that proposal proceed.

If the primary provision moves to Riverside premises at Catcliffe then the unit adjacent to Kimberworth Place would be vacated.

The classroom in Kimberworth Place will be vacated (Nov 2013)

It is intended that the Bridge premises at Whiston will be vacated (Jan 2014). If no alternative location is found for the Thorogate primary unit (currently going through a formal closure process) then it is proposed that the primary unit is relocated to the Bridge premises in January 2014 as a temporary measure whilst a longer term solution is found.

The Redbarn house premises at Swinton will be vacated by April 2014 at the latest.

8. Finance

From 1.4.13 a change to the DfE School Funding Regulations required all Pupil Referral Units to have a delegated budget which must be allocated from the Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation paid to the Authority by the Department for Education on a financial year basis.

Each PRU will manage its own budget via their Management Committee (equivalent of Governing Body in maintained Schools).

The funding must be based on the DfE's 'place-plus' funding model i.e. £8k per planned place is allocated, with additional income to the pupil referral unit (or 'top up') to be provided by individual schools (from their delegated budgets) when they place pupils in the units, or, by the Authority (from the Dedicated Schools Grant allocation) if the Authority places the pupils.

The total value of funding allocated for 2013/14 was lower than was allocated for 2012/13 due to the need to introduce the new funding methodology, whilst recognising that the pupil referral unit provision in Rotherham was still under review during this transitional year. Increased pressure on the High Needs Block also led to the reduction in funding available for pupil referral unit provision.

This proposal allocates less funding to the overall pupil referral unit provision and corresponding anticipated operating costs will also be lower than the current model.

These figures are calculated on the basis that Pupil Referral Unit 1 places (secondary) will all be commissioned by the authority rather than schools,

therefore any funding additional to the 'places' allocation will be provided from the Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs block allocation. It is however anticipated that some places will be commissioned by schools. School contribution rate will be equivalent to 75% of the Average Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) rate on a pro-rata basis.

Overview of reduction in staffing, management, and premises costs for Rowan, ARC, Bridge, St Mary's and Riverside (excluding hospital school)

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Staff	1,491,482.25	1,352,081.59	1,393,535.07
Management	302,543.68	261,062.49	133,346.93
Premises	138,749.74	159,167.50	106,052.00
TOTAL	1,932,775.67	1,772,311.58	1,632,934.00

Overview of total funding for 2012-15 (excluding hospital school)

	Actual DSG	Actual HN allocation	Proposed HN allocation
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
TOTAL	2,465,149	2,255,082*	2,114,147**

*operating costs exceed High Needs allocation – proposed restructure will reduce cost to required level

**it is estimated that income from schools will reduce this figure by approx. £200,000

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- Financial issues include protected salaries and setting up costs of primary centres as well as potential costs of relocating Riverside pupil referral unit if that is required.
- This model has yet to be tested operationally – some slight adjustments might be required which could have financial implications although these would be minimal.
- Financial cost required to set up Dalton Foljambe due to space requirements.
- If level of permanently excluded pupils rises then less capacity for schools to be able to commission places to support them with pupils with a high level of need
- If level of permanently excluded pupils rises then there would be less income from schools
- Schools will only commission places at the pupil referral units if the quality of provision is high.
- There is limited capacity within primary schools to host primary units due to the rising birth rate.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

- This proposal will support our vision for Rotherham in providing quality education for some of our most vulnerable pupils ensuring they have opportunities to develop skills, learn and improve their future employment prospects.
- This proposal also meets the aims of Transforming Rotherham Learning and the Rotherham Mission for all its children and young people.

11. Background Papers

The proposal has the support of the sub-group of the Inclusion Strategic Steering Group that was set up to review Alternative Provision. It incorporates many of the recommendations from that review.

The proposal has the support of the LAs DLT.

12. Appendices

Appendix 1 for Statutory Guidance for Pupil Referral Units
Appendix 2 for Rotherham's requirements for Pupil Referral Units
Appendix 3 for outcomes from consultation and timeline

13. Contact Name

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Appendix 1

Statutory Guidance:

- The LA is responsible for arranging suitable full-time education for permanently excluded pupils and for other pupils who – because of illness or other reasons – would not receive suitable education without such provision. Good alternative provision is that which appropriately meets the needs of pupils which required its use and enables them to achieve good educational attainment on par with their mainstream peers. All pupils must receive a good education, regardless of their circumstances or the settings in which they find themselves.
- The LA is required to arrange suitable full-time education (or as much as the pupil's health condition allows) for pupils of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would otherwise not receive suitable education.
- The LA must provide such education as soon as it is clear that the pupil will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative.
- The LA must ensure that the education pupils receive is of good quality, allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from slipping behind their peers in school and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.
- The LA must address the needs of individual pupils in arranging provision and must not have processes or policies in place which prevent a pupil from getting the right type of provision and a good education.

Appendix 2

The requirements of pupil referral unit provision in Rotherham are that it:

- Provides a high quality educational provision and improves the outcomes for those children in need of alternative provision outside of the mainstream school provision in Rotherham (as per statutory requirements of the Local Authority under section 19 (1) of the Education Act 1991, as amended by section 3 of the Children, Schools and Families Act 2010.)
- Provides a financially viable model of delivery using the new DfE funding methodology and is efficient and effective in its operation in terms of affordability, allocation and use of resources, particularly as the funding now sits within the High Needs Block.
- Offers improved opportunities for the development of good practice across the borough's AP provision.
- Brings together skills and expertise under a 'two' pupil referral unit model rather than a 'five' pupil referral unit model with each of the pupil referral units having a different focus.
- Has a focus on the development of skills required for successful reintegration back into mainstream communities.
- Works closely with schools to reduce the number of pupils requiring long-term provision in pupil referral units.
- Works closely with health services such as CAMHS to improve outcomes for those children who are not accessing mainstream education on health grounds.
- Integrates into Rotherham's broader early help provision, identifying clear pathways for drawing additional whole family support where required, engaging with children's social care where need dictates, where ASB and/or worklessness is an issue, this may also include bespoke targeted support in line with Rotherham's Families for Change delivery plan.

Appendix 3

Consultation updates and proposed timeline

- Staff from the Alternative Curriculum team were transferred across to the pupil referral unit structure with effect from 1st September 2013 which enabled them to have the opportunity to apply for posts within the revised structure for Pupil Referral Unit 1.
- All staff in the pupil referral units (both secondary and primary) were given the opportunity to apply for posts in the new structure. This was to ensure equality of opportunity. If primary units on primary school sites have to be staffed by school staff then those primary staff in the pupil referral units system would be at risk later next year.
- A formal consultation process commenced with a meeting with all staff and unions on 5th July 2013 and ended with a meeting on 13th September 2013. This consultation period was extended by one week at the request of the unions.
- Individual meetings have taken place with staff, unions, and staff with union representatives together. HR and Lorraine Lichfield have had regular meetings to answer questions put by staff and unions.
- Schools have been involved in the Review of Alternative Provision which outlined this potential model. The recommendations from the Review have been shared with all schools, learning communities, ISSG and other professionals with two primary workshops being held where schools had further opportunity to join the debate. Two further sessions were offered for all to attend to discuss the proposed model. Attendance was disappointing.
- No alternative model has been proposed by either schools or staff at risk.
- All staff queries have been answered.
- As the result of discussion with staff, the model has been amended to replace two of the learning mentor posts with higher level teaching assistants to strengthen the model further. The model has been further amended with an increase in administrative staff in the structure.
- Current learning mentors (band F) have been permitted to apply for Higher Level Teaching Assistant (band G) posts which will be an opportunity for their personal development should they be successful.
- Anomalies with some staff gradings have been rectified prior to the restructure which has meant that an increased number of staff have become eligible to apply for the posts that match the work they have been doing to date.
- There was a union request to have a primary representative on the interview panel for the Head of Pupil Referral Unit 1 (as well as the two secondary representatives already planned). This was agreed and took place.

Additional updates

- There were two candidates for the Head of Pupil Referral Unit 1. The interviews have taken place and there is a successful candidate.

- The Head of Pupil Referral Unit 2 (Rowan) has transferred permanently to the LA and has been replaced at Rowan by a Centre Manager.
- Thorogate unit is currently going through the formal closure process as the host school no longer wish to have the unit onsite.
- The ARC pupil referral unit has been deregistered (with effect from 1st September 2013).
- It is the intention to deregister Riverside and the Bridge pupil referral units in December 2013. There will then be two registered pupil referral units (St Mary's and Rowan) – both of which have received 'good' Ofsted judgements within the last 12 months. Both of these units will be renamed in the New Year.

- June – July 2013 Cabinet member and advisers briefed
- 5 July – 13 Sept 2013 Staff and union consultation re pupil referral unit proposal
- Sept – Oct 2013 Pupil referral unit 2 to take on wider range of health needs
- Sept – Oct 2013 Recruitment process for Pupil referral unit 1 (all pupil referral unit staff to be eligible to apply for posts in Pupil referral unit 1 to ensure equality of opportunity)
- Jan 2014 Bridge premises to be vacated.
Bridge and Riverside pupil referral units to be deregistered. Rotherham will therefore have 2 registered pupil referral units (from existing registrations at St Mary's and Rowan – both of these units will be renamed and both of these units have received 'good' Ofsted judgements within the last 12 months).
ARC KS3 to lose 2 members of staff
- April 2014 ARC KS 3 to close – premises at Swinton vacated
- July 2014 Primary provision in place.
Welcome Centre premises vacated.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16th October 2013
3.	Title:	Approval of recommended Sponsor for the new Central Primary School
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

As reported to Cabinet previously the Local Authority has recently been successful in relation to a targeted basic need funding bid to create a new 1.5 form central primary school. Any new school carries an Academy / Free School presumption for sponsorship. A Sponsorship selection panel has been convened to interview respective sponsor applicants on the 10th October 2013, and make a recommendation to Cabinet on a preferred sponsor. The DfE must be notified by 18th October of the appointed sponsor.

6. Recommendation:

It is recommended that Cabinet approves the panels preferred sponsor 'Central Learning Partnership' following a formal selection process.

7. Proposals and Details

Following confirmation of a successful funding bid to DfE to create a new Central Primary School, it has been necessary to appoint a sponsor for the new school given the DfE's Academy / Free School presumption for all new schools.

Following DfE guidance, expressions of interest were received from potential sponsors. Sponsor applicants were initially verified by DfE as suitable and shortlisted for consideration by the Local Authority. A selection panel was convened to select the highest calibre of sponsor available to control the new school once opened.

The panel consisted of:

Elected Ward Member
Learning Community School Governor
Learning Community School pupil and parent
Senior Local Authority Officers
Observer

A process was developed prior to the selection programme outlining the need for the new School and local community overview. Potential sponsors were asked to deliver a presentation to the panel and were asked a series of pre- determined questions focusing on key elements such as:

Ethos and Partnership
Improving Pupil Outcomes
Inclusion
Working with the Local Community

Panel members graded the applicants individually then following discussions agreed a preferred sponsor.

8. Finance

The capital cost of the building project to create a 1.5 form (45 published admission number) school is £5.5M.. This building programme will provide teaching areas and other required space . Funding for the project is from 'Targeted Basic Need funding' of £3.5M allocated by the DfE for the provision of sufficient school places and £2M capital funding from RMBC.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers and consequently, individual school budget funding, are based on estimated projections at a point in time. Over provision at one school could have a negative impact on provision at other schools. Local Authorities have a duty,

however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental choice. There is a year on year shortage of sufficient primary school places in the Central Learning Community.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'. As a result of the construction of the new school more parents will be able to access their catchment area and first preference school for their child and, therefore, increase that performance indicator from September 2015 onwards.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

DfE Guidance for Local Authorities on opening a new school by Academy / Free School presumption.

12. Contact Name

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16 October 2013
3.	Title:	Childhood Obesity
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The report provides an overview of the workshop held by a sub-group of the Health Select Commission, with officers from various services in the Council, to consider the re-commissioning of childhood obesity services in Rotherham.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That Cabinet receives the report and recommendations.**
- 6.2 That Cabinet agrees to support the regional and national lobby for legislation to support work on healthy weight and reductions in obese and overweight people.**
- 6.3 That Cabinet's response to the recommendations is fed back to OSMB within two months of the report submission.**

7 Proposals and details

7.1 Background to the workshop

A performance update report across all Corporate Plan outcomes to Self Regulation Select Commission on 20.09.2012 showed Outcome No. 21 – “More people are physically active and have a healthy way of life” was rated as red. Following from this a report on Childhood Obesity was then presented by the Head of Health Improvement, Rotherham Public Health on 22.11.2012, with a subsequent referral made to Health Select Commission to consider service re-commissioning.

This resulted in a working group being convened, chaired by Councillor Steele and including Councillors Beaumont, Dalton and Hoddinott to consider this issue.

The workshop was provided with support and evidence by the following officers:

Joanna Saunders	Head of Health Improvement, Rotherham Public Health
Chris Siddall	Sport and Leisure Manager, EDS
Helen Sleigh	Senior Planning Officer, EDS
Kay Denton-Tarn	Healthy Schools Consultant, CYPS
Hayley Mills	Contract Health & Wellbeing Programme Manager, DC Leisure
Diane Woolley	Team Leader (Local Taxation), Resources

This report provides Cabinet with the conclusions from the workshop, which took place over two separate meetings, and makes recommendations with regard to both the service re-commissioning and to wider Council policies which should also be supportive of the work to reduce and mitigate the impact of childhood obesity.

7.2 Rotherham Healthy Weight Framework

Members were provided with the local context for the framework and details of the current services provided through a presentation and supporting briefing paper covering:

- High levels of obesity and overweight adults and children in Rotherham
- Recognition of the innovative approach taken by Rotherham which is recognised as the national benchmark, with NICE (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) commending the success and comprehensive nature of the framework
- Tiered approach model for both children and adults - from whole population preventative activity up through four tiers (see Table 1, Appendix A)
- Difficulties for behaviour change services which depend largely on the individual's personal commitment and motivation
- Positive local promotional initiatives e.g. with Titans “Tries not Pies”, Maltby Masterchef
- Outcomes for service specifications
- Targets and costs of Tier 2-4 activities
- Participation rates and outcomes for participants
- Measurement of reception and year 6 pupils

The framework brings together strategies to both prevent and treat obesity in the population, and due to the high number of overweight and obese adults and children across Rotherham there is a continued need to provide several services with different levels of intervention for both adults and children.

Members acknowledged the good work being carried out and suggested promoting success stories more widely of children and young people who had done well on the programmes to encourage others.

The importance of effective communication with parents in light of the under-recognition of childhood obesity was emphasised. Statistics show the percentage of overweight and obese children is higher in Year 6 of primary school than in reception, so there needs to be a focus on work with secondary schools to support children when they transfer. More information about services and greater engagement with parents and carers through schools, particularly in primaries where it is easier to engage with them, will reach parents, carers and pupils at a younger age to try and instigate positive changes.

7.3 Services for children

The present services (summarised in Table 2, Appendix A) are contracted to 31 March 2014 and it is proposed to recommission the services again, subject to funding being agreed at the same level of £900k p.a. Targets will be in line with NICE guidance (this will be published towards the end of 2013) and recent DoH best practice guidance. Measures will include:

- numbers accessing services
- numbers successfully completing
- BMI change
- % weight loss
- use of anti-obesity medications
- range of demographic data

It was noted that children and families appear to express a preference for participating in clubs rather than attending Rotherham Institute of Obesity (RIO). The respective balance of services in the two areas and referral criteria will be revisited when determining the new contract specification. Members recognised that these are different tiers in the model but with the importance of individual commitment in self change programmes greater take up of MoreLife clubs might reduce escalation to tier three for some.

Performance reports are produced on an annual basis and monthly reviews take place with providers. There will be greater focus on ensuring the delivery of targets year on year as the previous three-year targets (which are acknowledged as being very challenging) were delivered in four years. Interim contract monitoring and improved data management will be crucial, especially as there is no "benchmark" data to enable us to compare our performance with other areas.

Members requested the opportunity for Health Select Commission to be consulted on the contract specification and criteria prior to the commencement of the commissioning process. Once services have been commissioned the provider(s) will be invited to give a presentation about their services and development plans to HSC.

7.4 Whole Population Prevention Activity

Public Health work closely with providers, partners and other services such as Leisure and Green Spaces as part of the Whole Population Prevention Activity underpinning the four tiers in the model. Members were interested in exploring additional areas that could contribute to preventive activity and stressed the importance of connectivity across the Council with wider policies linking in to support reducing childhood obesity.

Examples of positive work already in place are outlined below:

- Rotherham has received funding of £68,462.48p from the Sportivate grant over the past 3 years. This gives 14-25 year-olds who are semi-sporty access to six-to-eight weeks of free or subsidised coaching in a range of sports. The age range has been reduced from September to include 11-13 year-olds and there has to be an exit route.
- In Rotherham the markets have a reconfigured layout with a healthier food focus.
- Numerous activities take place in Rotherham such as: school holidays programmes which link with Parishes (nominal fee aiming to cover costs), Mega active programme (£5 full day, some activities free), free swimming for U8s, School events/annual festivals e.g. Herringthorpe Stadium, outreach, 14+ Sport England 3 year programme (£150k) for people with a disability.
- Specific work on obesity includes:
 - Targeted outreach by RIO regarding disabled young people and obesity at Kelford School – this is outside the weight management contract activity.
 - Support for exit routes from weight management services, including support/signposting to commercial and local authority leisure services with discounted access for weight management clients.
- DC Leisure sell a range of fruit in the café at Rotherham Leisure Centre, along with healthy options which are listed on a traffic light system based on fat and salt content. However fruit is not available in the other centres and DCL do not currently have a healthy vending policy for their four centres.
- In the Council's emerging Local Plan, policy proposals are currently being considered that promote a mix of uses within town, district and local centres but limit hot food takeaways within a defined centre to 10% of ground floor units. The draft policy also promotes the separation of hot food takeaways by the location of two non-food establishments between them.
- Diet and exercise are well promoted through the Healthy Schools workstream with a range of policies on the HS website such as:
 - Rotherham Food in Schools Model Policy and Guidance with sections on healthier vending, provision of fruit and vegetables, break time snacks, lunches
 - Creating a Healthy Packed Lunch Policy
 - Physical Activity Policy

An overview of the wider issues considered by Members is set out below.

Planning

A review of local planning authorities earlier in the year by the LGiU found that over 20 have exclusion zone policies (draft or adopted) designed to ban new hot food takeaways from opening in close proximity to schools and other facilities such as leisure centres and parks. Members supported the introduction of a 400m exclusion zone for new fast food take away businesses near schools in Rotherham as a measure to support reducing childhood obesity and wondered whether this could potentially be 800m. This recommendation for an exclusion zone has been fed back to EDS to comply with the consultation period for the Rotherham Local Plan Sites and Policies Document, which ran from 20 May to 29 July 2013.

Leisure and Green Spaces

New two-year Government funding for primary schools to improve school sport and physical activity as part of the Olympic legacy was announced last March. This will be for schoolteachers for CPD e.g. training or specialist coaching, or for activities – and will be approximately £9,000 p.a. per primary school with an average of 250 young people. It will be Ofsted assessed, starting from September, and schools will have to include details of their sports offer on their websites. The money is ring fenced and paid to the LA who distributes it, but schools may choose how they spend it.

Rotherham Active Partnership (RAP) has held meetings with providers/headteachers and is planning further meetings for September with headteachers in clusters. RAP are working up an offer for deliverers going into primary schools covering impact, quality assurance, what can be measured and safety (equipment/qualified staff). The intention is to upskill staff and devise bespoke courses to ensure sustainability.

Schools

The following points relating to schools and school policies were raised and Members requested that these be fed back to CYPS DLT for information and consideration, particularly catering policies for new schools such as those at Waverley.

- Encourage all schools to have on-site policies for students at lunch time.
- Promote the Rotherham school meal service as the meals are good quality and meet nutritional standards.
- Seek greater integration of the weight loss programmes with the Rotherham school meal service in order to support children who are seeking to lose weight.
- Encourage take up of free school meals (FSM) as eligible families are not always taking them up. The Government is currently considering how FSM will operate alongside Universal Credit and this could also impact on future take up.
- Provide more information about services and encourage greater engagement with parents through schools:
 - in primaries, thereby reaching people at a younger age to try and instigate positive changes.
 - in secondaries to support overweight pupils.

In relation to the new funding for primary schools mentioned above the key points are to:

- Encourage headteachers to support the meetings and listen to advice from providers in order to maximize the impact of the funding.
- Encourage schools to adopt the QA standards developed by Rotherham Active Partnership.
- Ensure monitoring data required by Sport England is provided by School Games Organisers to South Yorkshire Sport.

Health implications

One issue discussed was to strengthen the requirement for authors to show awareness of the health implications of their proposals in reports to Members, possibly via a health impact assessment. Currently report authors should address this under the policy and performance implications and links to corporate plan priorities. Potential tension does exist between economic policy to stimulate local business growth and public health policy.

Business rate incentives

As many areas of the borough lack greengrocers selling fresh produce Members asked for information about possible business rate incentives that might attract new businesses.

Finance verified that business rates cannot be varied according to the specific type of business as they are based on rateable values set by the District Valuer's Office in Sheffield and charged in accordance with Government legislation. In terms of attracting greengrocers, or any other type of business, there is currently a Small Business Rate Relief Scheme. This scheme currently allows 100% relief to businesses who occupy only one property in England with a rateable value of less than £6000 and a sliding scale for properties with a rateable value between £6000 and £12000. However, the legislation is only in place until 31/3/14 and it is not known at present if it will continue after that date.

7.5 Recommendations

- 1 The balance of activities commissioned for children between clubs and RIO should be reviewed as there appears to be an expressed preference for attendance at the clubs.
- 2 Establish interim contract monitoring and improved data management for obesity services once recommissioned.
- 3 Promote more individual success stories of children and young people who have done well on the programmes to encourage others.
- 4 Consider including targets for referrals to weight management programmes as part of the new specification for school nurses.
- 5 Provide more information about services and encourage greater engagement with parents through schools, particularly in primaries, to reach children at a younger age.
- 6 Continue to promote whole family interventions and free activities such as walking initiatives and park runs.
- 7 Promote Rothercard more extensively to encourage increased participation in activities.
- 8 Explore the feasibility of introducing a healthy vending policy in DCL leisure centres.
- 9 Introduce a 400m exclusion zone for new fast food takeaway businesses near schools in Rotherham.
- 10 Strengthen the requirement for report authors to show awareness of the health implications of their proposals.
- 11 That Cabinet be asked to support the regional and national lobby for legislation to support work on healthy weight and reductions in obese and overweight people.
- 12 Forward the points relating to schools in 7.4 to CYPS DLT for information and consideration.

8. Finance

The services will be commissioned commencing in April 2014 for three years (with the potential to run for up to five years) through funding from the ring-fenced Public Health Grant. At present the Public Health Grant is ring-fenced until the end of the 2015-16 financial year.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Obesity is widely seen as one of the major public health challenges. Failure to have effective services in place would lead to a higher number of overweight and obese children and young people, resulting in increasing levels of ill health such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Work to reduce and mitigate the impact of childhood obesity in Rotherham is central to Corporate Plan Outcome No. 21 - More people are physically active and have a healthy way of life. Healthy Lifestyles is a core workstream of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, with obesity being one of the six priority issues.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

“Corporate Plan Outcomes” - Report to Self Regulation Select Commission 20.09.2012
(Minute 21)

“Childhood Obesity” - Report to Self Regulation Select Commission 22.11.2012
(Minute 43)

Briefing for Members on Rotherham’s Healthy Weight Framework Services, May 2013

Notes of sub-group meetings on 3 May 2013 and 17 June 2014

LGIU Briefing Obesity, hot food takeaways and planning: Salford and beyond, June 2013

12. Contact

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1 Rotherham Healthy Weight Framework (summarised version)

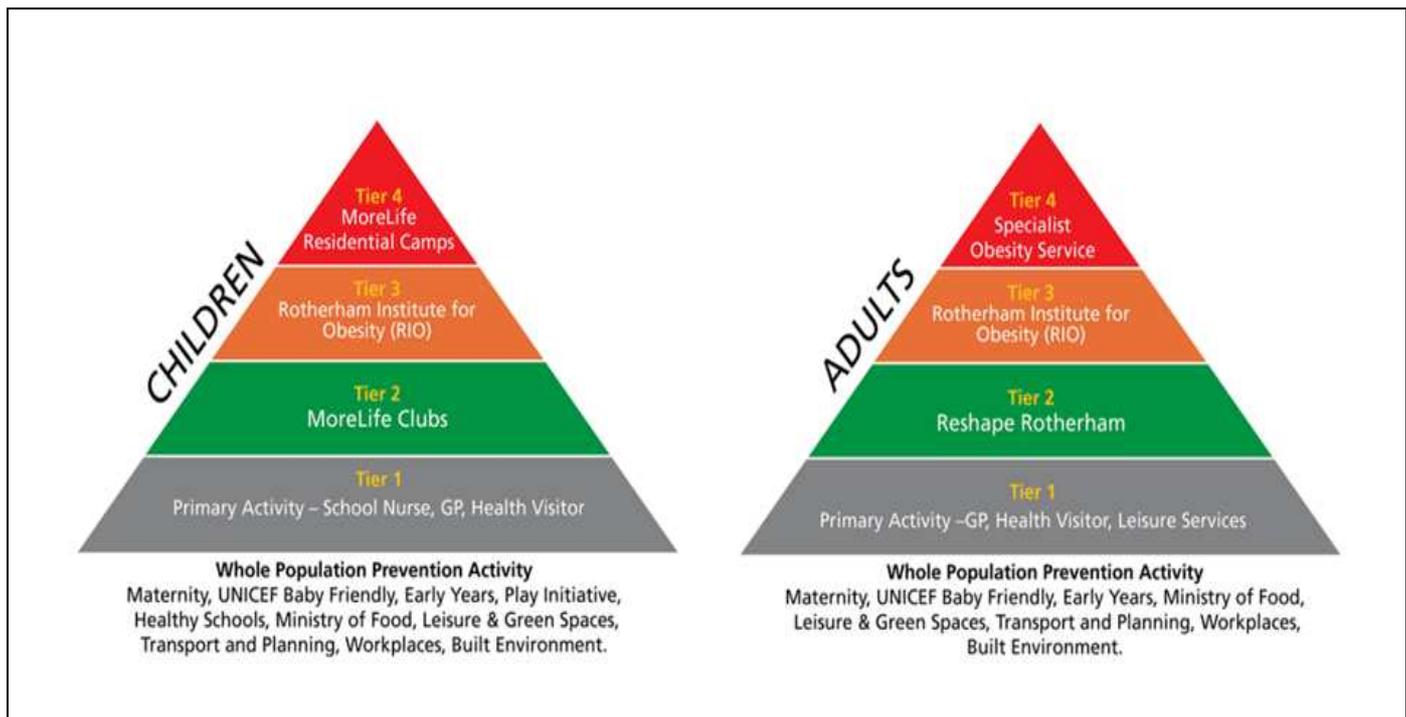


Table 2 Children's Services

Service and Description	Funding 2013/14	Indicative Annual outcome target
<p>Tier 2 Children - More Life Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered by DC Leisure at all leisure centres across Rotherham Overweight/obese children (>85th centile), aged 8-17 years, and their parents/carers 12 weekly sessions of diet, physical activity and behaviour change Self-referral from family, referral from school, health professional A parent or carer must accompany each child to every session 	£170k	293 successes
<p>Tier 3 Children - Rotherham Institute for Obesity (RIO)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obese children aged < 18 years (BMI centile >99.6th or BMI centile > 95th with increased risks) Team led by a GP specialising in obesity, includes access to dietician, specialist nurses, physical activity leaders, talking therapists and health trainers Referral from school nurse, other health professional, family GP 	£167k	200 successes
<p>Tier 4 Children - More Life Weight Management Camp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivered at Woodhouse Grove School, Leeds Obese children (>96th centile), aged 8-17 years Residential camp focusing on lifestyle change, increasing fitness, weight loss and fun Referral via RIO, who will work with child and family to decide most appropriate course of support and eligibility for the camp 	Cost is around £3,200 per child, numbers have varied.	20 successes

Note - Funding for adult and children's Tier 3 services is combined and allocated to reflect higher levels of adult activity and lower levels of child activity than originally anticipated.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET
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1	Meeting:	Cabinet
2	Date:	16th October 2013
3	Title:	Capital Programme Monitoring 2013/14 and Capital Programme Budget 2014/15 to 2015/16
4	Directorate:	Resources

5 Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide details of the current forecast outturn for the 2013/14 programme and enable the Council to review the capital programme for the financial years 2014/15 and 2015/16.

6 Recommendations

CABINET IS ASKED TO:

NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THIS REPORT; AND

RECOMMEND THE APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED 2013/14 TO 2015/16 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BY FULL COUNCIL.

7 Proposals and Details

7.1 Background - The Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16

The budget process that led to the original Capital Programme for 2013/14 to 2015/16 ensured that the Council's capital investment plans were aligned with its strategic priorities and vision for Rotherham.

In order to maintain that strategic link, and make best use of the capital resources available to the Council, it is important that the programme is kept under regular review and where necessary revisions are made. This programme was initially reviewed in July 2013, following the finalisation of the 2012/13 outturn capital expenditure and financing and has now been the subject of a further review, the results of which are reflected in the Directorate summary table presented below. A detailed analysis of the programme for each Directorate is attached at appendices 1 to 4.

	2013/14 Revised Estimate	2013/14 Variance from Last Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance from Last Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance from Last Report
Directorate	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children & Young People's Service	20.493	+0.566	5.786	-0.050	3.707	0.000
Environment & Development Services	25.536	+2.595	12.950	+5.080	7.239	+5.764
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	36.599	+0.398	30.620	+1.363	29.481	0.000
Resources	2.280	+0.277	1.066	0.000	0.470	0.000
TOTAL	84.908	+3.836	50.422	+6.393	40.897	+5.764

7.2 Children and Young People's Services Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16

The revised proposed spend for 2013/14 is £20.493m, with a further £9.493m of investment in the remaining two years of the current programme.

A copy of the current full programme is attached to this report at Appendix 1. Commentary on the main aspects of the programme and the nature of the spend is given below.

Primary Schools

Spend on Primary Schools is expected to be £8.269m in 2013/14, with a further £3.229m of planned spend in 2014/15 to 2015/16, including new schemes at a number of schools across the Borough, required to address the increase in pupil numbers. The major investments to note in this area are:

- Work is continuing on the **Maltby Lilly Hall** new school project (£1.600m in 2013/14) which will create six new classrooms together with associated facilities and external play areas. The scheme will be completed in October 2013.
- The project to provide **Flanderwell Primary School** (£1.117m in 2013/14) with a five classroom single story extension to accommodate an increase in pupil numbers is on-going and expected to complete at the end of September 2013.
- Work is also continuing at **Herringthorpe Infant and Junior School** (£1.784m in 2013/14) to provide five new teaching areas, and other required space, to provide sufficient pupil places. The two infant classrooms are complete and already in use whilst the three junior classrooms are scheduled to be finished in mid-October 2013.
- Investment in **Aston Hall Infant and Junior School Expansion** project has increased (£0.845m in 2013/14) due to an improvement to the specification resulting in further works on landscaping being added to the project.
- Revisions have been made to the cost of the **Flanderwell Primary Autism Resource** (£0.543m in 2013/14), **Bramley Sunnyside Junior School Renovation** (£0.115m in 2013/14), **Kiveton Park Meadows Junior School Expansion** (£0.415m in 2013/14) and **Wales Primary School Expansion** (£0.400m in 2013/14) projects as tenders received were in excess of original cost estimates.
- An increase to the investment in **Wath C of E Primary School** (£0.050m in 2013/14) has been made following a review of the project and its potential cost.
- The project to expand **Brampton Cortonwood Infant School**, originally scheduled for 2014/15, has now been delayed until 2017/18, when an increase in pupil numbers is anticipated, in order to coincide with a linked project at **Brampton Ellis Junior School**.
- In addition two new projects have been introduced.
 - Work predominantly around **Badsley Moor Infants** reception area (£0.090m in 2013/14) will be carried out to facilitate the amalgamation of the infant and junior schools

- **Treeton C of E New Sports Pitch** (£0.038m in 2013/14). A new junior sized football pitch has been created on the school field and adjoining land following the erection of a modular building on the existing playing field.

Secondary Schools

Spend on Secondary Schools is expected to be £7.050m in 2013/14 with a further £0.550m in the subsequent two years. The most notable project in this area is **Maltby Academy** (£6.725m in 2013/14) – the Council continues to have an interest in the buildings until finalisation of the proposed long term lease of the assets to the Academy and is providing professional and technical support for the project. The work commenced in September 2012 and several Blocks have already been refurbished and handed back to the Academy. The new build Business and Enterprise Block is also due to complete at the end of September 2013, when work on the new sports hall will commence. Overall completion of the project is programmed to be the end of February 2014.

Other Projects

The other major investments to note are:

- Using Government funding minor enhancement works are carried out at schools. The **Capitalised Minor Enhancements** programme in 2013/14 is forecast to be £2.200m, those works will include:
 - New kitchen lighting, ventilation and the replacement of a ceiling containing asbestos at **Bramley Grange Primary School**.
 - Partial re-roofing work, toilet refurbishment and work to address damp issues at **Harthill Primary**.
 - The replacement of windows at **Kiveton Park Meadows, Roughwood and Kelford Schools**.

A further £4.000m is due to be spent on similar schemes in the subsequent two years of this programme.

- **Devolved Formula Capital Grant** is paid annually to schools for them to use on small capital projects. In 2013/14 £1.572m is due to be spent with a further £1.614m to be allocated in subsequent years.
- The programme for **Property Adaptations** has been increased to £0.859m in 2013/14, in order to deal with the 21 requests received from foster carers or family members for a property extension, 13 of which will give the Council greater capacity in terms of fostering placement. It is also anticipated that this project will result in the long term reduction of revenue costs for fostering placements.

Environment and Development Services (EDS) Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16

The revised proposed spend for 2013/14 is £25.536m with a further £20.189m of investment in subsequent years. A copy of the full programme is attached to this report at Appendix 2. Commentary on the main aspects of the EDS programme and the changes to planned spend are shown below:

Culture and Leisure

The overall programme spend in 2013/14 is expected to be £1.562m including the planned works to the Borough's **Library facilities** (£0.159m). Work has already begun on a refit of the ground floor of Dinnington Library which has allowed the service centre to be relocated. Similarly the customer service centre has also been able to move into Swinton Library following work to that building. Work on other libraries is scheduled for this autumn. In addition:

- The original intention of the **Wath Library Refurbishment** project (£0.155m in 2013/14) was to relocate services currently delivered from Wath Neighbourhood Office at Wath Town Hall. In view of the asbestos and re-wiring issues, encountered during initial investigations, the project has been put on hold until a further review of accommodation in the north of the Borough has been concluded.
- Investment in **Brinsworth Library** (£0.499m in 2013/14) is still planned. Brinsworth Parish Council is currently carrying out a consultation on extending the building to form a library and arts centre. In the process renovation of the building fabric plus the mechanical and electrical services will be carried out, allowing the building to be used for the next ten years.
- The Completion of **Barkers Park Changing Facilities** (£0.322m in 2013/14) is imminent. The project will deliver 8 team and 1 officials changing room plus a disabled facilities unit and renewal of the drainage system.

In addition two new projects have been introduced into the capital programme:

- Heritage Services are to create a **Conservation Lab** (£0.020m in 2013/14) which, in partnership with Doncaster Museum and Art Gallery, will offer a conservation service to the wider museum sector and generate additional revenue income in the long term.
- A new classroom and cycle centre are to be created at **Rother Valley Country Park** (£0.166m in 2013/14). The classroom will be used to increase the range and number of educational experiences for both young people and adults and support the development of corporate activities. The new cycle workshop will expand the range

and number of cycles available to hire in the park, improving the user experience.

Highways

The Council's highways continue to be a priority for investment with £21.752m expected to be spent in 2013/14 and a further £14.425m invested over the next two years. The main areas of investment to be made in 2013/14 are:

- The **A57 Improvement Scheme** (£6.748m in 2013/14) is on-going with work to apply final tarmac layers and install lighting and signals scheduled to be completed early in 2014. There has been some slippage in the overall scheme. It is now anticipated that compensation for land acquisition will not be agreed and paid until the 2014/15 financial year and in addition planting mitigation works will now use the 2014 growing season to ensure best results.
- The **LTP Integrated Transport Block** (£2.150m in 2013/14). This funding stream will deliver a programme of schemes designed to address problems at identified accident black spots and investment in works that will promote walking, cycling and bus usage across the Borough.
- The **Highways Maintenance** programme (£4.093m in 2013/14) will deliver many improvements to the Borough's road infrastructure including carriageway resurfacing on; Worksop Road, Lindrick; Bawtry Road at Bramley; and Chapelfield Road, Thorpe Hesley.
- The **LSTF Main Bid** (£1.811m in 2013/14) has increased after the Department for Transport recalculated the programmes supported by the fund resulting in an increased allocation to the Council. The fund will deliver a number of schemes including:
 - An off road cycle route from Queens Street in Swinton to Manvers.
 - Surfacing of the canal towpath between Rotherham town centre and Sheffield city centre, in conjunction with Sheffield City Council.
 - Investment in identified bus hotspots on the A633 Dearne corridor.
- Anticipated spend on **Other Highways Projects** (£6.300m in 2013/14) has increased mainly due to the introduction of two new schemes funded by the DfT's Local Pinch Point Fund:
 - The conversion of **Pool Green Roundabout** (£0.651m in 2013/14), at the junction of Centenary Way and Main Street, into a signalised crossroads to improve the capacity of the junction, improve journey time reliability and reduce travel delays.

- A programme of bridge strengthening is required at **Old Flatts Bridge** (£1.784m in 2013/14) on the A630 Parkway in order to avoid either weight restrictions being imposed or even its closure to traffic.

Other investments

The Council will, in 2013/14, continued to invest in the Borough's infrastructure, in particular:

- **Rotherham Townscapes Heritage Initiative** (£1.489m in 2013/14) continues to deliver improvements to the town centre, investing in the renovation of shop frontages, structural works and roof replacements including:
 - The George Wright Building where work started on site in August to repair the structure of the building and re-instate the unique architectural features of the property.
 - The Three Cranes Building where work has now begun to investigate the structure of this listed, timber framed, property to assess the damage that occurred during the time that it was left vacant and exposed to the elements.
- Protracted negotiations over the **Drainage Works on Don Street** (£0.627m in 2013/14) are on-going. These are expected to be brought to a conclusion in 2013/14
- A capital contribution is to be made in 2015/16 to the **PFI Residual Waste Facility** contractor – this project will deliver a new waste disposal facility operated in conjunction with Doncaster and Barnsley Councils. By making a capital contribution it will be possible to reduce the ratio of institutional debt to finance the facility.

Neighbourhoods and Adults Services Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16

The forecast spend for 2013/14 is £36.599m, with a further £60.101m planned in the remainder of the programme. A copy of the full revised programme is attached to this report at Appendix 3.

Adult Services

The Service is now expecting to spend £0.690m in 2013/14, the main projects being:

- The **Assistive Technology** scheme (£0.400m in 2013/14) will enable people requiring care support services to live independently within their own home through the purchase of telecare equipment. This equipment includes fall detectors and monitoring alarms. The project has now been extended into 2014/15 and will help to generate revenue savings over its lifetime.

- **REWS (Rotherham Equipment and Wheelchair Service) Equipment** (0.190m in 2013/14) – the purchase of equipment, after Occupational Therapist assessment, to support people within their own homes. Equipment will include a range of specialist bath and shower aids and mattresses and will be managed by Rotherham Foundation Hospital Trust. Again the project has now been extended into 2014/15 and will help to generate revenue savings over its lifetime.

Neighbourhoods Services

For 2013/14 the Service is expected to spend £35.909m with a further £59.511m to be invested during the remaining period of the programme. A copy of the full programme is attached to this report at Appendix 3 and the most notable items are detailed below.

Improving Council Housing & Housing Services - The programme for 2013/14 has remained at £29.661m in 2013/14 with the only changes being small variations where a shortfall in the programme has been identified following the tendering of works. Notable investments in this area are:

- **Refurbishment Works** (£14.000m in 2013/14) will be carried out to improve the quality of the housing stock both internally and externally across the borough. Those works will include; roof and gutter works at 1,600 properties in six areas across the Borough; roof and chimney replacements in flats in Wingfield and Greasbrough; wall insulation work in the North Anston, Maltby and Wath areas.
- **Environmental Works** (£1.485m in 2013/14) – schemes include improvements to parking, fencing and footpaths and the introduction of purpose built communal bin stores. Most notably work is on-going at Pike Road, Brinsworth, with an anticipated completion date of December 2013. Work will also be undertaken at Birk's Holt at Maltby, where improvements are to be made to the boundary fences and railings.
- The **Decent Homes Void Programme** (£1.819m in 2013/14) is on-going with 92 major voids completed and re-let so far in 2013/14.
- Under the **Replacement of Central Heating** programme (£3.010m in 2013/14) the Council has replaced 219 boilers under the planned programme and 165 boilers that were unplanned. A further 224 boilers are scheduled to be replaced before the financial year end.
- **Non-traditional Investment** (£1.841m in 2013/14). Work to renovate non-traditional properties is planned in four areas of the Borough:

- Renovation work commenced in 2012/13 on properties in the Swallownest area and is nearing completion.
 - Work on 84 properties in the Rawmarsh area has also commenced and should be completed in November 2013.
 - A further 133 properties will also be started in the Wath area in this financial year, but completion is not expected until 2014/15.
 - Work to address the issue of wall rendering lifting away from the brickwork in properties in Whiston will also be undertaken.
- The **Strategic Acquisitions** project (£2.833m in 2013/14) aims to increase the Council's housing stock by buying rather than building properties. In 2013/14 the purchase of 12 properties at Manvers Lakeside, Wath has been completed and a further 6 at Churchfields, Wickersley have been identified for potential purchase. In addition 25 properties are to be acquired in Rawmarsh in 2014/15.

Fair Access To All: Disabled Adaptations (£3.784m in 2013/14) – Both the private and public sector programmes have been increased in 2013/14 in order to reduce the backlog of non-urgent major adaptations that had built up and to reduce the waiting time for new adaptations down to three months. Up to the end of August all the 2012/13 backlogged works had been allocated and, in total, 481 major and 1068 minor adaptations have been completed.

Investment into **Neighbourhood Regeneration & Renewal** (£1.984m in 2013/14) will continue with the most notable projects being:

- **Canklow Phase 1 & 2** (£0.450m in 2013/14) where there are seven properties identified for purchase, with negotiations on-going. A programme of demolition is also being prepared to clear the land where a further twenty properties have already been purchased.
- **Bellows Road, Rawmarsh, Service Centre Clearance** (£0.585m in 2013/14). Work is continuing to demolish the remaining shops in this precinct, with completion expected to be towards the end of 2013.
- **Garage Site Investment** (£0.500m in 2013/14) which will see the renovation of a number of garage sites across the Borough, making them safe and secure for use.
- The **Fuel Poverty – Vulnerable People** project (£0.424m in 2013/14) will deliver low cost energy efficiency improvements to private sector households in areas of the Borough with high levels of fuel poverty. Phase 1 will deliver cavity and loft insulation installations to 130 properties in a number of areas across Rotherham.

In addition the **Occupation Road Clearance Project** has been deferred until 2014/15 as issues around the access route for the land-locked piece of land continues and it is anticipated that the problems will not be resolved in the short term.

Neighbourhoods Improvements Non-HIP Programme (£0.480m in 2013/14) – the majority of the spend in this area will be on the **Landfill Sites** (£0.458m in 2013/14) where work is continuing improve the gas/leachate systems and restore the land in order to make the sites safe.

Resources Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2015/16

Overall the 2013/14 programme is expected to spend £2.280m with a further £1.536m to be invested in the ensuing years. A copy of the full programme is attached to this report at Appendix 4, the main aspects being:

Asset Management (£0.552m in 2013/14)

- The **Ancillary Services Building** project (£0.262m in 2013/14) is continuing, with the focus in 2013/14 being the relocation of the York and Lancaster Regimental Museum. Work to improve customer access and the overall visitor experience is nearing completion with new display cases and signage being installed.
- A new project, **Bailey House** (£0.277m in 2013/14), has been added to the programme. Following a review of options it was determined that there is no viable early exit strategy from the building and that it should now be considered a long term operational asset, utilised to enable further rationalisation of the Council's estate. Work will be carried out to address issues which include the leaking plant room roof, the heating of offices and the replacement of fire doors. The intention is to then move services from both the Station Road and Canklow Depots allowing those facilities to be closed.

Other Investment Projects (£1.728m in 2013/14)

- The Council continues to invest in its **ICT infrastructure** (£1.728m in 2013/14) as part of its ICT Strategy. The Strategy is focussed on ensuring the Council is able to support effectively the services it delivers and promote new, innovative, ways of working that will result in greater efficiencies and effectiveness.

7.3 Funding of the Programme

The table shown below outlines the funding strategy associated with the schemes profiled above and detailed in the Appendices 1 to 4.

Funding	2013/14 Revised Estimate	2013/14 Variance from Last Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance from Last Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance from Last Report
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Grants & Contributions	39.335	+2.929	17.307	+4.142	4.636	0.000
Unsupported Borrowing	13.979	+0.509	4.869	+2.206	7.759	+5.764
Usable Capital Receipts	1.775	+0.100	0.827	+0.045	0.332	0.000
Major Repairs Allowance (HRA)	21.037	+0.298	20.164	0.000	21.664	0.000
Revenue Contributions	8.782	0.000	7.255	0.000	6.506	0.000
Total	84.908	+3.836	50.422	+6.393	40.897	+5.764

7.4 Amount of Capital Expenditure on a Ward Basis

The table shown below shows the expenditure associated with the schemes profiled above, and detailed in the Appendices 1 to 4, on a Ward basis.

Ward	2013/14 Revised Estimate	2013/14 Variance from Last Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance from Last Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance from Last Report
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Anston & Woodsetts	0.069	0.000	0.036	0.000	0.036	0.000
Boston Castle	4.502	+0.960	4.321	+3.787	0.034	0.000
Brinsworth & Catcliffe	2.893	+1.929	0.628	+0.593	0.035	0.000
Dinnington	0.179	+0.014	0.036	0.000	0.036	0.000
Hellaby	1.830	0.000	0.052	0.000	0.052	0.000
Holderness	4.280	-0.271	0.381	+0.350	0.031	0.000
Hooper	0.412	-0.045	0.059	-0.205	0.014	-0.800
Keppel	0.110	0.000	0.056	0.000	0.056	0.000
Maltby	6.813	0.000	0.020	0.000	0.020	0.000
Rawmarsh	0.713	0.000	0.938	+0.728	0.051	0.000
Rother Vale	0.249	+0.204	0.023	0.000	0.023	0.000
Rotherham East	0.382	+0.106	0.060	0.000	0.060	0.000
Rotherham West	0.214	+0.015	0.042	0.000	0.042	0.000
Silverwood	0.142	-0.040	0.035	0.000	0.035	0.000
Sitwell	0.067	0.000	0.034	0.000	0.034	0.000
Swinton	0.348	+0.052	0.293	0.000	0.043	0.000
Valley	4.182	+0.541	2.290	-0.199	0.058	0.000
Wales	4.318	-0.168	0.377	+0.350	0.827	+0.800
Wath	0.386	0.000	1.433	+0.200	0.056	0.000
Wickersley	1.908	+0.108	0.034	0.000	0.034	0.000
Wingfield	0.097	0.000	0.075	0.000	0.030	0.000
All Wards	50.814	+0.431	39.199	+0.789	39.290	+5.764
Total	84.908	+3.836	50.422	+6.393	40.897	+5.764

8. Financial Implications

These are contained within the body of this report. Any revenue implications from the revised programme have been fully reflected in the Council's latest 2013/14 outturn revenue forecast and its updated Medium Term Financial Strategy.

9. Risks & Uncertainties

The Capital Programme is funded through a number of sources: unsupported borrowing, capital grants & contributions, revenue contributions and capital receipts. Any uncertainty over the funding of the Programme rests on confirmation that grants/contributions and capital receipts continue to be available in coming years. Where funding sources are volatile in nature the risks will be managed by continually keeping the programme under review.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The preparation of the Medium Term Financial Strategy incorporating a profiled capital programme and the associated revenue consequences, together with regular monitoring, highlights the Council's commitment to sound financial management.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Capital Programme Outturn 2012/13 and Updated Estimates 2013/14 to 2015/16.
- Project / Scheme monitoring reports
- Monitoring returns and budget setting details from Directorates.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
PRIMARY						
MALTBY LILLY HALL	1,600	0				
KILNHURST ST THOMAS EXTRA CLASSROOM	253	0				
FLANDERWELL PRIMARY EXTENSION	1,117	0				
HERRINGHORPE INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS EXPANSION	1,784	0				
ASTON HALL INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL EXPANSION	845	79				
FLANDERWELL PRIMARY AUTISM RESOURCE	543	47				
WEST MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL EXTENSION	384	0				
BROOM VALLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	195	0				
BRINSWORTH HOWARTH PRIMARY SCHOOL - MODULAR CLASSROOMS	350	0				
BRAMLEY SUNNYSIDE INFANT SCHOOL RENOVATION	60	0				
BRAMLEY SUNNYSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL RENOVATION	115	55				
WATH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	50	0	1,350	200		
RAWMARSH MONKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION			159	0		
DALTON LISTERDALE JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL EXPANSION	30	0	920	0		
KIVETON PARK MEADOWS JUNIOR SCHOOL EXPANSION	415	32				
WALES PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	400	150			800	0
BRAMPTON CORTONWOOD INFANT SCHOOL EXPANSION			0	-250		
BADSLEY MOOR INFANTS RECEPTION ALTERATIONS	90	90				
TREETON C OF E NEW SPORTS PITCH	38	38				
SECONDARY						
SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS	150	0	150	0	150	0
MALTBY ACADEMY	6,725	0	250	0		
SWINTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS						
CLIFTON SCHOOL CARETAKERS CONVERSION	175	16				
CITY LEARNING CENTRES						
CLC RAWMARSH	28	0				
CAPITALISED MINOR ENHANCEMENTS	2,200	0	2,100	0	1,900	0
OTHER SCHEMES						
DFCG	1,572	0	807	0	807	0
KIMBERWORTH CO-LOCATION	50	0				
PROPERTY ADAPTATIONS	859	44	50	0	50	0
ORCHARD CENTRE - SOFT PLAY AREA/INTERNAL FLOOR COVERING	15	15				
ENTITLEMENT FOR EARLY YEARS PROVISION (TWO YEAR OLDS)	450	0				
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	20,493	566	5,786	-50	3,707	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	19,634	522	5,736	-50	3,657	0
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	859	44	50	0	50	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	20,493	566	5,786	-50	3,707	0

CYPS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2015/16

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	ANSTON & WOODSETTS	69	0	36	0	36
BOSTON CASTLE	268	7	34	0	34	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	418	0	35	0	35	0
DINNINGTON	69	0	36	0	36	0
HELLABY	1,700	0	52	0	52	0
HOLDERNESS	906	79	31	0	31	0
HOOPER	412	0	14	-250	14	-800
KEPPEL	110	0	56	0	56	0
MALTBY	6,765	0	20	0	20	0
RAWMARSH	128	0	210	0	51	0
ROTHER VALE	83	38	23	0	23	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	382	106	60	0	60	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	147	15	42	0	42	0
SILVERWOOD	66	-40	35	0	35	0
SITWELL	67	0	34	0	34	0
SWINTON	336	40	293	0	43	0
VALLEY	1,938	12	978	0	58	0
WALES	868	182	27	0	827	800
WATH	159	0	1,406	200	56	0
WICKERSLEY	1,908	108	34	0	34	0
WINGFIELD	58	0	30	0	30	0
ALL WARDS	3,634	19	2,300	0	2,100	0
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	20,493	566	5,786	-50	3,707	0

EDS CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ALBANY ROAD PLAY AREA	39	0				
WATH LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT	155	0				
CATCLIFFE GLASS CONE	47	0				
BRINSWORTH LIBRARY	499	0				
STRATEGIC REVIEW OF LIBRARIES	159	0				
CIVIC THEATRE RENOVATION	47	0				
BARKERS PARK CHANGING FACILITIES	322	0				
MUSEUM RENOVATIONS	14	0				
ROUGHWOOD ROAD FENCING PROJECT	35	0				
BRAMLEY FLASH LANE PLAY	11	0				
MALTBY LIBRARY LIFT	48	0				
CONSERVATION LAB AT CLIFTON PARK MUSEUM	20	20				
ROTHER VALLEY COUNTRY PARK FACILITIES	166	166				
CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME	1,562	186	0	0	0	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	229	20				
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	151	0				
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	85	0				
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	1,097	166				
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME	1,562	186	0	0	0	0

EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 to 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
A57 IMPROVEMENTS	6,748	-700	700	700		
LTP INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK	2,150	0	1,836	0		
LTP HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE	4,093	0	2,000	0		
LSTF MAIN BID	1,811	529	1,312	0		
REPLACEMENT/UPGRADE STREET LIGHT	650	0	650	0	650	0
OTHER HIGHWAYS PROJECTS	6,300	2,580	6,452	4,380	825	0
EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	21,752	2,409	12,950	5,080	1,475	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	16,481	2,387	9,997	3,602		
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	194	0				
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	5,077	22	2,953	1,478	1,475	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	21,752	2,409	12,950	5,080	1,475	0

EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
MASTERPLAN ROTHERHAM TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVES	1,489	0				
FLOOD ALLEVIATION DRAINAGE WORKS DON STREET	627	0				
EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,116	0	0	0	0	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	847	0				
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	1,269	0				
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,116	0	0	0	0	0

EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
WASTE MANAGEMENT						
PFI RESIDUAL WASTE FACILITY					5,764	5,764
ROTHERHAM ECONOMIC REGENERATION FUND						
TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS VITALITY SCHEME-PRIVATE PROPERTIES	84	27				
TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS VITALITY SCHEME-RMBC PROPERTIES	22	-27				
EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES	106	0	0	0	5,764	5,764

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS						
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	106	0			5,764	5,764
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES	106	0	0	0	5,764	5,764

SUMMARY EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16

	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
TOTAL EDS INVESTMENT	25,536	2,595	12,950	5,080	7,239	5,764

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)						
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	17,557	2,407	9,997	3,602		
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	345	0				
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	85	0				
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	7,549	188	2,953	1,478	7,239	5,764
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	25,536	2,595	12,950	5,080	7,239	5,764

EDS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2015/16

EDS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	3,245	676	3,837	3,787	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	2,475	1,929	593	593	0	0
DINNINGTON	74	14	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	3,374	-350	350	350	0	0
HOOPER	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEPPEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	48	0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHER VALE	166	166	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	0	0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	0	0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	12	12	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	2,244	529	1,312	-199	0	0
WALES	3,374	-350	350	350	0	0
WATH	155	0	0	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	10,369	-31	6,508	199	7,239	5,764
EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	25,536	2,595	12,950	5,080	7,239	5,764

NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ADULT SERVICES						
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	400	0	400	400		
REWS EQUIPMENT	190	0	190	190		
DAVIES COURT GARDEN STRUCTURES	11	0				
ADULT SOCIAL CARE NEW IT EQUIPMENT	89	0				
IMPROVING COUNCIL HOUSING & HOUSING SERVICES						
REFURBISHMENT	14,000	-20	13,969	0	16,243	0
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS	610	0	440	0		
ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS	1,485	-6	1,500	0	1,500	0
DECENT HOMES VOID PROGRAMME	1,819	6	1,767	0	1,765	0
REPLACEMENT OF CENTRAL HEATING	3,010	20	2,920	0	2,920	0
ELECTRICAL BOARD & BOND	200	0	200	0	200	0
REPLACEMENT OF COMMUNAL DOORS (HIGH SECURITY)	930	0	300	0		
ASBESTOS TESTING	370	0	370	0	370	0
LIFT REPLACEMENTS	75	0				
FLAT DOOR REPLACEMENT	620	0	500	0		
DISTRICT HEATING CONVERSIONS	218	0	350	0	350	0
BOUNDARY WALL TREATMENTS	200	0	200	0	200	0
GENERAL STRUCTURES	650	0	650	0	650	0
EXTERNAL INSULATION	475	0	475	0	475	0
NEW IT SYSTEMS	325	0				
NON-TRADITIONAL INVESTMENT	1,841	0	1,400	0	1,400	0
STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS	2,833	0	728	728		
FAIR ACCESS TO ALL						
DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT (PRIVATE SECTOR)	1,639	145	1,311	0	1,311	0
DISABLED ADAPTATIONS (PUBLIC SECTOR)	2,145	298	1,878	0	1,897	0
NEIGHBOURHOOD REGENERATION & RENEWAL						
GALLERY TOWN - DINNINGTON IMPROVEMENTS	25	0				
CANKLOW PHASE 1 & 2	450	0	450	0		
BELLOWS ROAD SERVICE CENTRE CLEARANCE	585	0				
OCCUPATION ROAD CLEARANCE PROJECT	0	-45	45	45		
GARAGE SITE INVESTMENT	500	0	500	0	200	0
FUEL POVERTY - VULNERABLE PEOPLE	424	0				
NEIGHBOURHOODS IMPROVEMENTS NON-HIP PROGRAMME						
AIR QUALITY GRANT	5	0	5	0		
AIR QUALITY EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE	17	0				
LANDFILL SITES	458	0	72	0		
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	36,599	398	30,620	1,363	29,481	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	2,144	0	1,574	590	979	0
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	8,437	0	7,255	0	6,506	0
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	1,690	100	827	45	332	0
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	3,291	0	800	728		
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE	21,037	298	20,164	0	21,664	0
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	36,599	398	30,620	1,363	29,481	0

NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2015/16

NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD						
	2013/14 Estimate £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	450	0	450	0	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	0	0	0	0	0	0
DINNINGTON	36	0	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	130	0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOBER	0	-45	45	45	0	0
KEPPEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	0	0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	585	0	728	728	0	0
ROTHER VALE	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	67	0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	74	0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALES	76	0	0	0	0	0
WATH	72	0	27	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	39	0	45	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	35,070	443	29,325	590	29,481	0
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	36,599	398	30,620	1,363	29,481	0

RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT					
	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ASSET MANAGEMENT						
TOWN CENTRE DESIGN WORK	13	0				
ANCILLARY SERVICES BUILDING	262	0				
BAILEY HOUSE RENOVATION	277	277				
ICT						
ICT STRATEGY	204	0	80	0		
ICT STRATEGY (2)	1,054	0	516	0		
ICT REFRESH	470	0	470	0	470	0
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,280	277	1,066	0	470	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)					
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS						
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	2,280	277	1,066	0	470	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE						
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,280	277	1,066	0	470	0

RESOURCES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2015/16

RESOURCES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD	2013/14 Estimate	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	ANSTON & WOODSETTS	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	539	277	0	0	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	0	0	0	0	0	0
DINNINGTON	0	0	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOBER	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEPPEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	0	0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHER VALE	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	0	0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	0	0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALES	0	0	0	0	0	0
WATH	0	0	0	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	1,741	0	1,066	0	470	0
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,280	277	1,066	0	470	0

1	Meeting:	CABINET
2	Date:	16th October 2013
3	Title:	Revenue Budget Monitoring for the period ending 31st August 2013
4	Directorate:	Resources (for all)

5 Summary

This report provides details of progress on the delivery of the Revenue Budget for 2013/14 based on performance for the first 5 months of the financial year. It is currently forecast that the Council will overspend against its Budget by £5.475m (+2.5%). This represents a deterioration of the forecast outturn by £0.626m since the last (May) monitoring report. The main reasons for the forecast overspend are:

- The continuing service demand and cost pressures for safeguarding vulnerable children across the Borough;
- Income pressures within Environment and Development Services;
- Demand pressures for Direct Payments, Older People's domiciliary care services and day care for clients with Learning Disabilities;
- Additional, one-off property costs relating to the continued rationalisation of the Council's asset portfolio as part of the efficiency drive to reduce operational costs; and
- Some savings targets are currently pending delivery in full in 2013/14.

As the current forecast revenue pressure is significant, and because the position has deteriorated since the last report, it is now recommended that Stage 3 of the Strategy agreed by Members from the May monitoring report (Paragraph 7.4 of this report) to address the forecast overspend is implemented with immediate effect. This action is required to mitigate the forecast pressure and prevent it from becoming serious. This will ensure that the Council is able to deliver a balanced outturn and preserve its successful track record in managing both its in year financial performance and its overall financial resilience.

Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

- **Note the current forecast outturn and significant financial challenge presented for the Council to deliver a balanced revenue budget for 2013/14 and;**
- **Agree to implement Stage 3 of the Strategy to address the forecast overspend with immediate effect, to bring spend in line with budget by 31st March 2014.**

7.1 Proposals and Details

This report presents details of spending against budget by Directorate covering the first 5 months of the 2013/14 financial year – April 2013 to August 2013 – and forecast costs and income to 31st March 2014.

7.2 The Overall Position

Directorate/Service	Annual Budget 2013/14	Projected Outturn 2013/14	Variance after Actions (over(+)/under(-) spend)	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	%
Children & Young People Services	46,108	47,274	+1,166	+2.5
Environment and Development Services	37,241	37,952	+711	+2.4
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	75,270	77,059	+1,789	+1.9
Resources	26,135	27,021	+886	+3.4
Central Services	36,720	37,643	+923	+2.5
TOTAL	221,474	226,949	+5,475	+2.5
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	78,904	78,415	-489	-0.7

Appendix 1 to this report provides a detailed explanation of the key areas of forecast over / underspend by Directorate. The summarised position for each Directorate is described below.

Children & Young People's Directorate (+£1,186k forecast overspend)

The forecast overspend for Children's Services has deteriorated by £268k since the last report. (+£898k in the May monitoring report). The forecast overspend position is largely due to pressures within Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Service. The number of looked after children requiring placements at the end of August 2013 was 390, a reduction of 2 since the end of March 2013.

Pressures on budgets for provision of Out of Authority Residential care (+£1.104m) and the provision of independent Foster Care placements (+£194k) are the main service pressures.

The investment received in Fostering & Adoption is showing results. The service is projecting to have 34 new adopters by the end of March 2014 which is 13 above the Invest to Save target. This has been helped by the government's one year only, Adoption Reform Grant. The service is also projecting to be on target for the recruitment of new foster carers at a net gain of 21.

Forecast savings across other parts of the Directorate are helping to mitigate these key pressures. Details are shown in Appendix 1.

Children's Social Care services remain under pressure despite the services' proactive approach to drive down costs including:

- Continued operation and challenge by the Multi-Agency Support Panel
- Successful work undertaken by the Commissioning Team which has resulted in the commissioning and re-commissioning of service provider contracts with significant cost reductions/cost avoidance (£400k) to date in 2013/14.

Children's Services continue to look for ways to reduce spend.

Environment & Development Services (+£711k forecast overspend)

The Directorate is currently forecasting an overspend of +£711k largely due to pressures in Streetpride (+£157k), Customer Services (+£355k) and Planning and Regeneration (+£199k). This is an improvement on the May monitoring report of -£237k. The forecast overspend assumes that the Winter Pressures budget is sufficient to contain costs incurred over the Winter months (2013/14). It should however be noted that in 2012/13 this budget overspent by £466k. Details of the forecast overspend are included in Appendix 1.

Neighbourhoods and Adult Services (+£1,789k forecast overspend) and Public Health (-£349k forecast underspend)

Overall the Directorate (excluding ring-fenced Public Health funded services) is forecasting an overspend of +£1.789m. This shows a deterioration of +£257k since the May monitoring report. Within this, Adult Services are forecasting an overspend (+£1.819m) and Neighbourhood services a forecast underspend of -£30k. Key pressures include slippage on achieving budget savings targets mainly additional continuing health care income and the implementation of the review of in house residential care services. There are also recurrent budget pressures on demand for Direct Payments (Older People, Physical & Sensory Disability and Mental Health clients), Older People's domiciliary care, and day care provision for clients with Learning Disabilities.

Public Health Services are currently forecasting an underspend of -£349k. (Ring-fenced funding).

The forecast position for Neighbourhoods and Adult Services is made up of a number of under and overspends, detailed in Appendix 1.

Resources Directorate (+£886k forecast overspend)

Overall the Directorate is forecasting an overspend of +£886k. This is a deterioration of +£296k since the May monitoring report (+£590k). The key pressures are in respect of the Council's Land Bank within Asset Management services due to the need to keep secure properties which have been vacated until they are sold or demolished and income pressures in relation to the ICT service.

Central Services (+£923k forecast overspend)

In setting the 2013/14 Budget, the Council proposed a savings target of £300k in respect of renegotiating Staff Terms and Conditions. Options for progressing this saving have been considered and rejected by the Unions. This target currently remains undelivered.

The Council also set a savings target of £341k to be delivered from the 'Critical Friend Review of Front-line Services'. To date £147k of this has been delivered, the balance (£194k) is still to be identified.

When the 2012/13 budget was agreed it included a £2m savings target for Commissioning Savings. Currently £387k of that target remains to be delivered. Progress against delivery of this balance will be reported in future Cabinet budget monitoring reports.

There is also a forecast pressure of £42k in respect of Statutory Costs (eg Planning Notices). In 2011/12 it was agreed that the 'top-up' account would be closed and in the event of any future pressure above the level of budget (£75k), this would be met from general reserves.

7.3 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (Forecast underspend -£489k)

The Housing Revenue Account is forecasting a reduction in the transfer from reserves compared with the agreed budget. The HRA had budgeted to use £2.599m from reserves but current forecasts only require £2.110m, a reduction of £489k.

7.4 Strategy to address the forecast overspend

As part of the May Budget Monitoring Report Members approved a 3 Stage strategy to address any forecast overspend in 2013/14. The 3 stages are below:

Stage 1 – Directorates should consider appropriate actions which could be implemented to address the forecast overspend. This should include exploring all opportunities to generate additional income and where it may be possible to downsize staffing complements, where it is possible and appropriate to do so. It is proposed that this is undertaken before the end of the Council's summer recess when the impact on the forecast outturn position will be reassessed.

Stage 2 – In the event that Stage 1 does not effectively address the forecast overspend, Directorates should consider what non-essential planned expenditure could be 'slipped' into the next financial year.

Stage 3 – If Stage 2 does not fully address any residual forecast pressure, a moratorium on all non-essential spend should be implemented. The criteria for essential spend being consistent with that applied in 2012/13:

- Is contractually committed
- Essential for the safeguarding of vulnerable children and adults;
- Required to meet health and safety requirements;
- Spend is required to avoid a false economy;
- Spend which is highly sensitive to local Members or local communities

Stage 1 of the Strategy was implemented in July. Due to the deterioration in the forecast overspend since that time Cabinet is asked to agree, with immediate effect, implementation of Stage 3 of the above Strategy.

Cabinet is reminded that a Budget Update was issued to staff on 20th September. This communication made staff aware that the opportunity to apply for voluntary redundancy or voluntary early retirement was to be made available. Depending on the numbers volunteering, and subsequent numbers approved, this will determine the extent to which the 2013/14 forecast overspend will decrease and may also impact on the savings to contribute to closing the current 2014/15 funding gap.

7.5 Agency, Consultancy and Non-Contractual Overtime Costs

The forecast outturn position includes costs in respect of Agency staff, Consultancy and non-contractual overtime. Detailed below is the analysis by Directorate, including comparisons with 2012/13 financial year:

Agency

Directorate	Outturn 2012/13	Cumulative to Aug 2012	Cumulative to Aug 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	546	138	306
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	519	100	217
Environment & Development Services	266	81	306
Resources	194	114	41
TOTAL	1,525	433	870

Agency spend in Children's Services is largely due to the need to cover vacant social work posts. Seven newly recruited Social Work staff have already, or will imminently commence work within the service; this will significantly reduce reliance on agency staff going forward. Additionally, two extra-establishment peripatetic posts have been recruited to with the intention of providing cover for emergent vacancies, rather than using agency. Extra agency costs have been incurred due to the departure of 3 team managers within a 6 week period, and all replacement officers (two of which have been recruited from another authority) have had 3 month notice periods to serve. The most significant reason for the increase over 2012 levels relates to agency costs for the interim Director of Safeguarding to cover the vacant post. This has been agreed by the Strategic Director of CYPS and the Chief Executive with a view to provide much needed stability for the next 12 months, as the service continues its responsive work to child sexual exploitation in the borough and also prepares for systemic changes to the OfSTED inspection framework.

The use of agency staff in Adult Services has increased compared to August 2012 levels due to social work vacancies and the need to maintain essential cover in some services areas, and provision of cover arrangements pending the implementation of the new staffing structure in Residential Care.

Environment and Development Services agency costs are greater compared with the cumulative spend to August last year due to cover arrangements within Waste services pending the implementation of a new structure and resourcing additional Highway Maintenance capital works. Also, seasonal Grounds Maintenance work is now undertaken by a combination of seasonally employed staff and agency workers to minimise the cost of cover arrangements.

Agency spend within the Resources Directorate has reduced compared with May 2012 levels. The main area of Agency spend is ICT support where Agency staff are covering a key role (Senior Network Specialist) which the service has been unable to recruit to.

Directorate	Outturn 2012/13	Cumulative to Aug 2012	Cumulative to Aug 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	428	276	73
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	0	0	0
Environment & Development Services	83	7	67
Resources	26	10	3
TOTAL	537	293	143

The consultancy spend within Children's Services for the first five months of 2013/14 has reduced considerably when compared with the same period last year. The consultancy expenditure predominantly relates to the School Effectiveness Service. This is funded from a combination of revenue budget, Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and earned income from Schools.

Consultancy costs within EDS predominantly relate to review of potential development sites and transportation links within the Local Development Plan.

Non-Contractual Overtime

Directorate	Outturn 2012/13	Cumulative to Aug 2012	Cumulative to Aug 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	84	29	47
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	456	139	166
Environment & Development Services	397	191	220
Resources	188	84	79
TOTAL	1,125	443	512

Children's Services overtime is largely in respect of safeguarding in residential care homes. Recruitment to permanent posts at the homes has been delayed and OfSTED requirements are that agency staff are not used to cover vacancies, hence the increased reliance on overtime in the short term.

Overtime spend within Adult Services is mainly due to the need to maintain statutory staffing levels in residential, home care, day care services and social work posts and represents cover for sickness and slippage in recruiting to vacant posts.

Environment and Development Services overtime spend is predominantly in respect of Streetpride Services – Highways, Network Maintenance, Street Lighting, Street Cleansing and Grounds Maintenance (£165k) where work is often undertaken at times to avoid inconvenience and danger to the public. Planning and Regeneration Services (£15k) and Waste Management Services (£40k) for sickness and holiday cover.

The Resources Directorate's overtime is predominantly in respect of Revenues and Benefits associated with the service carrying a number of vacancies and significant workload pressures primarily brought about by welfare reform changes that are resulting in additional customer contact and income collection and recovery activity (£36k), maintaining ICT Support Services (£17k), HR and Payroll Services (£6k), Town Hall attendants (£6k) and provision of cover within Facilities Services (£13k).

7.6 Collection Fund

Council Tax: Based on the first 6 months of 2013/14 collection rates indicate that the Council is on target to achieve the budgeted level of Council Tax - £78.3m. (97% Collection Rate).

Business Rates: The Council is currently on target to collect the budgeted level of Business Rates - £34.3m (the Council's 49% share). It should however be noted that Appeals regarding Business Rates are made direct to the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) and like other Authorities, we have been having difficulty obtaining appeals information from the VOA. The number and value of appeals can have a significant impact on the Business Rates collected as they may date back several years. Following recent meetings with VOA staff it is now hoped that there will be greater clarity on appeals as the VOA has agreed to supply information on a timely basis.

8. Finance

The financial issues are discussed in section 7 above.

Management actions need to be identified and implemented across all Directorates to bring projected spend in line with Budget limits by the end of March 2014.

9 Risks and Uncertainties

At a time of economic difficulty and tight financial constraints, managing spend in line with the Council's Budget is paramount. Careful scrutiny of expenditure and income across all services and close budget monitoring therefore remain a top priority if the Council is to deliver both its annual and medium term financial plans while sustaining its overall financial resilience.

Although both Council Tax and Business Rates collection levels are currently on target there remains a risk that this could change during the final six months of the year.

The current forecast assumes that costs associated with the Winter Pressures will be contained within budget. In 2012/13 these costs exceeded budget by £466k.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan within the parameters agreed at the start of the current financial year is essential if the objectives of the Council's Policy agenda are to be achieved. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the Council's overall performance framework.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- May Revenue Budget Report – Cabinet 24th July 2013
- Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2013/14 Report to Council 6th March 2013.
- Strategic Directors and Service Directors of the Council

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Appendix 1

Key reasons for forecast over / underspends**Children & Young People's Services (£1.166m forecast overspend)**

The key factors contributing to the forecast overspend are:

School Effectiveness (+£29k)

This forecast overspend is due to projected under recovery of income at Rockingham PDC.

Special Education Provision (-£69k)

Forecast overspends on Education Welfare (+£46k) due to loss of academy income caused by a change in legislation, SEN Assessment/Admissions Team (+£50k) due to additional hours & printing costs & the Get Real Team (+£9k) on supplies & services is offset by staff slippage in both Early Years ASD Support (-£5k) and Education Psychology Service (-£33k). A further forecast underspend on Complex Needs placements (-£136k) is due to the projected achievement of commissioning savings.

Safeguarding, Children and Families Service Wide (+£73k)

The forecast over spend on legal fees (+£113k) and Agency costs (+£14k) is partially offset by staff cost savings (-£54k) in Business Support.

Child Protection Teams (+£17k)

This forecast overspend is on Agency staff within the Safeguarding Unit.

Children in Need Social Work Teams (+£76k)

This forecast overspend is on Agency staff costs & additional staff appointments within the Children in Need North team & the Borough Wide team.

Looked After Children (+£1,119k)

The service is now forecasting an over spend mainly due to out of authority residential placements (+£855k), remand placements (+£249k) and independent fostering placements (+£194k). Further details of placements are below:

- The number of children in residential out of authority placements as at 31st August is 23 (an increase of 2 since July but a reduction of 2 since 31 March 2013).
- From 1 April 2013 children's remand placements are fully funded by the Local Authority & RMBC was provided with a grant of £78k to cover these additional costs. There are currently 2 remand placements.
- The number of children in Independent foster care as at 31st August is 111 (an increase of 5 since July but a reduction of 7 since the end of March 2013).
- The number of children in in-house fostering placements as at 31st August is 170 (an increase of 2 since 31 March 13).
- The number of looked after children was 390 at 31st August, a reduction of 2 since 31st March 2013

Additional overspends in this area are (+£4k) in the LAC service due to a court ordered care package, (+£15k) Consultancy costs to review Complex placements, (+£11k) Residence Orders and (+£18k) Agency costs on Contact workers. These pressures are partially offset by projected underspends in Children's Homes (-£60k) mainly due to not

staffing the Silverwood annexe, Fostering Services (-£91k) due to a forecast underspend on fostering allowances & Families together placements, and (-£76k) due to the re-profiling of placements and the impact of this on inter-agency adoption costs.

Remaining CYPS Services (-£79k)

The overall CYPS overspend is then offset by projected under spends on Pension costs (-£8k) due to a reduction in numbers receiving pension payments and staff cost savings in the Integrated Youth Support Service (-£38k) and the Disability Team (-£33k).

Environment & Development Services (+£711k forecast overspend)

The above forecast overspend assumes that the Winter Pressures budget is sufficient to contain costs incurred over the Winter period - In 2012/13 these costs exceeded budget by £466k.

Streetpride (+£157k forecast overspend)

Network Management is projecting a shortfall on income recovery (+£137k) where income targets were increased on Parking Services budgets by 2.5%. Other service pressures (+£16k) are mitigated by increased income from Adoptions and Searches and reduced Street Lighting energy costs (-£67k).

Waste Management services have pressures primarily on income from sale of recyclables as a result of a general reduction in waste volumes, and from commercial waste contracts which are still less than budgeted following the downturn in economic activity. Current projections show a pressure of +£402k, but negotiations with waste disposal contractors are ongoing and savings on the waste PFI are helping to mitigate this pressure by £248k.

The Corporate Transport Unit is showing a forecast saving of -£86k mainly due to expected reduced costs on Home to School Transport. Across the rest of Streetpride services there are some small pressures within Leisure and Green Spaces and Community Services and Corporate Accounts (+£28k) which are being offset by savings within Transportation (-£25k).

Regeneration, Planning, Customer and Cultural Services (+£554k forecast overspend)

The key pressures within Regeneration and Planning total **£199k** are £316k from Planning mainly due to reduced income from planning applications, and £40k from Building Control and Markets. These are being partially offset by identified savings -£84k from higher than expected occupancy levels at the Business Centres, and further savings of -£73k from other areas

Within Customer and Cultural Services there is a forecast overspend of **£355k**. Heritage Services are projecting a +£55k pressure due to the change in venue for wedding services to Clifton Park Museum as the venue will need to increase its planned opening hours and provide appropriate staffing. Within Customer Services there is an unachievable saving from 2012/13 of +£80k and a further +£120k from the 2013/14 savings proposals which currently remain outstanding, and a further £26k. There are further pressures within the Customer Contact Centre a net pressure of +£74k.

Neighbourhoods & Adult Services (+£1.789m forecast overspend) and Public Health Services (-£349k forecast underspend)

Adult Services are currently forecasting an overspend of **+£1.819m**. The key underlying budget pressures include:

Older People (+£969k)

Forecast over spend on In-House Residential Care due to slippage on implementing the 2013/14 budget savings target (+£364k), increase in Direct Payments over budget (+£579k) and overall forecast over spend on Domiciliary Care services (+£554k) due to an increase in demand for independent sector care.

There is also a forecast overspend on independent sector residential and nursing care (+£345k) due to an increase in admissions (11 additional clients in placement than budgeted), this is after additional income from property charges is being received. These pressures are being reduced by a number of forecast underspends including planned slippage in developing dementia services (-£90k), carers breaks (-£75k) and enhancements in Rothercare (-£84k). Slippage on recruitment to vacant posts within Assessment & Care Management and community support plus additional income from Health (-£605k), and under spends on non-pay budgets due to the moratorium on non essential spend (-£19k).

Learning Disabilities (+£510k)

There is a forecast overspend on Day Care (+£343k) due to slippage on implementation of the day care review including an increase in fees and charges, plus a recurrent budget pressure on transport. There is a forecast overspend in independent sector home care (+£98k) due to slippage in meeting an agreed budget saving. Additional admissions into residential care are resulting in a forecast overspend of +£169k. High cost placements within independent day care and community support are resulting in a forecast overspend of +£164k. These forecast overspends are partially mitigated by slippage on developing Supported Living schemes plus additional funding from health (-£132k), efficiency savings on Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for advice and information (-£60k), slippage on investment in direct payments (-£50k) and planned delays in recruitment to vacant posts (-£22k).

Mental Health (-£244k)

There is a projected overspend on the residential care budget due to slippage on the budget savings plan to move clients into community support services and a continued pressure on the direct payments budget (+£125k). These are more than offset by forecast underspends in the community support budget (-£369k).

Physical & Sensory Disabilities (+£640k)

Further increase in demand for Direct Payments (+10 clients) together with recurrent cost pressure (+£624k) and a continued increase in demand for domiciliary care +£270k. These pressures are being partially offset by forecast underspends within residential and nursing care, day care, provision of equipment and savings on contracts (-£254k).

Adults Safeguarding (+£37k)

Forecast overspend due to lower than expected staff turnover and use of agency support.

Efficiency savings on subsidy contracts have already been identified against budget (-£85k).

Adults General (-£8k)

This includes the cross cutting budgets (Workforce planning and training, and corporate charges) which are forecasting an overall slight underspend based on the level of charges incurred last year.

Neighbourhoods General Fund (-£30k)

The projected year end outturn position for Neighbourhoods shows a forecast under spend of (-£30k).

The main reason for the forecast underspend is higher than expected staff turnover within Trading Standards and Licensing, savings on non pay budgets due to the moratorium on non essential spend plus additional income from the Dignity contract.

Public Health (-£349k)

Public Health services were transferred from Health to Local Authorities on 1 April 2013. The service is funded by a ring fenced specific grant from the Department of Health. For Rotherham this is £13.790m for 2013/14 and the service is currently forecasting an overall underspend of -£349k. The main reason is a variation in the sexual health contracts from the original budget. The grant conditions however allow for any underspend at the year end to be carried forward in a Public Health Grant Reserve.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The overall forecast as at end August 2013 is that the HRA will outturn on budget with a planned (budgeted) use of its working balance (reserves) of £2.110m a reduction of £489k from the original budget.

Currently forecasts show an over-recovery of income from charges for services and facilities together with minor under spends on housing repairs and supervision and management.

Resources Directorate (+886k forecast overspend)

Asset Management – There is currently a forecast pressure of +£590k on the Land Bank within Asset Management services due to the need to keep vacant council owned properties secure until they are sold or demolished. There are also pressures across the wider Asset Management service: Commercial Properties (+£25k), Community Buildings (+£28k), Council Accommodation (+£89k), Other (+£2k).

ICT – The service is currently forecasting a pressure of +£400k. This relates to a forecast under-recovery of income due to reduced spend across the Council.

Legal Services – A forecast overspend of +£43k due to staff cost pressures.

Internal Audit – A forecast overspend of +£44k due to staff cost pressures.

Communications & Marketing are forecasting an overspend of +£19k due to staff cost pressures.

Human Resources & Payroll are forecasting an underspend of -£154k largely in respect of staff cost savings.

Commissioning, Policy & Performance services are forecasting an underspend of -£115k mainly in respect of staff cost savings.

Management savings are also forecast across the service amounting to -£85k.

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16th October 2013
3.	Title:	Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2014-2015
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

This report provides details of the operation of Rotherham's Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) for the financial year 2013/14 and outlines the policy options available to the Council in order to help determine the nature and scope of its 2014/15 Scheme. Each Council is required by legislation to formally determine and approve its CTRS on an annual basis for implementation from 1st April. In essence, the authority must decide whether to retain the current scheme or alternatively consult on a new local scheme which, for example, could set a different minimum contribution percentage from claimants.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet are recommended to:

- **Retain the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Empty Property Discounts for 2014/15;**
- **Confirm that the loss of CTRS transitional funding be addressed in the MTFS as part of Council's overall funding shortfall.**

7. Proposals and Details

- 7.1 Prior to April 2013, Council Tax Benefit (CTB) was an income related benefit administered by local authorities on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The cost of benefits awarded was met **in full** by grant from the DWP. From April 2013, CTB was abolished and replaced by a locally determined and administered discount scheme – **the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)**. CTRS operates as a discount on the Council Tax charged by an authority rather than being a benefit payment. Pensioners are protected under the scheme and, provided their financial circumstances do not change, they will see no change in the Council Tax support that they receive. This means that the scheme only applies to working age claimants who under Rotherham's CTRS that was approved by Full Council in January 2013, are required to contribute a minimum 8.5% of their Council Tax liability from the 1st April 2013.
- 7.2 **Council Tax empty property discounts** - alongside the introduction of CTRS from April 2013 the Government allowed authorities increased local discretion with respect to the Council Tax Discounts and Exemptions granted for empty properties and second homes.
- 7.3 The Government indicated that they expected changes to empty property discounts would allow Local Authorities to raise additional income to mitigate the reductions in CTRS funding and minimise the amount that would be passed on to CTRS claimants.
- 7.4 The discounts adopted by Rotherham for 2013/14 were:
- A full charge for second homes;
 - A 25% discount for homes undergoing major structural repair;
 - A 25% discount for vacant and unfurnished properties in the first 6 months;
 - A full charge for vacant and unfurnished properties between 6 months and two years;
 - An additional 50% premium charge for vacant and unfurnished properties over two years.
- 7.5 **Government funding for CTRS** - Unlike CTB, CTRS is not fully funded by the Government. The Council's £17.5m grant allocation for 2013/14 (which now forms part of the Council's Central Government Funding Settlement rather than as previously a specific grant) is 90% of the DCLG's estimated cost of all former CTB payments for 2013/14. The South Yorkshire Police and Fire and Rescue Authorities also receive funding in respect of CTRS.
- 7.6 The design of Rotherham's CTRS for 2013/14, which set the maximum available support for all working age claimants at 91.5%, requiring a minimum contribution of 8.5% of their Council Tax liability, met the Government's qualifying criteria for Transitional Grant of £0.468m in 2013/14. The Council

estimated that the funding shortfall in 2013/14 after, allowing for Council Tax Freeze Grant and Transitional Grant was in the region of £3.0m.

7.7 It was estimated that the funding shortfall in 2013/14 would be met by an additional Council Tax income of £2m generated by changes to empty property discounts leaving approximately £1m to be passed through to working age CTRS claimants.

7.8 **Operation of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and Council Tax Discount Changes in 2013/14** - The introduction of the CTRS, changes to Council Tax empty property discounts and other welfare reforms have had a significant impact on both claimants and the Council's Revenues and Benefits Service including:

- An additional 16,000 claimants who have either been required to pay Council Tax for the first time or have seen their payments increase.
- A substantial increase in customer contact with the service, with telephone call numbers up 32% overall and 47% in respect of those having difficulty paying.
- A significant rise in Council Tax payment default with an 80% increase in the numbers of both reminders and summonses issued and a 57% increase in cases being taken to Magistrates' Court for non-payment. It is estimated that the Revenues and Benefits service (non-staffing) costs will increase by c£50k in 2013/14, due to increased printing, postage and Magistrates' charges as a result of higher default levels.
- An increase in the levels of customer contact and payment default has led to a reduction in the Revenues and Benefits service's capacity to carry out its other functions such as; billing, benefit assessment and debt collection. To address this, the Government's new burdens funding has been used to temporarily supplement the service's capacity.

7.9 In spite of the above it is considered that the transition to and implementation of the current CTRS and CT discount changes has been managed and operated smoothly drawing only very limited adverse publicity / customer complaints unlike other welfare reform changes e.g. bedroom tax and the benefits cap. Although collection rates are marginally down compared to previous years (as is also the experience in benchmark authorities) it is estimated (at this stage) that the challenging 97% collection rate that has been budgeted for should be achieved. In addition, the Council has avoided some of the problems encountered by other authorities with larger CTRS contribution levels where, for example, large demonstrations against the scheme have been made at court hearings which have attracted substantial press coverage.

7.10 The achievement of this relatively smooth transition can be largely attributed to the minimum contribution level in the Council's scheme being kept at 8.5% (less than many authorities locally and nationally). This has meant that, although many claimants are being required to pay Council Tax for the first time, the amount that they pay has proved manageable despite their limited

income. For example 12.5% of working age claimants having already paid in full for the year. Additionally, the relatively low contribution level has allowed the Revenues and Benefits Service to exercise greater flexibility in resolving claimant's payment requirements which has prevented many from appearing in Magistrates Court and incurring additional costs.

7.11 **CTRS Policy Options for 2014/15** – The Council is required to review its CTRS annually, determine its approach going forward and decide whether to retain the current scheme or alternatively consult on a new one which could incorporate a different minimum contribution percentage or revert to the Government's Default Scheme.

7.12 Resulting from the Government's Spending Review announcements in late June it has become clear that the Government will no longer be providing its CTRS Transitional Grant funding as in 2013/14. To this Council this represented £468k, which was used to offset the reduction in Government funding referred to in paragraph 7.5.

7.13 It is estimated that the funding shortfall in 2014/15 will be £3.4m based on current workloads – the increase in the shortfall from £3m is largely a result of the loss government funding, principally the CTRS Transitional Grant.

7.14 Assuming that the Council does not wish to have the Government default scheme imposed on it and will continue to have its own local scheme, the process for the Council therefore starts with the decision:

- **Does the Council wish to continue the current level of support for claimants?** (i.e., the Council will continue to set the maximum available support for all working age claimants at 91.5% requiring a minimum contribution of 8.5% of their council tax liability)

7.15 **This policy option gives rise to two further questions:**

- **If the same scheme to the existing one is adopted – how does the Council want to meet the shortfall in funding?** Ultimately, a local authority may decide to use a single approach or a combination of actions in order to offset the funding gap. It is likely, given the potential scale of the challenge, that a combination of policy options, as in 2013/14, will be needed. This is discussed further in the Paragraphs 7.16 to 7.21.
- **If any of the shortfall in funding is passed onto claimants – are there any other groups (other than pensioners, for example, disabled people, families with children) that it considers should be protected and how would this be funded?**

7.16 The Council's current Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) assumes that the indicative CTRS funding shortfall will be met by a combination of:

- Continuing to support working age claimants up to a maximum of 91.5% of their Council Tax Liability;
 - Continuing to use the additional income from changing the CT discounts for empty dwellings and second homes to offset the CTRS funding shortfall; and
 - Absorbing the loss of CTRS transitional funding as part of Council's overall funding shortfall.
- 7.17 Under the current 8.5% minimum contribution level, and assuming no Council Tax rise in 2014/15, a CTRS claimant in a Band A property (with no parish precept or other discounts) would be expected to pay a minimum £81.39 per year or £1.56 per week. Each 1% increase in minimum contribution would mean a £9.58 per year increase in Council Tax which would equate to a 12% increase in a CTRS claimant's 2014/15 bill. In overall terms, this level of increase would yield an additional estimated £115k in CT income before losses on collection.
- 7.18 The current collection rate for CTRS claimants (27% as at July) is currently substantially below those of non-CTRS cases (43% as at July) – these differing collection rates were expected and are likely to further widen as the current collection rates for those liable under CTRS are artificially inflated due to 12.5% of those liable paying in full at the beginning of the year. It is considered that increasing the minimum % contribution would further increase levels of default, court action and losses on collection. Those currently managing to maintain payment of relatively low instalment amounts may find themselves no longer being able to do so if this increases. Emerging evidence from other authorities is showing that those councils that have set a higher minimum contribution level are experiencing a more significant increase in default levels and as a result could potentially see a far greater overall reduction in collection rates by the year end.
- 7.19 In addition, many CTRS claimants are being adversely affected financially by the impact of other welfare reform changes introduced by this government which affect benefits administered by both DWP e.g. incapacity benefits and those locally such as the “bedroom tax” and the benefits cap. Furthermore, the planned national roll out of Universal Credit will have substantial impact on many claimants ability to budget, as their benefit will be paid monthly in arrears. For these groups a further reduction in CTRS support may have serious financial implications on their ability to pay increased council tax contributions.
- 7.20 Any change to the Council's CTRS would additionally require a further consultation process, which would need to start immediately in order for the new scheme to be in place in time for 2014/15. Prior to the adoption of the 2013/14 CTRS, the Council undertook a consultation process including: press adverts, letters, SMS/text, emails and presentations to the community. This was followed by a programme of staff training and further promotion to claimants. The estimated cost of this was in excess of £40k and a similar exercise would be required if a change to CTRS was to be considered.

7.21 **Change Council Tax empty property discounts.** In setting the local CT discount rates for empty and second homes as described in paragraph 7.4 the Council now has only limited flexibility to further change these rates. Primarily it could:

- **Remove the 25% discount for homes undergoing major structural repair** – this could potentially yield additional CT income of £41k before any losses on collection which are likely to be high. Removing it may also dissuade developers from taking on derelict properties to return them to occupation which could have a negative impact on the authorities New Homes Bonus allocation.
- **Remove the 25% discount for vacant and unfurnished properties in the first 6 months** – this could potentially raise additional Council Tax income of £371k before losses. Collection rates for properties empty for the first six months have been low since the 100% discount was removed. Over 15% of those affected by this particular discount change have been CTRS claimants who are liable for the periods when they have the tenancy but are not in occupation and are therefore unable to apply for CTRS. For these CTRS claimants, a short period of liability for an empty property can equal a full year's liability when in occupation. Landlords have also expressed concern that the removal of the 100% discount would not allow them sufficient time to do required repairs and maintenance between tenants or seek a new tenant.

8. Finance

The estimated cost of running the current CTRS scheme in 2014/15 is £21.3m of which the Council and Joint Authorities are expected to receive government funding of £17.9m paid through their financial settlements, albeit this source of funding is not specifically identified in the settlements. This funding takes account of the loss of Transitional Grant previously referred to in paragraph 7.12 of this report. The Council is therefore facing a potential funding shortfall of £3.4m.

The Council's current MTFS assumes that this expected cost would be funded by a combination of:

- Continuing to support working age claimants up to a maximum of 91.5% of their Council Tax Liability;
- Continuing to use the additional income from changing the CT discounts for empty dwellings and second homes to offset the CTRS funding shortfall
- Absorbing the loss of CTS transitional funding as part of Council's overall funding shortfall

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Although collection rates are expected to be marginally down compared to previous years, it is estimated that the 97% collection rate that has been budgeted for will still be met. However, there remains a risk that the continuing impact of welfare reform and the transitional roll out of the Universal Credit from October 2013 will result in further reduced income levels amongst working age claimants, which in turn could place even more pressure on Council Tax collection rates.

Any future increase in the number of CTR claimants would increase the cost to the authority of the scheme, which would be the case whether the current minimum payment is retained or increased. We have however seen a slight 3.1% fall in CTRS claims since the beginning of the current financial year however there is no certainty that this trend will continue.

The risks to the authority of amending CTRS to provide less support for claimants or of reducing empty property discount levels further are:

- Reduced collection rates as more tax payers, particularly CTRS claimants, may find themselves unable to pay increased Council Tax bills and are taken to court;
- The anticipated increased default levels would cause a capacity issue for the part of the service dealing with income collection. An increased level of default cases, as has been experienced with the 2013/14 changes, reduces the resource that can be allocated to chasing each debt, including non CTRS claimants, and this results in reduced income collection performance.
- Any changes to the current CTRS would require consultation which would have to adhere to tight timescales to enable the changes to be adopted by full Council in time.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Amending CTRS scheme to provide less support for claimants or reducing further empty property discounts is expected to increase the rate of default on payments and of customer enquiries, which will in turn cause a capacity issue for Revenues and Benefits in collecting debt and performing its other functions.

Performance levels could be substantially reduced in the areas of customer telephone service, benefit assessment, billing and income collection and the service may be unable to carry out future income generation initiatives such as the SPD review.

The Full Council must adopt the 2014/15 CTRS by 31st January 2014 otherwise the Council will have to adopt the Government's default scheme.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

2013/14 Published CTRS Scheme

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET
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1	Meeting:	Cabinet
2	Date:	16th October, 2013
3	Title:	Living Wage
4	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with information about the Living Wage, including the implications were Rotherham to consider adopting it.

The risks associated with adoption of the Living Wage can be summarised as follows:

- Significant increases in direct employment costs
- Implications for the Council's pay and grading structure
- Potential Equal Pay implications
- Could make Council services uncompetitive or Increased costs of contracted out services (if contractors required to pay the Living Wage)

These risks are expanded upon in the body of this report.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet are asked to:

6.1 Note the content of this report.

6.2 Continue to aspire to the Living Wage and review the Council's position each year as part of the budget setting process.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Background

This report expands upon and updates the information about pay, employee benefits and the Living Wage in reports presented to the Cabinet Member in September and November 2012 and Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in June 2013. It sets out the key facts and implications for Rotherham.

Until the recent pay award, the national position on public sector pay freezes has resulted in the Council's workforce not receiving a pay award since 1 April 2009 (Chief Officers since 1st April 2008 and no award this year). In addition, in respect of non-school based employees, the Council implemented a temporary pay reduction of 1.15% (equivalent to three days pay) and a two year freeze on incremental progression awarded for satisfactory performance up to a spinal column maximum commensurate with the grade of the employee. Increments were paid to eligible employees on the lowest two pay bands (A and B) in 2012 to help address the consequences of the recession on the low paid and increments for 2013 have been brought forward from July to April for all other eligible employees.

A previous report to the Cabinet Member in September 2012 set out the wide range of financial and other flexible benefits promoted by the Council to try and help employees. These include a range of tax efficient salary sacrifice schemes i.e. childcare vouchers, car parking and car leasing. In addition further benefits include additional leave purchase, access to local shop discounts and the 'Wider Wallet' initiative where pre-loaded cards used for spending on regular purchases are worth more than the value loaded onto the card (typically 5 – 7% plussage).

In this period of austerity and pay restraint, the situation in respect of relative pay levels is receiving more publicity nationally. Currently there is a significant campaign from the TUC and individual Trade Unions lobbying Councils to support a drive towards paying a Living Wage as a means of reducing the number of families living in poverty. On 20 August the national Trade Unions signalled their intention to submit a pay claim for 2014/15 which will seek the minimum rate of pay in Local Government to be based on the Living Wage and proportionate increases on all higher spinal column points to maintain pay differentials. These proposals are estimated to add between 8.5% and 15.5% to the annual pay bill (each 1% is broadly equivalent to an extra £1 million).

On 8th July the Deputy Leader arranged a visit with the Director of Human Resources and Cllr Hoddinot to the London Borough of Islington to discuss their experience of introducing the Living Wage. Given factors such as London Weightings and a significant degree of outsourcing, Islington only has 110 employees who were positively impacted upon by the Living Wage. The Council is currently working with its contractors and other employers in the Borough to encourage payment of the Living Wage.

7.2 The Living Wage

The Living Wage is currently £7.45 per hour (£8.55 in London), compared with the national minimum wage of £6.19 per hour (rising to £6.31 on 1st October 2013). It is set independently by the Centre for Research in Social Policy at Loughborough University and updated annually in November. The rate is calculated based on assumed expenditure considered the minimum for a decent standard of living on: childcare; clothing; food and drink; household goods and services; housing rent; water; electricity; gas; Council Tax; personal goods and services; social and cultural participation; and transport.

According to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's own research information while calculating the Living Wage it should be noted that rent levels in Yorkshire & Humberside are 10 – 30% below the average rent figure used as part of the overall Living Wage calculation.

To be accredited as an official Living Wage Employer (205 employers as of 18th April 2013 from across public, private and voluntary and community sector employers, less than 1% of larger companies across the United Kingdom), an organisation must satisfy four basic criteria:

- pay all its own staff at least the Living Wage
- commit that within six months of the annual uprating of the Living Wage, its pay rates will be uprated accordingly
- demonstrate progress towards requiring any contractors it has to do the same
- have a plan in place to work with any remaining contractors to get them to pay the Living Wage

7.3 Councils paying or committed to pay the Living Wage

The number of councils in England and Wales now paying or committed to pay a living wage as of 15th February 2013 has risen to 37 (this represents 9% of all councils). Recent additions are Barking and Dagenham (who have agreed to pay £9 per hour), Calderdale, Chorley, Deal, Gloucester City, Greenwich, Harrow, Newark & Sherwood and Wolverhampton. This is in addition to Ashfield, Blackpool, *Birmingham*, Brent, *Brighton & Hove*, Calderdale, *Camden*, Cardiff, Carlisle, Chorley, Croydon, Dartford, Derby City, *Ealing*, Enfield, Hackney, *Hounslow*, Hyndburn, *Islington*, *Lambeth*, *Lewisham*, Newark & Sherwood, Newcastle, *Norwich*, *Oxford City*, *Preston*, Sheffield, *Southwark*, Swansea, Wirral, Wolverhampton and York.

Others such as Manchester Councils and Liverpool have committed to a locally determined but different rate to that proposed by the Living Wage Foundation.

Most councils are not yet signed up to the Living Wage Foundation list of Accredited Living Wage Employers (accredited LAs are shown in italics above).¹

7.4 Benchmarking and comparative data

According to KPMG one in five workers across the UK are earning below the Living Wage – 4.82 million people. Nationally there are approximately 280,000 local authority staff paid below the Living Wage and many claim tax credits, free school meals, housing benefit and/or council tax benefit. Many of the low paid council workers are women and typical council jobs which pay less than the Living Wage are school dinner staff, teaching assistants, cleaners, administrative assistants, sure-start workers, refuse staff, caretakers and school crossing patrol staff.

A recent evaluation of various comparator jobs locally is attached to this report in Tables 1 and 2 at Appendix 1. This would suggest that even allowing for other sectors not being held back by national pay restraint, the rates being paid in general at the bottom end of our pay structure still remain in excess of private sector rates.

Currently 1481 (non school) employees on the bottom three pay bands (A, B and some on C) are paid below this level in occupations such as cleaning, catering and grounds maintenance.

¹ Caerphilly County Borough Council and Selby Town have also now been accredited.

In addition there are a further 846 school based staff (such as teaching assistants) who would be affected. Table 3 in Appendix 1 shows the gender split for staff in the relevant pay bands.

Within South Yorkshire only Sheffield City Council has currently introduced the Living Wage. This has impacted on only 271 non School employees but 1641 School based employees. The total cost to the non Schools budget was £134k including on costs and to Schools budgets collectively £774k including on costs. The City Council has not sought formal accreditation as a Living Wage Employer so as not to bind itself to future uplifting. It has implemented this by way of a supplement to achieve the Living Wage in order to minimise the impact on its pay and grading structure and avoid inflating hourly rates (which would have otherwise inflated overtime claims).

Barnsley Council have signalled their intention to implement the Living Wage from 1st April 2014. This will be linked to a framework agreement with Trade Unions under which revisions to terms and conditions will be sought to offset costs. In total this would affect 359 non School employees at a cost of £270k and approximately 1060 School employees (detailed costs not yet available). Like Sheffield, Barnsley will uplift pay by means of a supplement rather than changing its grading structure.

Doncaster have stated their wish to work towards the living wage but this would only take place within the context of wider discussions on future reforms to terms and conditions of employment to offset costs. In advance of this year's national agreement to delete spinal column point 4, Doncaster Council had already agreed to delete spinal column points 4 and 5 from its pay spine.

7.5 Implications

The implications of a migration to the level of the Living Wage would be significant for our overall job evaluated pay structure and overall costs and budget pressures. Potentially additional costs could be passed on to other departments as the majority of the relevant jobs affected work in Traded Services. An indication of potential costs and benefits is outlined below.

Financial costs

It should be noted that a move to a minimum rate of £7.45 would result in an immediate cost to the Council of around £950k, adding nearly 1% to overall wage costs. An additional £1m from incremental progression (subject to satisfactory performance) would also be incurred if the Council chose to amend its grading structure rather than pay a supplement to achieve the Living Wage.

Within schools the cost implications for the 846 school based staff are in the region of £600k, plus a similar amount in incremental progression should the grading structure be amended.

A move to paying the Living Wage would also increase agency and casual employee costs as legally they have to be paid the same rate, again increasing overall wage costs.

Job evaluated pay structure

All jobs have undergone recent job evaluation which has determined where they are positioned on the overall pay and grading structure, thus there would be an impact on pay differentials and this may pose some risk of challenge in respect of equal pay.

Procurement and potential outsourcing

It may also be an unintended consequence that a move to this level of pay, where the private sector does not mirror such arrangements, could result in making outsourcing arrangements appear more attractive, resulting ultimately in less public sector jobs.

As stated in 7.2, accredited employers are required to work with their contractors through their procurement policies to encourage wider adoption of the Living Wage so that it is applicable to both in-house and contracted out staff. Whether the costs of contractors moving to the Living Wage would be borne by the contractor or the local authority would depend on the outcome of contractual negotiations. Smaller organisations may also find it harder to offer the Living Wage and this may in turn mean that some local companies find it harder to compete for contracts.

Employee benefits

Full time employees could potentially benefit from an increase of up to £46 per week, however for some employees Social Security benefits such as Working Family Tax Credit or Pensions Credit would be affected.

For employees in receipt of benefits a £4 per week increase results only in a £1 increase in 'take home pay' after tax, national insurance and consequential benefit reduction. In the case of single parents a larger gross increase of £10 per week is required for the £1 increase in 'take home pay'. It is recognised though that however small, lower paid employees on benefits will still see some increase in income.

Employer benefits

For employers there are a number of positive benefits which may offset part of the costs of implementing the Living Wage. These include increased staff morale and motivation; better quality work; lower rates of staff turnover thus reducing recruitment and training costs; lower rates of sickness and absence, and positive reputational gain. Balanced against this could be a negative impact on other staff who would see their pay differentials reduced.

Benefits to local economy

Higher incomes for workers, both in-house and contracted out staff, would be anticipated to benefit the local economy through increased spending in the Borough.

7.6 Other financial pressures

Pension reforms

- Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) reform from 2014 will mean an increase in employer contributions as these will in future be based on all earnings, which at 12% contribution from the Council could amount to £500k p.a.
- The reform of the state pension in 2016 will mean the end of 'contracting out' arrangements for employers operating defined benefit schemes. As the LGPS is such a scheme this will lead to a 3.4% increase on the pay bill equivalent to £3.5m p.a.
- The state pension reforms also mean the end of contracting out arrangements for employees in the LGPS and they too will face an increase of 1.4% in employee national insurance contributions.

Ongoing public sector funding pressures

Further cuts were announced for government departments in the budget on 20th March 2013 on top of those announced previously and the Comprehensive Spending Review announced on 26th June 2013 only exacerbated this situation.

7.7 Conclusion

It is not considered currently affordable to implement the Living Wage, without offset measures to restructure the current pay and reward framework. Any move to address pay levels at lower levels would likely need to be compensated by savings achieved through service changes, job reductions and/or changes to terms and conditions, this will inevitably impact on the same groups who would be expected to benefit from the Living Wage rate. The impact of future pension reforms will also augment the overall pay bill significantly.

8. Finance

There would potentially be significant financial implications from any increase in pay rates and Living Wage arrangements as set out in 7.0 above. In addition increased costs associated with changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme and the ending of contracting out arrangements for the state pension has been factored into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

The salary sacrifice and benefit arrangements currently in place to help reduce costs to employees also contribute to reducing the operating costs in the Council. In 2011/12 these initiatives contributed to saving the Council around £120k.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

See section 7.5 in the body of this report.

A failure to introduce effective pay and rewards will impact upon the Council's ability to recruit, retain and motivate employees.

Costs arising from with the Living Wage would be likely to impact on contractual arrangements and price inflation associated with commissioning external contractors.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Making sure no community is left behind: The gap in average earnings is reduced.

The way we do business: Right people, right skills, right place, right time; reducing bureaucracy; and getting better value for money.

11. Background Papers

Cabinet Member paper "Employee Benefits" 10 September 2012

Cabinet Member paper "Local Government Pay Issues and Living Wage" 19 November 2012

LGIU Policy Briefing "The Living Wage and Local Authorities" 14 January 2013

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board Paper "The Living Wage" 14 June 2013

Strategic Leadership Team Report "The Living Wage" 2 September 2013

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Appendix 1 Comparative Pay Data

Table 1 External Pay Data June 2013

Job Title	Annual salary	RMBC pay equivalent	Difference
Contact Centre Operative	£13k - £14k	£16,998	20% above
Security Guard (Canklow)	£13.5k	£15,598	15% above
Labourer	£13.5k	£13,725	2% above
Horticultural Technician	£12k	£15,598	25% above
Print Finishing Technician	£13.5 - £14.5k	£15,598	7% above
Customer Service Advisor	£12.5k	£16,998	35% above
Night Care Assistant (SAGA)	£12k	£16,998	40% above

Note - Jobs within 5 mile travelling distance of Rotherham on Total Jobs website 20th June 2013

Table 2 Comparative pay data June 2013

Comparator	Rate
Living Wage	£7.45 per hour
National Minimum Wage	£6.31 per hour (October 2013)
Spinal Point 4 (43 People 12.27fte)	£6.36 per hour (deleted October 2013)
Band A (Cleaners/GKA/Lengthsman)	£6.36 - £6.54 per hour
Band B (Cleaning Supervisor/Assistant Cook/SMSA)	£6.69 - £7.11 per hour
Band C (Customer Services)	£7.26 - £8.08 per hour
NHS Cleaner/Catering/Domestic	£7.34 - £7.70 per hour
South Yorkshire Police Cleaner	£7.53 - £8.58 per hour
Housekeeper (Cambian Group)	£6.50 per hour
Gala Bingo Rotherham	£6.27 per hour
Cleaner (Carlisle Managed Services)	National Minimum Wage
Recycling Operative	£6.19 - £7.00 per hour
Customer Services Advisor	£6.25 - £7.00 per hour
Customer Services Advisor (William Hill)	£7.00 per hour
Mobile Home Carer (Carewatch)	£6.50 per hour
Carer (Allied)	£6.19 - £6.30 per hour

* This is external data from advertised vacancies on the internet as at 20th June 2013

Table 3 Gender breakdown of RMBC staff who would be impacted by Living Wage

	Female	Male
Non Schools	81%	19%
Schools	92%	8%
Combined	85%	15%

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16th October, 2013
3.	Title:	Funding and Fees Policy for Adult Community Learning
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary:

This report provides information on proposed Funding and Fees Policy for the Adult Community Learning Service in relation to these services for 2013/14.

These proposals will accommodate the changes required the Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

The proposals will continue to support sustainability and development of the offer of Adult Community Learning in Rotherham

6. Recommendations

6.1 To accept and endorse the Fee and Funding Policy for Adult Community Learning 2013/14

7. Proposals and Details:

7.1 Introduction

The priority for the Rotherham's adult community learning provision is to extend the range, appeal and access to learning and employment opportunities, including those that enable, motivate and build self-confidence in new learners.

The national priorities for the delivery are guided by the vision for adult community learning presented by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS), in "*New Challenges, New Chances Further Education and Skills System Reform Plan: Building a World Class Skills System*". This document specifically identifies the purpose of Government supported community learning as being to:

- Focus public funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate, including in rural areas and people on low incomes and with low skills
- Collect fee income from people who can afford to pay and use where possible to extend provision to those who cannot
- Widen participation and transform people's destinies

Government supports adult community learning through the allocation of the Adult Safeguarded Learning Grant which is routed through the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).

The level of funding provided by the Government to support adult community learning has been maintained and RMBC will receive allocations as in previous years. However, this allocation is now to be regarded as a contribution towards the cost of delivery. It is expected that RMBC, in partnership with other providers, will develop a strategic plan for community learning with priorities, delivery objectives and measurable learner outcomes – the ambition of which will be achieved only by securing additional revenue over and above the public subsidy available. The SFA expects each recipient of the grant to ensure they reach at least as many learners in 2012/13 and where possible exceed this number.

RMBC Adult Community Learning service (ACL) intends to deliver a value for money service by focusing public funding on people who would not otherwise have access to learning and to maximise income from learners who can afford to pay.

RMBC ACL service intends to increase the funding available to support the delivery of adult community learning by identifying sources of additional income, that can be used to help offset the costs of delivering a programme of learning. Any income generated can then be treated as a means to reduce the level of subsidy necessary, complement use of the grant and increase the number of learning opportunities offered in Rotherham. RMBC will seek to enhance the grant available through a range of activities.

8. Finance

The current financial value of the Safeguarded Learning Grant and the Adult Skills Budget for 2013/14 is £641,408. The Funding Policy outlines proposal to generate additional funding to the amount of £300,000 for funding additional learning opportunities.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are uncertainties in the targets set for income generation from sponsorship, additional grant aid and fee collection.

- Targets may be unrealistic especially in areas where the service has no previous experience
- Reluctance of learners to pay the identified fees
- Learners accessing opportunities provided by other organisations
- Failure to secure additional income may affect future funding from the Skills Funding Agency

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Adult community learning delivery contributes to the learning and achieving theme of the Community Strategy and a range of priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan and Health and Well Being Strategy including supporting the development of skills to improve employability of working age adults by reducing the number of adults lacking essential skills around using computers, reading, writing and maths' and 'maximise participation in adult learning particularly in disadvantaged communities'.

The focus of funding towards the most deprived members of the community supports the priorities established by the Council.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Adult Community Learning Fees Policy 2013/14
Adult Community Learning Funding Policy 2013/14

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RMBC ADULT COMMUNITY LEARNING SERVICE

FEES POLICY

2013/2014

1. **COVERAGE:**

This fees policy covers activity classified as Adult Skills and Community Learning courses, funded by the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) / Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC).

2. **IMPLEMENTATION DATE:**

This policy will take effect from 01.08.13. and will be reviewed on 31/7/2014.

3. **TUITION FEES:**

The cost of courses will vary, depending upon length and level but all costs will be clearly advertised in all promotional material.

Learners who pay tuition fees will also be charged examination fees if relevant to the course of learning.

Exemptions/remissions in respect of course fees also apply to examination fees, if appropriate.

4. **FEES CRITERIA - ADULT SKILLS BUDGET AND COMMUNITY LEARNING**

Some courses are fully subsidised for everyone and learners will not have to pay a fee. These include:

- Improving English (relating to learner's personal goals)
- Improving maths (relating to learner's personal goals)
- Improving Job Search and Employability skills

Concessions or full funding for courses may be available for learners who meet specific criteria as listed below:

Fully Funded

- they are aged 19+ years of age and are studying units to help them move back into work or progress in work and are receiving Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) or Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) in the Work Related Activity Group (WRAG) and are using the course to support entry into employment



- they are family members (dependents) of those in receipt of the above benefits
- they are aged 19-23 years of age and studying their first full Level 2 qualification
- they are aged 19-23 and do not have any prior qualifications or their highest qualification is at Level 1 or below
- they are 19+ years of age, unemployed, and in receipt of state benefit (not including JSA or ESA WRAG) and are using your course to support entry into employment (Note: this does not apply to Modern Foreign Language courses). The eligible benefits are:
 - Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
 - Carers Allowance
 - Income Support (for those on a low income)

Learners with learning difficulties or disabilities who have a learning difficulty assessment (LDA) will receive full funding in all of the following circumstances:

- they are aged 25+ at the start of the 13/14 academic year, and have not completed the learning programme set out in their LDA as meeting their needs
- the learner is placed with an independent specialist provider (ISP) and they have a learning difficulty assessment which confirmed that the learner's needs could only be met by the ISP
- the learner is following a programme of learning which is identified in their LDA as meeting their needs and they could not complete before reaching their 25th birthday because of an unavoidable delay in the learner beginning the programme
- the learner will continue to make progress on the programme

Co-Funded up to a maximum of 50% of the total cost of the learning

- they are aged 19-23 and studying a full Level 2 learning aim for individuals who have attained full level 2 or above delivered through classroom learning
- they are aged 19+ and studying a Level 2 qualification not classified as full and delivered in classroom learning
- they are aged 19+ and studying ESOL delivered in classroom learning
- they are aged 24+ and studying a full level-2 learning aim delivered through classroom learning
- they are over 60 years of age and over and not in paid employment

Additional Fees Criteria for Community Learning

- There are some categories of learners, for example but not exclusively - travellers, the homeless and hostel dwellers, who whilst not necessarily in receipt of benefits, are clearly unable to contribute to the cost of their learning. In such instances, RMBC may agree discretionary fee remission to groups of learners or individual learners without the prior consent of the SFA. Records of all such discretionary remissions will be retained.

Fee Remission - Evidence

- Learners who believe they are eligible for fee remission must provide appropriate JSA/ESA/WRAG evidence. Acceptable evidence **MUST** be submitted with the enrolment form, within 7 days of the start date of the course.
- Failure to provide evidence will mean payment of full course fees.

5. POLICY STATEMENT:

RMBC reserves the right to cancel any course or change its charging policy where its costs may result in financial loss; cancel any course where there is lack of appropriate resources; and/or refuse entry to a course on any non-discriminatory grounds.

6. REFUNDS:

If a course is terminated by the provider because, for example, of low numbers, learners who have paid in advance will be refunded for the sessions cancelled by the provider.

Individual learners who choose to leave a course before its completion will not be eligible for a refund.

If an award bearing class is cancelled by a provider, full refunds will be provided to course participants.

7. COMPLAINTS:

Individual learners who consider this Policy has not been correctly applied in their case, or who have a concern about the accuracy of the fee they are being charged, may bring a complaint under the Council's Complaints Procedure by presenting relevant evidence to support their concerns.

All complaints related to Adult Community Learning will be monitored by the Adult Community Learning Steering Group.

For more information about how to raise a complaint about a financial issue follow this link.

<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/200025/complaints>

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DRAFT

1. Introduction

This strategy is the basis for funding the delivery of adult community learning in Rotherham over the next academic year 2013/14 and sets out our priorities and future plans for supporting the funding of adult community learning through a variety of funding schemes.

The main priority for the Rotherham's adult community learning provision is to extend the range, appeal and access to learning and employment opportunities, including those that enable, motivate and build self-confidence in new learners.

The national priorities for the delivery are guided by the vision for adult community learning presented by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS), in "*New Challenges, New Chances Further Education and Skills System Reform Plan: Building a World Class Skills System*". This document specifically identifies the purpose of Government supported community learning as being to:

- Focus public funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate, including in rural areas and people on low incomes and with low skills
- Collect fee income from people who can afford to pay and use where possible to extend provision to those who cannot
- Widen participation and transform people's destinies

Government supports adult community learning through the allocation of the Adult Safeguarded Learning Grant which is routed through the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).

The level of funding provided by the Government to support adult community learning has been maintained and RMBC will receive allocations as in previous years. However, this allocation is now to be regarded as a contribution towards the cost of delivery. It is expected that RMBC, in partnership with other providers, will develop a strategic plan for community learning with priorities, delivery objectives and measurable learner outcomes – the ambition of which will be achieved only by securing additional revenue over and above the public subsidy available. The SFA expects each recipient of the grant to ensure they reach at least as many learners in 2012/13 and where possible exceed this number.

This strategy aims to articulate the commitment of RMBC through the Community Learning Service and throughout its partner organisations. It is operational and attempts to offer clear, concise guidelines. It is also written to inform the policies and practice of provider organisations, their staff partners, other stakeholders and most importantly the service users.

2. Statement of Intent

RMBC intends to deliver a value for money service by focusing public funding on people who would not otherwise have access to learning and to maximise income from learners who can afford to pay.

RMBC intends to increase the funding available to support the delivery of adult community learning by identifying sources of additional income, that can be used to help offset the costs of delivering a programme of learning. Any income generated can then be treated as a means to reduce the level of subsidy necessary, complement use of the grant and increase the number of learning opportunities offered in Rotherham. RMBC will seek to enhance the grant available through a range of activities including:

Sponsorship

Working with local companies and encouraging businesses to see that sponsorship can show that a company cares about its community and is prepared to invest in the future and the welfare of the people it serves. RMBC will seek support from local organisations to sponsor local learning activities and will actively canvass and develop sponsorship opportunities.

Grants

Achieving better outcomes and increasing the number of learning opportunities by obtaining grants and support from local or national organisations and working with other public bodies on cross-funding initiatives.

Fee Collection

Collecting fee income from people and organisations who can afford to pay and use where possible to extend provision to those who cannot.

Expenditure savings

Maximise the use of available resources, reducing costs, sharing facilities and working with organisations that bring in additional funding into the Borough from other sources. Encourage collaboration amongst organisations, developing new partnerships, supporting better co-ordination and joined up delivery of community learning and promoting the sharing of best practice.

3. Scope

This Strategy applies predominantly to Rotherham Council's SFA-funded adult safeguarded learning provision. All staff will be made aware of the Strategy which will be updated on an annual basis. The responsibility for monitoring the Policy lies with Rotherham Community Learning Partnership Manager.

The range of provision supported by the Community Learning Service is very diverse, and includes part-time learners studying at a range of venues by both direct and sub contracted delivery.

This strategy covers all aspects of Community Learning functions including:

- Provisions of services
- Partnership with other organisations
- Commissioning and purchasing of goods and services
- Funds to external organisations
- Communication and publicity

It applies to the following stakeholders:

- The voluntary and community sectors
- Learners
- Private and public sector organisations
- Contractors and sub-contractors

4. Policy Statement

Rotherham's Community Learning Service is committed to developing a funding strategy that will enhance the quality and range of teaching and learning and increase participation.

The Service intends to pursue this commitment by:

1. Focusing public funding on people who are disadvantaged and least likely to participate and people on low incomes and with low skills. Collect fee income from people who can afford to pay and use where possible to extend provision to those who cannot.
2. Seek sponsorship from local organisations and businesses for the delivery of local learning activities.
3. Secure funding to support the Safeguarded Learning Grant by accessing additional grant income from local and national organisations.
4. Maximising the use of available resources by reducing costs, sharing facilities and working with organisations that bring in additional funding into the delivery of adult community learning.

5. Guidelines for Practice

The guidelines, as set out below show how the Service will achieve each of the policy statements.

Policy Statement 1 Focusing public funding on people who are disadvantaged

The Adult Community Learning Service will develop and implement a Fees Policy which reflects the funding priorities identified by the Skills Funding Agency.

The policy will clearly identify learners entitled to fully funded or co-funded learning activities.

The Fees Policy will be publicised and the cost of any learning opportunity will be identified for all courses delivered with the support of the Adult Safeguarded Learning Grant.

RMBC will work to secure £20,000 through the collection of fees to support the delivery of local learning activities.

Policy Statement 2 Seek sponsorship from local organisations

RMBC will identify a variety of ways in which organisations can support the delivery of community learning.

RMBC will approach local organisations and businesses with the intention of developing a range of fully or partially sponsored learning activities.

RMBC will work to secure £10,000 of sponsorship for the delivery of local learning activities.

RMBC will publicise information relating to learning activities which have been delivered with the support of sponsorship.

Policy Statement 3 Secure additional funding to support the Safeguarded Learning Grant by accessing additional grant income.

Establish a working group to identify potential sources of income available in grant form.

Seek support from the External Funding section of RMBC Finance Section

Identify opportunities to work in partnership with other organisations to access funding from grants sources

RMBC will work to secure £40,000 of grant aid to support the delivery of local learning activities.

Policy Statement 4 Maximising the use of available resources

RMBC will seek to secure contributions in kind to support the delivery of adult community learning

RMBC will seek to increase the use of volunteers to support the development of the infrastructure and the delivery of learning.

RMBC will support the continuation and development of self organised learning groups.

RMBC will work to secure £300,000 expenditure savings (Pound Plus) to support the delivery of local learning activities.

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6. Links to Other Policies, Strategies and Legislation

Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) - *“New Challenges, New Chances Further Education and Skills System Reform Plan: Building a World Class Skills System”*.

Skills Funding Agency – *Funding Rules 2013/14*

Websites for further information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/skills-investment-statement-for-2011-to-2014-new-challenges-new-chances>

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	16 October 2013
3.	Title:	Core Strategy Examination
4.	Directorate:	Environment & Development Services

5. Summary

The report seeks delegated authority for the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development to approve public consultation on modifications to the Core Strategy arising from the examination in public.

6. Recommendations

- 1. That Cabinet provide delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development to approve public consultation on modifications to the Core Strategy following the Examination in Public.**

7. Proposals and Details

Background

On 6 June the Core Strategy, which forms part of Rotherham's statutory Local Plan, was submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination. Inspector Richard Hollox has been appointed to conduct the examination to determine whether the Core Strategy is sound.

The hearing sessions are scheduled to take place at Riverside House beginning on 22 October and running over 10 days, concluding on 8 November.

Consulting on any Modifications to the Core Strategy

Throughout the examination process and in light of discussion at the hearing sessions a schedule of minor changes to the Core Strategy will be compiled. In addition, the Inspector may recommend Main Modifications to the document in order to ensure that the Core Strategy is sound and can be adopted.

Following the close of hearing sessions the Council will need to consult for a 6 week period on these Modifications and send any responses to the Inspector to enable him to take any representations into account when he prepares his report. This report would then recommend that the Core Strategy was sound subject to the inclusion of the Modifications.

To ensure the efficient completion of the examination and to enable the Inspector to finalise his report as soon as possible it will be important that the Council is prepared to start consultation on these modifications (should this be required) as soon as practically possible following the close of the hearing sessions.

Normally consultation on Development Plan Documents is approved by Cabinet. However, as the Main Modifications will be suggested by the Inspector to make the document sound, there is little opportunity for Members to influence these changes prior to consultation starting. The Council would still have opportunity to comment on the Modifications as part of the consultation process, along with all other interested parties.

In view of the above there is a concern that seeking Cabinet approval prior to consultation on any modifications would add further delay to the start of consultation, extend the period before the Inspector can complete his report, and subsequently delay adoption of the Core Strategy.

In order to expedite the process it is requested that Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Development be granted the delegated authority to approve consultation on any proposed modifications to the Core Strategy arising from the examination. The Council's views on the Modifications can be determined during the consultation period and endorsed by Cabinet prior to submission to the inspector.

Final adoption of the Core Strategy remains a decision to be taken by Members (via Cabinet and Full Council) following receipt of the Inspector's report.

8. Finance

There are no direct costs arising from this report. Costs incurred in relation to consultation on any proposed Modifications will be met by Planning Policy.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- The Localism Act and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) express a strong presumption in favour of sustainable development. Our UDP policies only continue to have any weight where they are in accordance with the NPPF. It is important that Rotherham's Core Strategy is in place as soon as possible to provide an up-to-date planning policy framework for the Borough's future growth and development.
- A failure to achieve timely progress on the Local Plan could delay the spatial strategy required to guide future decision-making on planning applications.
- Having a Local Plan in place will provide a steer for any neighbourhood plans that may emerge under the provisions of the Localism Act.
- Failure to make progress with the Local Plan risks delayed provision of the new homes and employment opportunities that the Borough needs.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The implementation of the Local Plan will make a positive contribution to all of Rotherham's Regeneration priorities. When adopted, the Core Strategy and supporting documents will further the objectives of the Corporate Plan and support the delivery of the Rotherham Sustainable Community Strategy by:

- providing sufficient good quality homes
- ensuring well designed, decent affordable housing
- providing employment land to meet the needs of the modern economy and support sustainable communities through access to employment opportunities
- promoting the "town centre first" policy approach to help the regeneration and renaissance of Rotherham Town Centre and other town, district and local centres within the borough.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Core Strategy Examination website:

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/info/1004/planning_policy/2083/core_strategy/2

This report has been prepared in consultation with Legal & Democratic Services.

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