

CABINET

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

Date: Wednesday, 5 February 2014

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. 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 15th January 2014 (copy supplied separately)
6. Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group (Pages 3 - 8)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
7. A Review of the Response to Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (Pages 9 - 54)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
8. RLSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan - 9 Month Progress Report (Pages 55 - 76)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
9. Revenue Budget Monitoring (Pages 77 - 90)
 - Director of Finance to report.
10. Scrutiny Review Response to Domestic Abuse (Pages 91 - 102)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
11. Scrutiny Review of Carers (Pages 103 - 128)
 - Chief Executive to report.
12. Child Protection - Information Sharing Delivering Better Protection for Children (Pages 129 - 132)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.

13. Schools Capital and Revenue Funding 2014/15 (Pages 133 - 140)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
14. Proposal to Close Rawmarsh Thorogate Junior and Infant School SEBD Unit (report herewith) (Pages 141 - 143)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
15. Use of Land and Property Assets to Maximise Growth (report herewith) (Pages 144 - 148)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
16. Local Plan - Consultation on Main Modifications to the Core Strategy (report herewith) (Pages 149 - 158)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
17. High Speed Two (HS2) Phase 2 Consultation (report herewith) (Pages 159 - 171)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
18. Community Right to Bid - Former Council Offices, Doncaster Gate, Rotherham (report herewith) (Pages 172 - 174)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
19. Exclusion the Press and Public.

The following item is 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).
20. Magna Trust Loan Request (report herewith)* (Pages 175 - 177)
 - Director of Finance to report.

Extra Item:-

21. 2014/15 Budget - Review of the Provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres (report herewith) (Pages 178 - 186)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.

In accordance with Section (7) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed that the item marked (*) contains a key decision which needs to be acted upon as a matter of urgency and which cannot be reasonably deferred (see notice attached)

In accordance with Section (7) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012 the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed that the item marked (*) contains a decision which needs to be acted upon as a matter of urgency and which cannot be reasonably deferred (see notice attached)

Cabinet – 5th February, 2014

Take notice, in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, that the following key decision is to be considered at the meeting without having provided the required 28 days' notice:-

- High Speed Two (HS2) Phase 2 Consultation

This report is presented to outline the current Government consultation and represents Rotherham's response submitted by the Leader.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has been informed and is in agreement with the presentation of the report.

Jacqueline Collins,
Director of Legal and Democratic Services.

24th January, 2014.

Cabinet Meeting – 5th February, 2014

Take notice, in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, that the following reports are to be considered in the private part of the meeting without having provided the required twenty-eight days' notice:-

- **Magna Trust Loan Request**

An exemption under Paragraph 3 (Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this report contains commercially sensitive information.

The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board has agreed that this item is urgent and cannot reasonably be deferred.

Jacqueline Collins
Director of Legal and Democratic Services
24th January, 2014

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	CABINET
2.	Date:	5TH FEBRUARY, 2014
3.	Title:	MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN MEMBERS' STEERING GROUP HELD ON 17TH JANUARY, 2014
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 17th January, 2014 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 17th January, 2014.

**Contact Name : Karl Battersby, Strategic Director,
Environment and Development Services
ext 23815**

karl.battersby@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN STEERING GROUP
Friday, 17th January, 2014

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

together with:- Helen Sleigh, Andrew Duncan, David Edwards, Neil Rainsforth and Ryan Shepherd (Planning Service).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lakin, McNeely, R. S. Russell and Whelbourn.

18. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2013

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group, held on 12th December, 2013.

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

19. LOCAL PLAN CORE STRATEGY - UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 15 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 12th December, 2013, consideration was given to the contents of the letter issued by the Inspector (dated 6 January 2014) after completion of the Examination in Public of the Local Plan Core Strategy during November 2013.

It was noted that the Inspector has asked for modifications to the Core Strategy in respect of the following issues:-

: the target of numbers of new residential Housing being constructed – addressing the backlog within the first five years of the life of the Local Plan;

: Strategic Housing Market Assessment – provide an updated assessment, working in conjunction with Sheffield City Council;

: Bassingthorpe Farm is defined as a strategic allocation site, requiring a main modification to the Core Strategy;

: Affordable housing – changes to Policy CS7 to be another main modification;

: Waverley is to be a principal settlement in the hierarchy of settlements.

Officers will prepare the draft modifications to the Core Strategy, for submission to the Inspector for his final approval. Afterwards, there will be a process of public consultation.

A report about the Local Plan Core Strategy will be submitted to the Council's Cabinet, at the meeting to be held on 5th February 2014.

Members asked that the details of the draft modifications to the Core Strategy be reported to the next meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group.

The Steering Group acknowledged the importance being placed upon the achievement of the target of new housing development.

Agreed:- That the contents of the Inspector's letter, as now submitted, be noted.

20. SITES AND POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT

Further to Minute No. 16 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 12th December, 2013, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Planning Officer, providing an update regarding the continuing preparation of Rotherham's emerging Sites and Policies Document.

In response to issues raised during the public consultation undertaken during May, June and July 2013 into the Draft Sites and Policies Document 2013, officers are currently working through those issues and reviewing the Sites and Policies' preferred allocations. A number of sites will be reconsidered for their suitability as potential allocations as a result of the consultation responses, further evidence relating to protected sites and species and detailed archaeological studies. Reference was made to the implications for a number of proposed development sites throughout the Borough area.

The report stated that the Council has undertaken significant work to review the Mixed Use areas identified on the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and has given consideration to the appropriate range of acceptable uses and to the area and boundaries of the allocations. The UDP had allocated twenty-one sites for mixed use (eg: Bellows Road, Rawmarsh), within which a range of uses are acceptable in principle.

The Core Strategy identifies the following hierarchy of town and district centres, whose boundaries are subject to review:-

Principal town centre
Town centre
District centre

Rotherham town centre
Dinnington, Maltby, Wath upon Dearne
Kiveton Park, Parkgate, Swallownest
Swinton, Wickersley

The UDP also defined a network of more than fifty local centres, situated around the Borough area. The Sites and Policies Document review proposes to reduce this number to twenty-six areas to be defined as local centres. Members asked that specific localities be subject to further

review (eg: North and South Anston).

The Steering Group noted that a number of background papers are currently being prepared to support the Sites and Policies Document during its next round of consultation:-

- : Protected Sites and Species and designations of the Local Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites;
- : Mixed Use Area Reviews;
- : Retail Centres Review;
- : Minerals Review;
- : Transportation Issues including Transport assessments; Travel Plans and Parking Standards.

It was reported that, after preparation of a final draft plan and prior to consultation commencing, there will also be a need to refresh the Sustainability Appraisal of the Document and to carry out a Viability Assessment of Policies to ensure they are capable of delivery.

The intention is to consult on the Final Draft Sites and Policies Document during the Spring and Summer 2014.

The Steering Group viewed extracts from the emerging Policies Map (eg: the Cortonwood Express Park). Members also asked questions about specific mixed use areas (eg: Eastwood Trading Estate; Todwick) and about the *cordon sanitaire* around water treatment plants which prohibit sensitive developments (eg: schools; food outlets) within a radius of 400 metres because of smell nuisance, etc.

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

(2) That a further progress report on the preparation of Rotherham's emerging Sites and Policies Document be submitted to a future meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group.

21. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY - UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 8 of the meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 13th September, 2013, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Planning Officer, outlining the responses received to the consultation process on a Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule for a Rotherham Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which took place from 5th August to 7th October 2013.

It was noted that work is now underway to allow consultation on the CIL's Draft Charging Schedule in advance of its submission and examination. The broad timetable for this work has had to be revised as a consequence of receipt of the Inspector's letter (referred to at item 19 above). The services of Peter Brett Associates have been procured to support this work. This company has supported the Council's Local Plan and CIL

evidence base preparation since 2011.

Members discussed a number of salient issues:-

: the proposed Bassingthorpe Farm development;

: Section 106 planning agreements and developer contributions – which will be limited as a consequence of new legislation due to take effect in April 2015;

: the preference of housing developers to build on greenfield sites, instead of on brownfield sites;

: the variable rates of CIL around the Rotherham Borough;

: the revisions to the timetable may mean that the forthcoming consultation the CIL Draft Charging Schedule may occur at the same time as the consultation on the draft Sites and Policies document.

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

(2) That a further progress report on the preparation of Rotherham's Community Infrastructure Levy be submitted to a future meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group.

22. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group take place at the Town Hall, Rotherham on Friday, 14th February, 2014, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5th February 2014
3.	Title:	A review of the response to Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham (all wards)
4.	Directorate:	Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

5. Summary

The attached report details the findings and recommendations of a review into the response to Child Sexual Exploitation(CSE) in Rotherham. It provides a balanced and accurate picture of how CSE is being tackled in Rotherham and was published in January 2014.

6. Recommendations

That Members receive the report.

7. Proposals and Details

- 7.1 The purpose of this review was to reassure the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board, appointed in September 2013, and the public, that Rotherham is moving forward and protecting children from sexual exploitation and that leaders are delivering improvement and not just talking about it.
- 7.2 Child Sexual Exploitation has a serious long term and lasting impact on every aspect of a child or young person's life including their health, physical and emotional wellbeing, educational attainment, personal safety, relationships, and future life opportunities.
- 7.3 Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation effectively requires a coordinated multi-agency response. The work of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB) and its constituent members is key to ensuring the protection of children and young people and achieving prosecution of offenders. The RLSCB's CSE Strategy and Action Plan "PREVENT PROTECT PURSUE" is the framework through which the local implementation of the response to CSE is delivered in Rotherham.
- 7.4 The report acknowledges that in the past, Rotherham could, and should have done more to protect children from CSE; In September 2013 the Local Authority announced its own inquiry into its historical response to CSE. However, from 2010 there has been a significant amount of transformational work undertaken to improve the multi-agency responses to this form of child abuse.
- 7.5 The LSCB CSE Strategy and Delivery Plan had already been refreshed in 2013 incorporating the relevant Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) recommendations. Since then, a number of other reports have been commissioned specifically looking into Rotherham's and the South Yorkshire Police response to CSE as well as the final national report from the Office of the Children's Commissioner. These are:
- Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) South Yorkshire Police's Response to Child Sexual Exploitation – Findings of an inspection commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner (Published Nov 2013):
 - Barnardo's Rotherham Practice Review Report (Published October 2013)
 - "If only someone had listened" Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups (Published November 2013)
- 7.6 This review concludes that the findings are, in the main, positive but it does highlight areas that need further development work; reflecting that this is a

dynamic and fast changing area of safeguarding children for all of the organisations involved. There is clear evidence that CSE is a high priority and that this is reflected in its status at senior strategic meetings and Cabinet level within the Council. There is a clear strategy to tackle CSE with an associated action plan that is based on national best practice. There has been a significant financial commitment to a multi-agency CSE team, which is staffed with committed and hardworking staff, and it is undertaking much good work and is making a difference.

7.7 The review makes three recommendations and a number of areas for particular attention to ensure that improvements are continuous. The three recommendations are:

1. The role and structure of the Child Sexual Exploitation Team and the CSE delivery plan should be reviewed as part of an ongoing process for future strategic development. In particular, consideration should be given to the structure, location and long term aims and objectives of the team, to ensure clarity of purpose and adequate and appropriate resourcing.
2. The performance management and governance structures around CSE management requires greater clarity. A mapping exercise of current structures, together with a more proactive and intrusive performance management regime, should be considered by all agencies and in particular RLSCB.
3. Future plans should be communicated to both victims and professionals so that there is no doubt about the seriousness with which CSE is taken. Professionals should be provided with the tools to ensure they are able to support victims in an appropriate and timely manner.

RLSCB partner members are working to embed the actions needed from the relevant reviews into the Rotherham CSE Delivery Plan.

8. Finance

The findings and recommendations from this report will require further exploration by the RLSCB and partners in relation to any cost, risks and benefits of their implementation.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

This review highlights areas for further development work across the safeguarding children partnership. The Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and Council committees will have a continued role in giving oversight and challenge to

agencies to ensure that these improvements are delivered and children and young people safeguarded.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Ofsted Inspection Framework 2013

RMBC Corporate Plan (2013-16)

- Protecting our most vulnerable people and families, enabling them to maximise their independence
 - we will protect children and young people, vulnerable people and families from all forms of abuse, violence and neglect
 - we will identify need and support children, young people and their families at the earliest possible stage

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board, Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy & Action Plan "PREVENT PROTECT PURSUE"

Also as outlined in 7.5

Contact Name : *Stephen Ashley , Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board , 01709 254925*



Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

A review of the response to child sexual exploitation in Rotherham

Stephen Ashley

Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

December 2013

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Opening Statement

I became the independent chair of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board on 1st September 2013. I was acutely aware at the time of my appointment that all of the agencies engaged in safeguarding children in Rotherham had been under intense scrutiny around their management of child sexual exploitation.

Leaders of the key agencies were keen to reassure me that a huge amount of work and progress had been made over the last year and whatever the problems of the past, children were now in less danger and perpetrators were at a much higher risk of being detected and prosecuted.

In some regards the facts spoke for themselves. Rotherham had formed an Improvement Group, a multi-agency CSE Team and had a clear CSE action plan and strategy in place. There have been a number of prosecutions for sexual exploitation offences and there are more to come. However, it is my job as an independent chair to test the rhetoric. In other words, I am not prepared to just take people's word for it that they are protecting our children to the standard we all expect. This review is designed to reassure me as the independent chair of the LSCB, and the public, that Rotherham is moving forward and protecting vulnerable children from sexual exploitation and that our leaders are delivering improvement not just talking about it.

It is testament to the willingness to improve and an attitude of openness and self inspection, that on suggesting I would undertake a diagnostic review to determine exactly what was in place to manage CSE, all of the leaders in the key agencies were keen for that work to be undertaken. Furthermore, they have fully supported the process and provided unhindered access to personnel and information. When reading this report credit should be given for the open and honest stance that has been taken and indeed the risk in doing so at a time when the Borough continues to be under national scrutiny.

This review was not established to determine what might have happened prior to September 2013, other reviews currently being scoped and undertaken will do that. This report is designed to provide both partners and the public with a clear and unambiguous current situation report on where Rotherham is in terms of its response to CSE. It aims to describe what the current response is, determine its effectiveness and make suggestions as to what more could be done to further improve those responses.

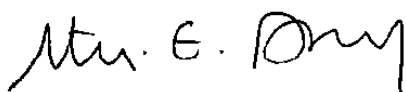
It is perhaps understandable that frontline staff are now suffering from a degree of 'inspection fatigue' with what is perceived as a constant stream of individuals and organisations engaging in review activity that does little to raise morale or reassure staff that they are valued and making a difference. All of the staff I spoke to were passionate about their jobs, understanding of a need for continuous improvement and willing to take new ideas forward. I am confident that their attitude and fortitude will ensure we are able to better safeguard children. A senior representative from Barnardo's said to me "with the passion and determination they have in Rotherham, if it isn't right here it won't be right anywhere".

This review follows reviews by Barnardo's and by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary that were undertaken just prior to this piece of work. Where appropriate I have referred to those reports, which together with this report, provide a triangulated view of what the current situation looks like.

Of course all reviews differ in style and in the approach they take. This work is a review and not an inspection. The distinction is perhaps a moot point but my view is that an inspection should take a structured approach, be task focussed, avoid personal opinion and stick to a more regimented style. In other words, an inspection will lay down the expected standards and test whether they have been met. It is the job of Government Inspectorates (HMIC, Ofsted etc.) to undertake this work; it is expensive and resource intensive and will be conducted periodically by the Inspectorates in accordance with their work schedules. In this review we have looked at what is being done, spoken to those engaged in the work and sought to ensure we are satisfied it is being undertaken effectively and efficiently. Where we have seen areas for improvement we have said so. Whilst there has been every effort to ensure that the report is factually accurate, it does contain more 'opinion' than might be expected from a formal inspection process.

I would like to thank all of those who have been involved in this review for their openness and honesty and real enthusiasm to engage in a process that may lead to further improvement.

I believe this report gives a balanced and accurate picture of how child sexual exploitation is being tackled in Rotherham. It deals with one part of the whole safeguarding programme of work. In considering our response to child sexual exploitation, it is important to remember that neglect, and physical and emotional abuse of our children requires the same level of scrutiny and application of effort.



Stephen Ashley

Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

10th December 2013

1. Introduction

This review has taken place in Rotherham at a time of considerable change both for the Local Authority and the key partners that form the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB). The level and nature of change currently taking place across agencies is unheard of in modern times. Whilst much of this change is driven by current fiscal restrictions, the structural changes involved in most partner organisations are aimed at improving the quality of services whilst also delivering these unprecedented financial savings.

Change in Rotherham is not only driven by current financial restrictions. Over the last 18 months Rotherham has become the focus of public and media concern over the way in which Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in the Borough has been identified and dealt with. This attention has rightly focussed on how children in the Borough have been protected from these crimes and abuse, but within the tight fiscal controls that have been set, partners need to ensure that all aspects of safeguarding children and adults are dealt with appropriately. It is reasonable to say that whilst one of the current high priorities is CSE, child neglect, and physical and emotional abuse often brought about by parental alcohol and drug abuse in a setting of domestic abuse needs to receive just as much attention. This does not provide the agencies tasked with dealing with safeguarding children from CSE with an excuse, but it is worth being clear that dealing with and improving the response to CSE must be seen proportionately and in the context of the full picture of safeguarding children.

This report focuses on the response to CSE but acknowledges the reality that professionals, both on a single and multi-agency basis are; responding to a myriad of issues, within tight controls, and having to balance competing priorities and demands. Ultimately, the public have the right to expect agencies to reduce the risk to our vulnerable children to the absolute minimum.

It is fair to say that Rotherham, Derby and Rochdale amongst others were some of the first, but not the only, areas in the country where CSE was seen as an issue and had a high profile. More to the point, both the media and public perception has been that Rotherham has failed to protect children involved in CSE or identified offenders and brought them to justice. Indeed Rotherham has continued to be at the centre of national attention in this area of safeguarding children.

Perception however is not always reality. It is now clear that CSE, in whatever form it takes, and there are a number of ways it can be expressed, is pervasive across the length and breadth of the country. Hardly a week passes without another horrendous case nationally being exposed to the public. Nor do these crimes restrict themselves to one geographical area, social class, ethnic group or model of abuse.

It is now clear that in the past, Rotherham could, and should have done more to protect children from CSE; and the Local Authority has announced its own enquiry into its historical response to CSE. However, from 2010, there has been a significant amount of transformational work undertaken to improve agency responses to this form of child abuse.

For example, in November 2013 there were 23 on going investigations being conducted by South Yorkshire Police in partnership with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) and other organisations, and 20 abduction notices issued between 1st April and 30th

August 2013. In addition, partners to the RLSCB have worked together to put in place new governance structures and processes to improve their response and management of CSE in the Borough.

The reality of what Rotherham has faced and the way it has dealt with those problems has been, and continues to be, thoroughly scrutinised. Understandably, the public, politicians and the media want reassurance that the Borough is managed in a way that protects children from the terrible and life changing harm caused by CSE. In some areas of the country there is a mistaken belief that their children and young people are immune from this type of child abuse and associated crimes. Rotherham is all too aware of them and has set about correcting the position and providing effective safeguarding in this area. This report evaluates the partnership response to CSE and assesses the effectiveness of that work to date and determines what more needs to be done, most importantly to protect children, but also to reassure the public that agencies are working together to deal with this scourge in our society.

2. Background and Scope of Review

2.1 Context

This review was conducted in Rotherham at a time when CSE is high on the agenda of the public, politicians and politicians. Rotherham has been at the forefront of this attention for a decade but more specifically since September 2012.

Nationally, there has been a huge amount of work, a list of which is contained at Appendix E.

Locally, a number of reviews have already been conducted into the response of partner agencies to CSE and others are currently being scoped. For the sake of completeness, the reviews that are currently underway, or that have been completed in Rotherham, in 2013, or directly connected to it, are listed below;

Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC)

A local assessment has been undertaken in relation to the Home Affairs Select Committee report findings and further areas for development incorporated into the local CSE Strategy and Action Plan.

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Commissioner Wright has asked requested the following:

- A review by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) into the process and structures currently in place in South Yorkshire Police to investigate allegations of Child Sexual Exploitation. The inspection work has taken place and a report published in November 2013.

- The Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police to set up an additional team of detectives and other specialists to investigate allegations of historic child abuse in South Yorkshire.
- The Chief Crown Prosecutor to conduct a review of all those historic CSE cases across South Yorkshire in which the Crown Prosecution Service was involved and considered criminal charges.

South Yorkshire Police (& RMBC Children and Young People's Services)

Currently engaged in a joint investigation named 'Operation Clover'. It is led by South Yorkshire Police and is into specific historical child abuse allegations / cases in Rotherham dating back to 1994.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

An independent inquiry is to be commissioned by RMBC into historic Child Sexual Exploitation in Rotherham. The Leader of the council made a formal statement to Cabinet regarding this on 4th September 2013 and a detailed report on who will lead the inquiry, proposed terms of reference and governance and reporting arrangements was presented to Cabinet on 18th September. It is anticipated that this enquiry will commence in late 2013.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council Children and Young People's Services

An independent review commissioned from Barnardo's on Child Sexual Exploitation and Children Missing from Home services in Rotherham, which examines the current multi-agency model of working and effectiveness. The work is complete and publication is expected in December 2013.

The terms of reference of this review and the methodology used is dealt with in the following sections but the context in which the review has taken place is important.

The number and scope of the various reviews recently completed or being undertaken leaves the door open to confusion around exactly what the position is in Rotherham regarding CSE. It is likely that there will be contradictory views around developments, progress and outcomes, and there is a clear danger that any contradiction will be seized upon as evidence of either a 'cover up' or just poor evaluation work.

This review sits amongst a number of other reviews, each with their specific focus, and there is a risk that it will no doubt be judged in an environment that is currently looking to cast blame and produce further alarming stories, and of mismanagement and confusion amongst agencies.

It has been made clear that this review has not used the resources or taken the time that the national inspection teams would do, and as such it has to be accepted that it will not be regarded as an inspection report. However, the review team have been on the ground, have spoken to professionals at all levels and have formed a view, taking cognisance of work that is or has been conducted.

In the circumstances of the prevailing environment this reports seeks to provide an honest and transparent view that should be considered alongside other pieces of work bearing in mind both the local and national context of CSE

2.2 Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for this review were formulated following discussions between; Lead Council Member Councillor Paul Lakin, Chief Executive Martin Kimber, Strategic Director of Children's Services Joyce Thacker and the Chair of the RLSCB, Stephen Ashley.

The Terms of Reference are set out below;

1. To conduct a review of the way in which the member agencies of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB) work together to identify, manage and deal with Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) issues;
2. To review current action plans put in place by member agencies in relation to CSE, and assess the effectiveness and current status of those plans;
3. To assess the status of current services in relation to CSE in Rotherham, when benchmarked against the published national standards;
4. To assess the contribution of member agencies to the Rotherham LSCB;
5. To assess the effectiveness of the Rotherham LSCB;
6. To set out proposals for future governance and accountability of CSE issues by the Rotherham LSCB;
7. To review the progress made against recommendations contained in any inspection or review reports concerning CSE conducted in Rotherham from July 2010 (since Operational Central Lessons Learned Review)

The final section of this report will seek to provide reassurance that the terms of reference have been complied with.

2.3 Methodology

The Review Team have conducted their work over a period of 10 weeks from mid-September until the end of November 2013.

The Review Panel consisted of:

- The RLSCB Independent Chair
- RLSCB Business Manager
- Representative from the CSE National Working Group
- Representatives from Barnardo's
- A social work lecturer from the University of Bradford
- A representative from NHS England – South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw
- Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families Services

This review is not designed to be a formal inspection, consequently the team did not follow a formal inspection process as used by Ofsted or other national inspectorates. The Team

based the inspection on the terms of reference and sought to gather evidence in the following ways;

- Interviews
- Document requests
- Document review
- Fieldwork site visit
- Case audits and analysis

3. The Partnership Response to Child Sexual Exploitation

3.1 The Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) were established by the [Children Act 2004](#) which gives a statutory responsibility to each locality to have this mechanism in place. LSCBs are now the key system in every locality of the country for organisations to come together to agree on how they will cooperate with one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The purpose of this partnership working is to hold each other to account and to ensure safeguarding children remains high on the agenda across their region.

Rotherham's LSCB has been set up to comply with this statutory requirement. To understand all of the obligations of the Board and its statutory functions the Working Together website provides an excellent level of information and can be found at the following link; <http://www.workingtogetheronline.co.uk/index.html>

In Rotherham the Board is well established and has the following membership;

Role and Organisation	Status
Independent Chair of Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board	Chair
Service Manager, CAFCASS	Member
Head of Safeguarding, Rotherham CCG	Member
Director of Safeguarding Children and Families, Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Council	Member
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	Receives papers
Detective Chief Inspector, South Yorkshire Police ,South Yorkshire Police	Member
GP, NHS Rotherham	Member
Lay Member to RLSCB	Member

Deputy Nurse Director, RDASH	Member
Director - Schools and Lifelong Learning, Rotherham Council	Member
Head Teacher of Sitwell Infant School	Member
Chief Superintendent, District Commander – Rotherham South Yorkshire Police	Member
Director of Public Health, Neighbourhood & Adult Services, Rotherham Council	Member
Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Council	Member
Safeguarding Quality Assurance Officer, RLSCB & CYPS, Rotherham Council	Advisor
Director – Learners First (Executive Headteacher, Hilltop and Kelford Special Schools)	Member
YOS Manager, IYSS, Schools & Lifelong Learning, Rotherham Council	Member
Councillor – Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families Services	Participating Observer
Manager of Public Protection Unit, South Yorkshire Police	Member
Business Manager, Rotherham LSCB	Advisor
Lay Member to RLSCB	Lay Member
Service Solicitor, Legal Services, Rotherham Council	Advisor
Head of Rotherham Delivery Unit, National Probation Service	Member
Designated Doctor, Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust	Advisor
Director of Health and Wellbeing, Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, Rotherham Council	Member
Executive Lead for Safeguarding at the Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham	Member
Rotherham's Women's Refuge	Member
Group Manager, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	Member
Head of Corporate Communications and Marketing, Resources, Rotherham Council	Advisor
Chief Nurse, Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust	Member

Patient Experience Manager, Nursing Directorate, NHS England (South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw)	Member
Service Manager – Strategy, Standards & Early Help Children and Young People’s Services, Rotherham Council	Advisor
Community Engagement Cohesion Manager, Neighbourhood & Adult’s Services, Rotherham Council	Advisor

Member agencies contribute sufficient funding on an annual basis to enable the LSCB to conduct its business and fulfil its statutory functions.

One of the statutory functions of the RLSCB is to produce an annual report and a business plan. The current plan is fit for purpose but is not particularly child friendly or dynamic in its style. Further work needs to be conducted to ensure that next year’s plan is a more useful and reader friendly document. This should be considered as part of recommendation three in section 6.

This year’s annual report and the 2013-2016 Business Plan can be found at;

http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/safeguarding/downloads/4/about_the_board

The RLSCB has CSE as one of its key strategic priorities in the 2013-16 Business Plan:

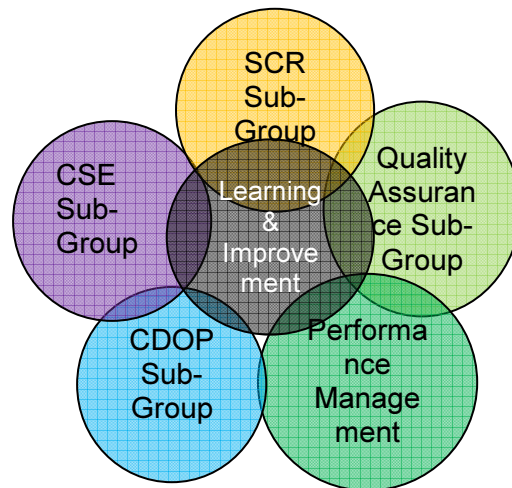
“Ensure that the multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Service is responsive to the needs of and delivers positive outcomes for young people involved in or vulnerable to CSE, through the implementation of the CSE Strategy and Action Plan.”

RSCB has an on-line multi-agency procedure for responding to CSE which can be found at: http://rotherhamscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_ca_sex_exp.html

The procedure has appropriate reference to and integration with Children Missing and Running Away and Children Missing Education but given the plethora of recent national research and guidance relating to CSE; and local service developments, it would be of benefit to both review and refresh the procedure which should be considered as part of recommendation three in section 6.

The functions of the RLSCB are primarily undertaken through the work and oversight of the six Sub Groups which are represented below to indicate their interrelationship.

RLSCB Sub Groups



A review of the sub group structure and terms of reference was recently undertaken and the current structure implemented. Further work is currently underway to review the performance sub group in order to produce a set of performance data that is relevant and produced in a timely way enabling the Board to hold members to account regarding their performance.

3.2 Individual Members

Whilst the Board is responsible for overseeing the working of the joint agencies, individual members are also carrying out work directly in relation to CSE activity. Whilst much of this work is brought together under the auspices of the RLSCB much of the work of agencies is specific to them.

The review Team conducted interviews with strategic Leads in each of the main agencies and some of the work they are conducting is contained below. This section has concentrated on the four lead agencies namely the Local Authority, Police, Health Economy and Education. The Review Team make no excuse for using this section to highlight some of the good work being conducted by these four agencies.

Local Authority

The Local Authority is the lead agency in child safeguarding. It has taken the brunt of criticism about the way in which CSE was previously managed. It has driven forward new structures and ways of working and has commissioned a number of reports into the way in which CSE has been managed previously. For example, the introduction of the Early help Assessment Team and Early Help Support Panel by the Local Authority have assisted it and its partners to provide a more responsive approach to children and young people requiring help and support at an earlier stage.

Police

The Police have also developed new strategies and taken a more pro-active role in investigation and bringing offenders to justice. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary recently completed an inspection into South Yorkshire Police's response to CSE. The Force is, as a consequence, further refining their structures to deal with CSE related criminality.

South Yorkshire Police has a problem profile for CSE and has invested in specialist intelligence analysts. In November 2013 the Rotherham police team were involved in four major live investigations and were developing a number of other lines of enquiry.

The South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner has asked for a number of reports including a review of the engagement of the Crown Prosecution Service.

Health Economy

All of the services related to the health economy are going through monumental change and it is currently difficult to understand the linkages between commissioning and delivery.

The Review Team were impressed that the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust had already conducted a detailed diagnostic into CSE. This document provides real detail into what services are available and what further work is required.

The Review Team was particularly impressed with the work conducted by School Nurses. This really is the front line and is critical in identifying children at risk of being sexually exploited and intervening at the earliest possible stage.

A specialist CSE Nurse Practitioner has also been employed to work as part of the multi-agency team. This role aims to support the health needs of children and working in partnership to disrupt and prosecute alleged abusers.

The Trust together with the Director for Public Health are also ensuring that front line professionals, including clinical staff, receive the levels of training they need, to identify and deal with the victims or potential victims of CSE.

Education

The Rotherham CSE Strategy has an objective of the delivery of a universal education programme to children and young people in Rotherham as part of the preventative approach. This is being delivered, with the support of the CSE Team, through the year 8 PHSE curriculum. All but one of the secondary schools in Rotherham is participating in this programme. A recent profile of children and young people involved with the CSE team, which included their age, gender and school attended, confirmed that all Rotherham secondary schools should engage in the CSE agenda and also identified that further specific work should be developed and targeted at year 6 pupils.

Additionally, training and awareness on CSE has been delivered to the Schools Safeguarding Forum for safeguarding children leads (primary and secondary) and school governors have been offered and provided with introductory training and awareness raising.

Further education and training providers have also had access to specific training events or the multi-agency CSE learning and development sessions.

To provide an indication of the importance of schools as a partner in tackling CSE and a reflection that current training and awareness is making a difference, 23% of all CSE referrals to the CSE team were from schools.

One of the risk factors associated with CSE is when school age children are not registered and on roll and therefore do not attend school. The Children Missing Education Officer and the Education Welfare service identify such children, often those who are moving in and out of the borough to ensure that families are supported to enrol their children at a school and where there are relevant concerns information is shared with the CSE team and referrals made appropriately.

3.3 Strategic Direction and Governance

Strategic Direction

The strategy and actions to deal with CSE in Rotherham is set out in the *Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy Delivery Plan 2013-16*¹. A one page summary document is contained at Appendix B. The strategy has three priorities; **Prevent**, **Protect** and **Pursue**. The priorities are supported by seven strategic actions. The strategic actions are further supported by an action plan that in September 2013 had 27 on-going actions. This plan is examined in more detail in section 3.5.

Whilst the strategic plan will need to develop over time it is clearly structured with specific priorities and is based on national best practice. The test of the strategic plan is how it translates into action on the ground and the way in which it steers the protection of children and young people. Whilst there is further discussion in this section around governance and performance monitoring, the strategic plan does provide the foundation for the effective governance and management of CSE.

There are clear links with children missing (from home and education), those who run away and sexual health services. It is less clear how the work around CSE is linking in with the wider picture of safeguarding children in Rotherham. CSE forms only one of the key strands in the continuum of safeguarding children and whilst it is a critical area of work it should not be seen as a 'stand alone' issue.

CSE is often the outcome for children who became vulnerable for a variety of other reasons. Emotional abuse, physical abuse and neglect leave children at a higher risk of suffering harm from CSE and so there needs to be clarity about the way in which the CSE strategy fits with the overall strategy for safeguarding children and young people in the Borough.

At this time it is understandable and right, that a focused and dedicated CSE strategy has been adopted. This strategy appears to be isolated from other key safeguarding issues and vulnerable groups such as Looked After Children. More consideration needs to be given to

¹ Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2013-16.

how the CSE strategy will become integrated or 'main streamed' into the overall safeguarding children and young people approach.

One clear example is the CSE Team and the future role that a multi-agency team might take. Whilst in the short to medium term the current approach is likely to be the most effective in responding to and dealing with CSE, from both a protective and preventative perspective, consideration in the longer term might be given to integrating that team into the mainstream of Children's Services. A future strategic direction may be to form a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub, or similar approach, that is being developed in many areas nationally.

This example highlights the need for the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership with the support of the RLSCB to develop a longer term strategic plan, integrating services, to ensure that the management of CSE forms part of the overall safeguarding children strategy.

Strategic structure and Governance

In terms of the statutory oversight of the multi-agency work around CSE the RLSCB takes that role. The role of the RLSCB is discussed in more detail in section five (below).

In fact the pressure that has been placed on both the Council and the other statutory agencies is such, that governance structures have grown organically and whilst there is a clearly laid out CSE strategy document, the strategic governance structures need some further clarification.

The strategic governance structures are contained in two documents presented to the RLSCB on 13th September 2013. Both documents are contained in Appendix C.

These are complex charts that do not clearly explain the governance around CSE and in fact only serve to confuse the picture. The governance process is not understood by staff members.

It is acknowledged that profiling multi-agency governance structures is a difficult and often thankless task, but it is essential that it be completed to ensure that everyone understands what the lines of accountability are, who has responsibility for the various strands of the CSE strategy and where key decisions can and are made.

Interviews with senior managers showed a surprising lack of understanding of the governance structure. Managers were also unclear about the roles and responsibilities of the different bodies functioning within the current system.

It is acknowledged that new NHS commissioning services and structures and the relatively new appointment of a Police and Crime Commissioner have changed the nature of strategic governance landscape. However, there needs to be considerably more clarity provided about the way in which the safeguarding children process is governed and the lines of responsibility and accountability.

For example, there is a Children's Improvement Panel and a Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. Membership of these two groups is broadly similar (as it is to the RLSCB). They currently deal with both similar and different issues, creating both a duality and differentiation at the same time. There appeared to be no real understanding, even at a senior level, how Health and Well Being Boards fitted into this structure and the Community Safety Partnership does not seem to feature in relation to safeguarding children. It would be useful to understand the roles and responsibilities of these groups and establish the part they play in delivery of strategic objectives. This should be considered as part of the work contained in recommendation two in section 6.

3.4 The RLSCB CSE Strategy 2013–16 and Action Plan

Structure

The strategy is clearly laid out based on national best practice with the three strategic priorities of;

- **Prevent**
- **Protect**
- **Pursue**

The three priorities are supported by seven strategic actions;

1. To improve the clarity of governance and strengthen leadership arrangements to ensure an effective multi-agency response to CSE.
2. To deliver an effective co-ordinated training, community and schools awareness programme through a multi-agency "Learning, Development and Awareness Strategy".
3. To develop a Multi-agency Media/Communication strategy to ensure consistent and accurate messages are shared with all, in support of public awareness and improved confidence in delivery.
4. To ensure single and multi-agency processes and procedures are effective, efficient and fit for purpose to support the protection.
of children and young people from the risks and impact of CSE.
5. To ensure there is effective protection, support and guidance for victims and potential victims of Child Sexual Exploitation.
6. To proactively identify and disrupt places of CSE activity.
7. To ensure perpetrators are brought to justice.

There is a comprehensive action plan that is designed to deliver strategic actions and thus the priorities. The action plan is owned by the CSE sub group of the RLSCB, the role of which is further discussed in section 3.5.

The strategic priorities and actions are clear, understandable and relevant.

Delivery

In order to deliver the strategy the action plan needs to be clear and realistic and in terms of the actions contained within it they must be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (SMART).

As at November 2013 there were 27 'actions' and 90 'milestones'. The plan is comprehensive and there are leads for each 'milestone' with a target date and the CSE Sub group record progress made.

The actions contained within the plan are in place not only to deliver the strategic actions but also to ensure the recommendations of the Home Affairs Select Committee are met. To some extent this has resulted in a plan that has the hallmarks of being too complex and requires more delivery focussed outcomes. The CSE Group should concentrate on developing the plan into a more workable document with a realistic chance of achieving the priorities set.

The Review Team were concerned that many of the actions and milestones contained within the plan were not specific enough. For instance, phrases such as 'all front line staff' are used but without any apparent definition of what that might mean. Responses to the actions have a tendency to be general in nature with no indication as to where the detailed information might be found.

The action plan is potentially an excellent tool for delivery, and there is clear evidence of the direction of travel and progress made. At the present time the Review Team were not convinced that it is simple and clear enough to be understood by front line staff and there needs to be more clarity around progress updates.

The role the Silver Group plays in delivery of the plan is unclear and, given the membership of the group, it would seem appropriate that detailed progress reports are provided in that forum, enabling the CSE sub group to concentrate on the key areas for delivery.

There is a danger that the plan becomes a bureaucratic tool that is disconnected from the reality for those responsible for delivering the strategic actions. In other words, the sub group needs to ensure the action plan doesn't just exist for its own sake and that it serves a practical purpose.

The CSE sub group should review the CSE action plan and ensure it is a practical and useful tool for delivery of strategic actions and its 'actions and milestones' follow SMART principles. This forms part of recommendation one in section 6.

Governance

The plan is owned by the CSE sub group and reports directly to the RLSCB. There was little evidence of challenge at Board level and the Independent Chair needs to ensure that the Board are given the opportunity to raise areas of concern at the quarterly board meetings. The RLSCB Chair must provide the opportunity for improved governance and stronger

challenge of the CSE action plan at RLSCB meetings and this forms part of recommendation two contained in section 6.

Progress on the action plan is also reported to RMBC Cabinet on a six monthly basis. The report presented to Cabinet in November can be found at;

<http://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?Categories>

This report was very comprehensive. It is a public document that contains sufficient detail to explain how progress is being made in the area of CSE in Rotherham.

3.5 The Child Sexual Exploitation Sub-Group

Background

The CSE Sub Group is part of and responsible to the RLSCB. It is chaired by a senior police officer from the Rotherham District Police Command Team. The Sub Group was developed from the CSE Gold Group which was originally a police led group. The CSE Sub Group developed quickly into a multi-agency group and came under the auspices of RLSCB governance in July 2013.

The group has a broad membership that includes;

Children and Young People Services:

- Strategic Director for Children and Young People
- Director of Safeguarding Children and Families
- Integrated Youth and Support Services Manager
- Child Sexual Exploitation Team Leader
- Performance Officer
- LSCB Business Manager

Health Economy:

- Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
- NHS England (South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw)
- Rotherham Foundation Trust
- Director of Public Health (Neighbourhood and Adult Services)
- RDASH

Police:

- Divisional Commander
- Rotherham head of the Public Protection Unit
- DCI Crime Manager Rotherham
- Chair of Silver Group (if not any of the above)
- Media Representative

Voluntary and Community Sector representatives

- Victim Support
- Safe@Last
- Lay members

CSE National Working Group representative

Serious Organised Crime Agency representative

South Yorkshire Probation Trust representative

The CSE Sub-group is supported by a 'Silver' group, which is the operational arm for that Group. The 'Silver' Group has members from:

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

- Service Manager, Borough-wide services
- Child Sexual Exploitation Team Leader
- Integrated Youth and Support Services Manager
- Youth Offending Manager
- Operations Manager Residential Care
- Performance Officer
- Licensing Officer

Health Economy:

- Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
- Rotherham Foundation Trust
- RDASH

Police:

- Head of the Rotherham Public Protection Unit

Voluntary and Community Sector representative (Victim Support)

- Safe@Last representative
- Victim Support

South Yorkshire Probation Trust

The two Groups are responsible for the delivery of the RLSCB CSE action plan.

The Groups meet on a monthly basis and report in to the RLSCB quarterly.

Sub Group effectiveness

The current CSE Sub Group developed out of police Gold and Silver command and control structures and is a standard response in policing to a critical incident. Not surprisingly this structure quickly became a multi-agency group and as such moved out of police command and control structures and under the governance of the RLSCB.

The Review Team were impressed with the pace of work maintained by the Sub Group and the wide range of activity it was driving forward. It was difficult to be persuaded that the Sub Group were a strategic group given that it actively sought to manage through the numerous actions contained within the CSE action plan.

The Sub Group has a clear objective, which is to deliver the 7 strategic objectives contained within the plan. The Group are focussed and driven, but the sheer weight of work and the necessity to deliver outcomes in tight time scales, raises some issues. The Review Team were of the view that the current membership of the Sub Group should be reviewed with a view to reducing the Group to a more manageable size. It seems that the Group has grown and can often have up to 20 plus persons present. In combination this makes management of the meeting difficult and to ensure that the meetings run within time limits, the Chair has to push through the agenda. This means that there is not sufficient time to debate some items.

There needs to be consideration, not only of the membership, but the role of the meeting and further clarity about the roles of the Sub Group and the 'Silver' Group. Given its history it should be of no surprise that the Sub Group has the feel of being engaged in expediency, rather than a mainstay of the safeguarding process.

A review of the role, membership and future direction of the CSE Sub Group and Silver Group needs to be undertaken and this forms part of recommendation one contained in section 6.

There is also some confusion as to how the Group fits with the other Sub Groups of the RLSCB and other strategic partnerships within the Borough. For example this group meets monthly but the performance sub group meet quarterly and the Chair of the CSE Sub Group felt these two groups should be more closely aligned.

Whilst there is some confusion as to how this group fits into RLSCB structures there has been no consideration how its work may overlap with other multi-agency forums working in the Borough.

3.6 The Child Sexual Exploitation Team

Background

The Child Sexual Exploitation Team was established in October 2012 as a response to recognition by leaders in Rotherham that CSE was a serious and identifiable problem in the Borough that required a more focussed multi-agency approach.

The team in effect replaced some of the work that had been conducted by Risky

Business, which was an RMBC team established in 1997 to support young people at risk of CSE. At that time Risky Business was an innovative approach to a problem that had received little national attention or recognition.

Risky Business was based on a youth work model and it was recognised that, whilst successful in some regards, to be more effective it needed to move to a multi-disciplinary model, able to undertake joint investigative work in addition to the preventative agenda. The new CSE Team was established to engage a range of partners and provide a service to young people that would concentrate on tackling the problem, based on the strategic priorities of Prevent, Protect and Pursue.

This review makes no further comment about the effectiveness of Risky Business and its work from its inception to 2011, which will no doubt form part of the Inquiry commissioned by RMBC.

The establishment of the CSE team took place in an environment where finance was not the key driver, but time was at a premium. In fact, it is clear that when the team was established, all of the partner agencies in Rotherham were under intense pressure from national organisations, the Government, the media and the public to respond to an identified problem.

There was a need to respond, and respond quickly, in order to restore confidence and ensure that real practical efforts were being made to cover the gaps in service provision that had been identified by both inspectorates and media investigations.

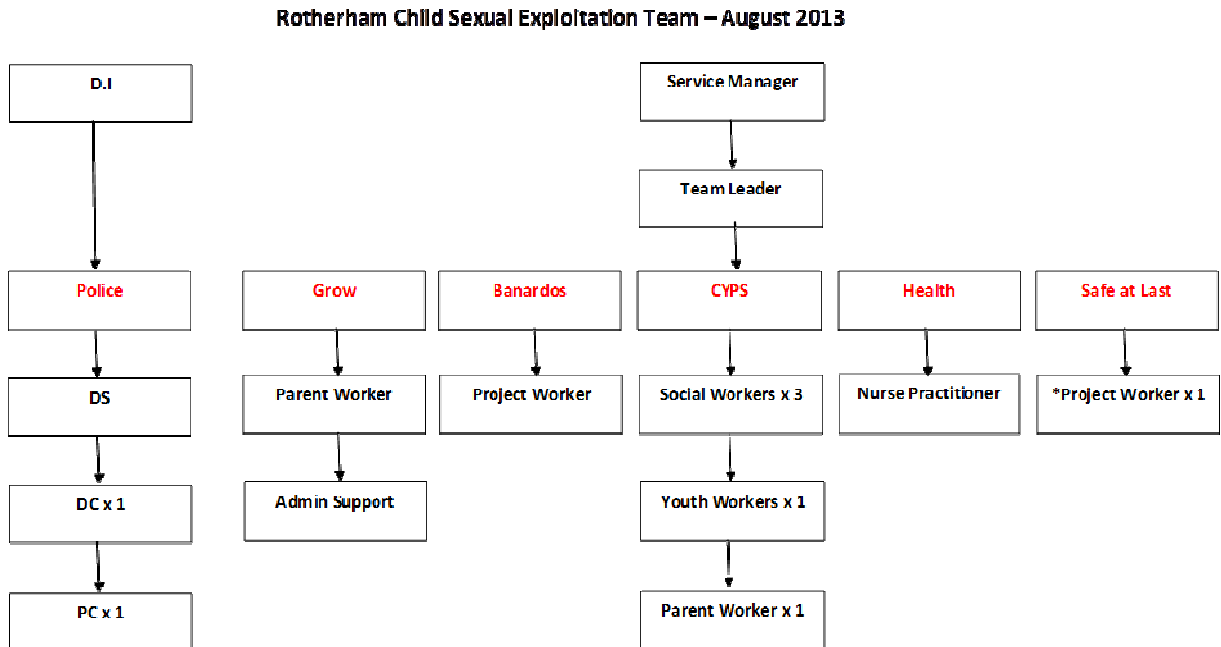
As a result the team was established following the submission of a proposal to RMBC in October 2012. The document presented to the Council does not contain a full business plan and does not provide a timeline or a project managed approach that might have been expected, given the financial investment and importance of the issue. This is understandable. At the time of its establishment it was clear that the imperative was to take action and not to engage in lengthy bureaucratic processes that would slow the process of establishing the team down. The paper submitted to the council was designed to address a clear and present need and to put 'boots on the ground' to address a previously under resourced and identified gap in service provision.

All of the partner agencies engaged in the formation of the CSE team appear to have done so with enthusiasm, speed and minimal bureaucratic barriers.

The team is located at Maltby police station. This location receives considerable criticism in both the Barnardo's and HMIC reports. Whilst the initial imperative may have been to find a large enough premises to contain the multi-agency team and deal with some police security issues, the isolated location added to the fact that it is in a police station, make this site unsuitable. Consideration should be given to finding a better location as soon as possible. This forms part of recommendation one contained in section 6.

Structure

The structure of the team is shown below;



Role

The remit of the team currently includes the provision of services directly to children and young people, specialist advice and support to other professionals working directly with children and young people (for example Looked After Children). It provides training and awareness raising to relevant sections of the children's workforce and other relevant stakeholders.

In terms of its direct 'case' work responsibilities with young people and their families, the CSE Team receives referrals directly from the Contact and Referral Team (CART) and intelligence is also received directly from other sources, including the police and the multi-agency CSE silver group. The circumstances, needs of and risks to young people referred to the team vary greatly and range across the continuum of need; some requiring early help and support, some cases which are more complex and those who are at risk of harm, requiring protection.

One challenge for the team is to manage its priorities within existing resources, whilst attempting to fulfil what is expected of it. The CSE team has continued to develop over the past 12 months, increasing in resources and the multi-disciplinary approach. However, the team should not be seen as the single point of service delivery for all CSE related provision and should be part of an integrated response to CSE in terms of universal, targeted and other specialist services.

There is a need to review the longer term operational plan for the team, including its remit and the service specification, ensuring that there are clear agreed criteria and pathways, for example with the Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS), in order that young people and their families receive the right level of service at the right time. This will ensure that the service response and outcomes delivered by the CSE Team is firmly in the context of a wider continuum of provision and is sustainable both in the short and longer term.

The Review Team conducted interviews with senior managers in the IYSS who supported the view that there could be better integration and support between IYSS and the CSE Team.

The CSE Team should develop these relationships with the Integrated Youth Support Service and have specific service pathways in place to support these arrangements which forms part of recommendation one contained in section 6.

The Review Team were also concerned that the role of the CSE team is not fully understood by all stakeholders at all levels. There is clearly an expectation that the team are able to deal with all issues relating to CSE. The Review Team was concerned that the CSE team may find itself swamped with the expectations placed upon it both in the short and longer term.

The dangers of this lack of clarity around role are twofold; firstly, that without the implementation of recommendation 9 the number of referrals would become untenable given the capacity of the team and the need to work intensively with some children and young people over a long period. Secondly, that the expectation that this team were the totality of the response to CSE in Rotherham would be likely to raise the expectation around their capabilities to an unrealistic level and in the longer term serve to de-skill the mainstream workforce. Should it fail in any regard, Rotherham would again find itself under severe criticism.

Whilst this review does not dwell on or examine the past role of Risky Business there cannot be another failure of a team, who having been set up to deal with CSE, fail under the weight of expectation placed upon it.

The role of the CSE Team including its remit and responsibilities need to be reviewed, defined and communicated to all stakeholders and this forms part of recommendation one at section 6.

Governance, Management and Accountability

In any multi-agency, integrated team there will be difficulties in terms of management and governance. Often senior managers are reluctant to forego control over their resources and reach agreement with others on this issue. Staff are often used to their own culture of working, legal and procedural frameworks and supervision and accountability structures with resultant barriers to changing to new structures and processes.

This is the case with the current team. The structure chart above shows where the challenges of management exist. The team currently exists in separate co-located units,

with no single manager overseeing the team and ensuring that the overall work of the team is coherent and joined up.

The Review Team interviewed key staff and managers in the CSE team and were impressed with the passion and commitment that was clearly evident. In effect the social work team manager and the detective sergeant jointly manage the team. Both of these roles are permanent and exclusive to the team. These individuals are line managed by managers who have other significant key responsibilities, one of them based remotely from the PPU where the team is based. The police element of the team is managed by a detective inspector who has responsibility for the Police Public Protection Unit and the team manager is managed by the CYPs Service Manager for Borough Wide Services, which includes the Contact and Referral Team, Duty Social Work Teams and the children's social care Out of Hours Team.

The Review Team were concerned with the level of expectation placed on the two key managers in the CSE Team. Whilst dealing with day-to-day supervision issues they are also called upon to provide performance reports, progress papers, delivering some aspects of training and engaging with stakeholders across the board. Whilst their individual experience and commitment is not in question, the level of expectation is too high and they are engaging in strategic activity rather than the front line delivery of the identified in the CSE delivery plan and as part of day to day family support and child protection activity.

It was also noted that the two local authority social workers based in the team are on temporary contracts until mid-2014. In terms of continuity for the team and not least some of the young people and families, urgent considerations should be given to the permanence of these positions.

The appointment of a dedicated senior manager to run the CSE team and take responsibility for strategic management, partnership development, performance management, financial management, communication and marketing strategies would prove hugely beneficial. Whilst this would involve a considerable investment, it would prove to be the next big step forward in the management of CSE issues in the Borough. It would enable staff across agencies and the public, media and politicians to have a clearly identified individual who was responsible and accountable for the delivery of the CSE strategy 2013-16.

Consideration should be given to the appointment or secondment of a senior manager, put in place to manage the CSE Team in its entirety and to take the Lead role in CSE management in the Borough. This forms part of recommendation one in section 6

Performance and Activity Data

In September 2013 the CSE team had 88 cases they were actively engaged with. A profile analysis of the children and young people in those cases is contained at Appendix D.

To September 2013 the team reported the following work;

- 51 Contacts relating to 27 children
- 26 Referrals relating to 26 children

- 11 Initial Assessments completed by CSE team *
- 4 Core Assessments completed by CSE team *
- 9 Schools engaged since April, over 872 pupils involved
- 89 Cases open to social care, 3 of which are boys
- 31 Cases open to parenting
- 38 Joint investigations
- 38 Police referrals into PPU
- 10 Abduction notices served
- 3 Attrition visits
- 10 Ward Members trained
- 24 Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators trained
- Training planned for the 8 Ward Members identified still to train
- Training planned for Parish Councillors
- Training planned for School Governors
- 21 Staff undertaken LSCB multi-agency training

The team clearly has engagement across numerous aspects of CSE and is involved in a wide array of initiatives.

There was no evidence of a structured tasking and coordinating process within the Team and this may result in a fragmented approach to work, with the Team accepting more and more referrals and responsibility until they become over capacity to respond to the priorities.

The CSE Team should adopt a formal tasking and coordinating process and this forms part of recommendation one contained at 6.

The Review Team was of the view that the first signs of the Team being subsumed by the level of work were apparent. The Team Manager and her Line Manager had agreed a Social Worker from the CSE Team would be located in the CART each day to assist in filtering CSE referrals. This was to ensure that only those referrals meeting agreed criteria would be passed through to the CSE Team.

The positioning of a CSE dedicated Social Worker within the CART to filter referrals is evidence of a lack of a methodical and process driven approach to allocation of work to the CSE Team from the 'front door'. Locating a CSE Team worker in the CART does not solve the problem and is not a good use of this resource, whilst it was an understandable 'quick fix', a more efficient and permanent solution needs to be found.

There needs to be more clarity around the role of the CSE Team. In interviews with Children's Social Care staff there was clearly confusion as to the exact role the CSE Team were taking. The CART receives an average of 800 contacts per month (only 10 of which become CSE referrals) and staff have high individual workloads. As a consequence, it is not surprising that, without absolute clarity, there may be a tendency to re-allocate referrals to the CSE Team, whether they meet the agreed threshold or not, and whether there should be pathways developed for those cases lower down the continuum of need.

It seems logical that social workers and supervisors within the CART should have received sufficient training to determine whether a referral merits a CSE Team response based on agreed thresholds and criteria. There should be a clearly laid out protocol between the CART and the CSE Team and an understanding within the CART of the role that the CSE Team plays in responding to CSE. There should be no reason to re-locate a member of the CSE Team into the CART.

Process mapping needs to be undertaken and CSE pathways developed so that there are clear workflows between the various teams within Children's Social Care, the Early Help Assessment Team and other services in a position to respond to lower level CSE referrals. This forms part of recommendation one in section 6.

Whilst the above highlights some areas where further development is required, it is also important to recognise the successes of the CSE Team not only in terms of arrests and prosecutions but from the perspective of children and young people. The following case example, based on a girl involved with the CSE Team, serves to indicate the complex nature of CSE in the context of wider family and environmental factors, and the commitment of those working with her and the family to bring about positive changes.

Case Example (the name and some details have been changed for confidentiality)

Gemma is a 13 year girl who was referred to the Sexual Exploitation Team by her school following concerns where she was overheard telling a friend that she was pregnant. The concerns included the relevance of her age as well as the family background and circumstances that increased her vulnerability. Gemma has experienced previous family breakdown and she presently lives with other family members. This is not the first family breakdown and she has previously lived with relatives and has also been Looked After by the Local Authority.

Gemma is a very vulnerable young woman who can present quite challenging and, at times, conflicting behaviours; sometimes shouting, smoking and swearing, and at other times playing with dolls and toys and presenting as a much younger child. She does not have any consistent and mutually supportive friendships and she has experienced a significant amount of change in her life. When at primary school she found out that the man she believed to be her father was, in fact, not. She also says that she does not have positive memories about some of her mother's partners as she witnessed domestic violence as a younger child.

Effective partnership working, information sharing, engaging with the child and a robust team around the child approach have been key factors within this case in effectively supporting Gemma and the family. Regular meetings with and involvement of the adults and Gemma in this process have ensured their continued involvement and that their voices are being heard and taken into account. It is clear through the work that Gemma is now undertaking with the social worker that there is a developing level of trust which means that she feels secure enough to begin to explore some very sensitive issues in terms of her experiences and her emotions. The social worker has established this meaningful relationship through being child centred, persistent and consistent by ensuring there was a focus on issues that mattered to Gemma and assisting her to look at how she can achieve

her short and long term goals. The multi-agency core assessment in this case provided a clear analysis of risk as well as identifying the impact on Gemma and the family. The resultant care plan also identified what support was needed to be put in place to ensure that the risks were reduced in terms of CSE, as well as trying to support the family to be reunited.

At the point of referral it appeared that Gemma was potentially vulnerable to CSE but through effective information sharing and building up a meaningful relationship with Gemma it became clear that she was at a higher level of risk than might have been anticipated. The objectives of the direct work between the social worker and Gemma has been focused on increasing her awareness of healthy relationships and staying safe as well as helping her understand the expectations she has around the emotional availability of her mother, who has rejected her. There is evidence that this intervention has had a positive impact on Gemma's self-esteem and confidence and this is enabling her to better deal with and respond differently to the issues in her life.

The approach and intervention on this case mirrors research findings which indicate that for young people in difficult and complex circumstances there are no 'one-off quick fixes' and it is the continued commitment of all agencies involved with one or two key individuals building positive relationships over time with the child and family members that can deliver effective support.

Provision of Services

Post Abuse support

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child abuse that can have significant long-term effects when it is not recognised and effectively responded to when victims are children. The impact of abuse and the experience of trauma on children are well documented within research but what is also very clear is the importance of having a range of available and accessible services for intervening and responding when children have been abused, from counselling to more specialist services.

Child sexual exploitation is not a diagnosis or mental illness but it is generally agreed that these cases are significantly complex with children tending to present with other impacting risk factors. E.g. education exclusion, offending behaviours, poor parental relationships including limited supervision and personal mental health problems. Therefore universal and specialist health services, education services, youth offending services and voluntary and community based services all play an important role in meeting the needs of young people identified by agencies across the multi-agency partnership as being at risk of, involved in or abused as a result of sexual exploitation.

Within the Barnardo's report "*Meeting the needs of sexually exploited children in London*" Practitioners highlighted the difficulty of engaging young people in therapeutic work and stressed the importance of accessible and flexible services:

'Young people do not go to counselling enthusiastically so if you happen to work with a young person who wants to speak to someone, you need to strike while the iron's hot.'

It is evident that children who have experienced child sexual exploitation can and do present with a number of common diagnosable psychiatric disorders most obviously P.T.S.D. (post-traumatic stress disorder) but they can also suffer with depression, anxiety based disorders as well as emerging personality and conduct disorders. As was highlighted within *“Tackling child sexual exploitation action plan: progress report – July 2012”*, getting help to deal with what has happened and looking to the future, the report recognised that victims of child sexual exploitation, and their families, are likely to need substantial support in picking up their lives once the exploitation has ended. Such support, from both statutory agencies and voluntary organisations, may be needed over a long period of time. Specialist services can assist agencies in tailoring advice and guidance to a young person’s needs as well as delivering direct interventions where appropriate.

When identifying the therapeutic needs of children who have suffered abuse and experienced trauma that might lead to criminal proceedings, we should also be mindful of the guidance provided by the CPS *“Provision of Therapy for Child Witnesses Prior to a Criminal Trial 2001”*. This practice guidance for pre-trial therapy is primarily for the assistance of child care professionals and lawyers involved in making decisions about the provision of therapeutic help for child witnesses prior to a criminal trial. The guidance makes it clear that the best interests of the child are paramount when deciding whether, and in what form, therapeutic help is given. The decision making process should enable children, who need therapy, to receive it at an appropriate time as well as support them to give their best evidence in criminal proceedings.

The picture within Rotherham is not clear with regard to the needs, availability, flexibility and accessibility of therapeutic services for children who have been or are at risk of sexual exploitation.

A needs assessment and mapping exercise should be undertaken in relation to the provision of post sexual abuse support utilising existing commissioning frameworks which forms part of recommendation three at section 6.

Children Missing & Running Away

The core response for children missing and running away is provided by the Police, SAFE@LAST voluntary sector organisation and Children’s Social Care Services. The police have a dedicated missing from home officer who meets directly with project workers from SAFE@LAST and members of the CSE multidisciplinary Team to share information and review all episodes of children who go missing to build up a picture of risk taking behaviours, potential vulnerabilities and possible signs of Child Sexual Exploitation. SAFE@LAST workers conduct timely return home interviews and this contributes to the overall assessment of risk in relation to CSE. Cases which are indicative of CSE are referred to the CSE Team for further assessment and intervention and all cases of children missing are referred to children’s social care services under the Children Missing from Home and Running Away Protocol which clearly identifies that this issue is one of the indicators for CSE. SAFE@LAST continue to provide their specialist support and advice directly to young people, their parents and carers including Looked After Children living in residential homes

SAFE@LAST also deliver a prevention and education programme in Rotherham, and aims to deliver a range of work on the dangers and risks of running away to Children and Young people across Rotherham. Safety scenarios are delivered to all year 6 children at the South Yorkshire Police Project, Crucial Crew as well as assemblies and workshops in Rotherham Primary and Secondary Schools, holiday projects and activities in Children's Homes and Youth Clubs. The work aims to educate and inform children and young people about keeping safe and the risks and dangers of running away. SAFE@LAST has now delivered the prevention work in Rotherham for 5 years with all the secondary schools working with their Runaways Education Officer. Many schools have included this prevention work into their core curriculum within PSHE lessons. The work is used to promote the SAFE@LAST freephone 24 hour helpline, text service and web chat facility to children and young people so they can access support before, during and after going missing or running away.

Between 1st April 2013 and 31st October 2013 SAFE@LAST delivered their preventative programme to approximately 7771 children and young people in Rotherham.

	Number of Young People
Year 5 and under	7
Year 5 at Crucial Crew	11
Yr 6	10
Year 6 at Crucial Crew	2843
Yr 7 to yr 11	4807
Post GCSE	82

In relation to Looked After Children who have a history of going missing and running away, the Local Authority develops implements a range of strategies in line with children's care plans and local protocols. For example, efforts are made to negotiate with young people in terms of 'coming in' times, together with asking young people to trust residential care workers and pass on the addresses of places they intend to visit. Where possible key work teams have visited properties and spoken to their occupants to determine whether they are safe places to them to be. If there are risks the young person will be engaged in discussions about why permission is not granted to visit particular people or households. In addition, regular contact is made with the young person through the evening to check they are safe and establish what time they intend to return. In previous research, young people have often stated that the main reason they decide to stay out/run away is lack of contact with carers/family during the evening: they feel unwanted and that people do not care where they are or what they are doing. Other strategies include using available transport to collect young people if they have missed their bus and providing engaging and rewarding activities as an alternative to going out and being in vulnerable situations.

Whilst the multi-agency service response for Looked After Children who go missing but are placed in within the borough is reassuring, it seems justified for the LSCB to seek assurance that children placed out of area receive a similar high standard of service if they go missing. The local authority, as corporate parent for Looked After Children should provide the RSCB with assurance that Looked After Children and Young People placed out of area who go missing receive timely return home interviews which contribute to risk assessments and safety plans. This forms part of recommendations two and three at section 6.

GU Medicine and Contraception and Sexual Health Services (CaSH)

Health professionals delivering contraception and sexual health services have the appropriate awareness, assessment tools, support and collaboration with other agencies to support the CSE agenda. GU Medicine utilises a holistic assessment for girls under the age of 16 yrs which specifically identifies CSE vulnerabilities and risk factors. Support, advice and liaison with other agencies (such as children's social care services and the police) is provided where appropriate by the safeguarding children nurses and CaSH services have a similar questionnaire and mechanisms to identify and refer concerns relating to CSE to the appropriate agencies.

Currently there are pathways being developed in relation to young people for Pharmacists to utilise in conjunction with the emergency hormonal contraception service provision and this is also a welcome step.

Licensing and Hospitality Sector

The work of the CSE Team also involves collaborative working with the Council's Licensing Authority. Working effectively with licensing and enforcement officers, these services are able to identify areas and individuals of concern and share information, providing evidence that can help to protect children, lead to licenses being revoked and potentially lead to convictions or disruption activity from the police.

Recently the local hotel sector has been engaged in awareness raising and training in relation to CSE and Trafficking and this will continue into 2014 with the regional launch of the national "Say Something if you See Something Campaign".

Performance and Quality Assurance

In terms of the way in which performance is managed there were some gaps in that process.

From July 2013 a quarterly report is submitted to the Council Cabinet and a copy of the November 2013 report can be found here: <http://modgovapp/mgChooseDocPack.aspx?ID=12428> This is a comprehensive report on activity undertaken and provides a considerable detail, explaining progress and performance against the agreed CSE strategy.

Whilst there is a transparent reporting of CSE activity at a strategic level, there was no evidence, at the tactical level, of anything other than a reporting of the 'numbers'. This is not a performance management process but a performance reporting process. In addition to a stronger tasking and coordinating function within the team, performance management should be conducted through the CSE and Performance Sub Groups of the RLSCB and senior managers of those agencies involved held to account at the RLSCB Board meeting.

A more formal and SMART performance management system needs to be established under the governance of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and this forms part of recommendation two in section 6.

A victim profile was undertaken of the 88 cases (children and young people) open to the CSE Team in September 2013 – refer Appendix D. The profile only included the cohort of children and young people actively and directly involved with the CSE Team and does not include those who are receiving indirect support because they are the responsibility of other social work teams or services (e.g. Looked After Children and those known to the Voluntary Sector).

Regular use of Victim / Service User profiling should be utilised to further understand the needs across the borough and the multi-agency service response that is required and this forms part of recommendations two and three in section 6.

Risk Assessment

A subsequent audit of the cases allocated the CSE team revealed that the agreed completed risk assessment was not on the child's file in approximately 80% of cases, although some of these are in a backlog waiting to be scanned onto the system. It was reported that the Risk Assessment tool was not fit for purpose but there is no evidence that a suitable replacement has been or is being developed. Although a CSE risk assessment tool does not replace CAF, Initial or Core Assessments when assessing children's needs and risk, it can assist in identifying specific risks and protective factors in relation to CSE.

An agreed risk assessment tool which is fit for purpose should be developed and implemented as soon as possible. This forms part of recommendation three at section 6.

A programme of multi-agency auditing should be introduced in order to evaluate the effectiveness of service provision and outcomes for children and young people at risk of CSE. This forms part of recommendation t

4. CSE Training

Training and staff awareness raising in relation to CSE has been delivered widely on both a single and multiagency basis. However there are some gaps in terms of identifying those for whom the training is a must/mandated and have not attended and those aspects of the wider workforce who may come into contact with children and families (e.g. where lower level awareness raising through targeted communications work or E-learning has not taken place). It is positive to note that work has commenced with the hotel sector in Rotherham and that this is part of a wider South Yorkshire initiative for the hospitality, leisure and retail sectors.

A longer term training and awareness strategy is required in order to keep the workforce skilled and knowledgeable year on year.

A summary of training as described in November 2013 is found below. This does not include the various mandatory training or training in which CSE forms an element of other professional training.

Numbers attending training and/or awareness raising Events	2012/13	2013/14
Police Supervising Officers trained in CSE	110	-
Ward Members trained in CSE	45	15
Senior Managers trained in CSE	19	-
Staff undertaken multi-agency training on CSE	171	48
Multi-agency staff trained on the lessons learned from the Child 'S' Serious Case Review	175	17
Ward Members attended 'one off' Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber conference	36	Not applicable 'one off event'
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators trained	-	24
Parish Councillors trained	-	11
Number of under 18 college students engaged in CSE awareness raising	-	40
Number of secondary schools engaged in CSE awareness raising with pupils	13	15
Number of pupils involved in CSE awareness raising (through the above schools)	911	887

5. Compliance with National Guidance and Standards

Over the last two years there has been an unprecedented number of reports, inspections and reviews into how various agencies deal with CSE. This has resulted in a number of action plans and recommendations being produced.

In some cases these plans and recommendations contradict each other and often they are completed reactively to an event and are driven by public or political concern.

In addition, Ofsted has moved from developing a multi-agency inspection framework to a single agency inspection that began in November 2013. Ofsted have also begun to undertake inspections of LSCBs.

HMIC has similarly changed its inspection protocols being statutorily obliged to consider taking PCC commissions in addition to their published programme of work.

Child safeguarding now has its highest ever status and every tragic case brings new recommendations and criticisms of service which rightly require a response.

During this review we have established that the Rotherham CSE strategy and action plan is based around national best practice including the ACPO Child Sexual Exploitation action plan and the DfE Tackling Child Exploitation Action Plan.

In addition the RLSCB action plan incorporates those recommendations contained in the Home Affairs Select Committee report.

In this fast moving area the Review Team decided that there was little point in examining every single recommendation and testing how well Rotherham is responding. For instance, the Review Team established that there were 45 recommendations in the DfE action plan alone. In November 2013 at the time the report was being written the Children's Commissioner for England published a report into CSE in Gangs and Groups that contained a further 13 recommendations. Additionally, in the month the report was being prepared, there were two highly significant serious case reviews with accompanying recommendations. This was followed most recently, and at the time of writing, by a further report from the Office of the Children's Commissioner and the University of Bedfordshire.

As we describe in section 3.3 of this report Rotherham currently has a Children and Young People's Improvement Panel. This group was established to ensure that recommendations from a previous Ofsted inspection report were put in place to assist move the Borough out of government intervention status. This group has remained in place to ensure that plans remain in place and the Local Authority is 'fit for inspection'. It seems that the RLSCB should consider whether this Board may prove to be the most effective vehicle for monitoring the various national inspection and reviews to ensure Rotherham is able to keep abreast of national best practice.

6. Recommendations

Recommendation One

The role and structure of the Child Sexual Exploitation Team and the CSE delivery plan should be reviewed as part of an ongoing process for future strategic development. In particular, consideration should be given to the structure, location and long term aims and objectives of the team, to ensure clarity of purpose and adequate and appropriate resourcing.

Recommendation Two

The performance management and governance structures around CSE management requires greater clarity. A mapping exercise of current structures, together with a more proactive and intrusive performance management regime, should be considered by all agencies and in particular the LSCB.

Recommendation Three

Future plans should be communicated to both victims and professionals so that there is no doubt about the seriousness with which CSE is taken. Professionals should be provided with the tools to ensure they are able to support victims in an appropriate and timely manner.

7. Conclusion

This review was carried out between mid-September and the end of November 2013. It was conducted under agreed terms of reference described in section 2.2.

There are only three recommendations in this report but they are formed from a wide range of issues which are signposted throughout. In broad terms, this review was a diagnostic covering all aspects of the way in which child sexual exploitation (CSE) is managed in the Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham. It describes the tools and resources that are currently available to the relevant agencies and the effectiveness of their use.

As I stated at the beginning of this report it is not an inspection and should be considered alongside those other reports and inspections that have been published in 2013. There are now a range of reports to view and the information contained in all of them, considered collectively, gives a comprehensive picture of the effectiveness of the multi-agency working in this area at the end of 2013.

I believe the findings from this review to be positive, but it does highlight those areas that need further development work. That should hardly be a surprise; this is a dynamic and fast changing area of business for all of the organisations, set in a time where they have to consider their own priorities according to available resources. I do not underestimate the difficulties faced by organisations, and given these current restrictions I believe the progress made in Rotherham up to 2013 is remarkable.

In positive terms the level of passion, drive and determination shown at a senior level across all of the agencies is palpable. At the front line staff are committed and enthusiastic, which is particularly impressive given the morale sapping inspection and review programmes taking place.

There is a clear strategy to tackle CSE with an associated action plan based on national best practice. There has been a significant financial commitment to a multi-agency CSE team, which is staffed with committed and hardworking staff, and it is undertaking much good work and is making a difference.

There is clear evidence that CSE is a high priority and that is reflected in its status at senior strategic meetings and at Cabinet level within the Council.

In terms of areas for improvement the following areas need attention;

- The CSE team needs to be provided with a dedicated senior manager. This would ensure better cohesion between Children's Social Care Services, the Police and the CSE team. It would also provide the Borough with a senior person who could deal with all CSE issues and drive through, not only the action plan, but also those recommendations that have been agreed from this and other reports. A 'dedicated' senior manager for CSE may only need to be a short-term appointment but would provide a focus to this work.

- The CSE team terms of reference need to be reviewed and referral thresholds and the response across the continuum of need re-considered. Put simply, there needs to be greater clarity on the role and remit of the CSE team. This should not detract from the hard work already undertaken, but without the required clarity of purpose there is a danger the team will be subsumed in a mountain of referrals and case work and will lose focus.
- There would be some obvious advantages to moving the CSE team to a more suitable location. I accept this would require a massive commitment, particularly from the Police and Local Authority, which may be unrealistic at this time, but should nevertheless be given due consideration.
- The CSE team needs to develop closer links with the Integrated Youth and Support Service to ensure that they continue to develop a 'Prevent' approach to their work and they should undertake a 'needs' assessment and mapping exercise of available support.
- Whilst the CSE strategy is clear the associated action plan, whilst comprehensive, lacks some clarity and should be reviewed to ensure that actions and milestones are congruent with SMART criteria.
- The CSE sub group is a practical and effective group. However, it would benefit from a review of membership and terms of reference to ensure it remains strategic in its approach and directs the 'Silver' group to meet the action plan milestones.
- The LSCB is well supported but needs to improve its level of challenge and, in particular, develop a more intrusive and challenging performance management framework.
- The various multi-agency partnership forums need to be reviewed to ensure they all serve a valuable purpose and fit together to improve outcomes at the front end. Each multi-agency forum appears to have been set up in response to a specific problem (for instance the Improvement Panel set up in response to an Ofsted Inspection report) and in some ways they seem to have grown organically. Whilst these groups were all well managed there is confusion, at times, as to their specific purpose and function; and in relation to one another. In other words, there is a need to have unambiguous terms of reference that dovetail to each other, with clear goals and measurable outcomes. This will avoid these groups developing into bureaucratic 'talking shops'.

The report contains some detail but I believe the areas described in this section would be relatively easy to put in place and would have the maximum effect.

There will be many who read this report and view it, and particularly as further cause to lament the work of agencies in Rotherham. I would be disappointed if that were the case. The recommendations are about 'tidying up' structures and processes that are already in place. In many ways it is about fine-tuning what has been developed, along with some

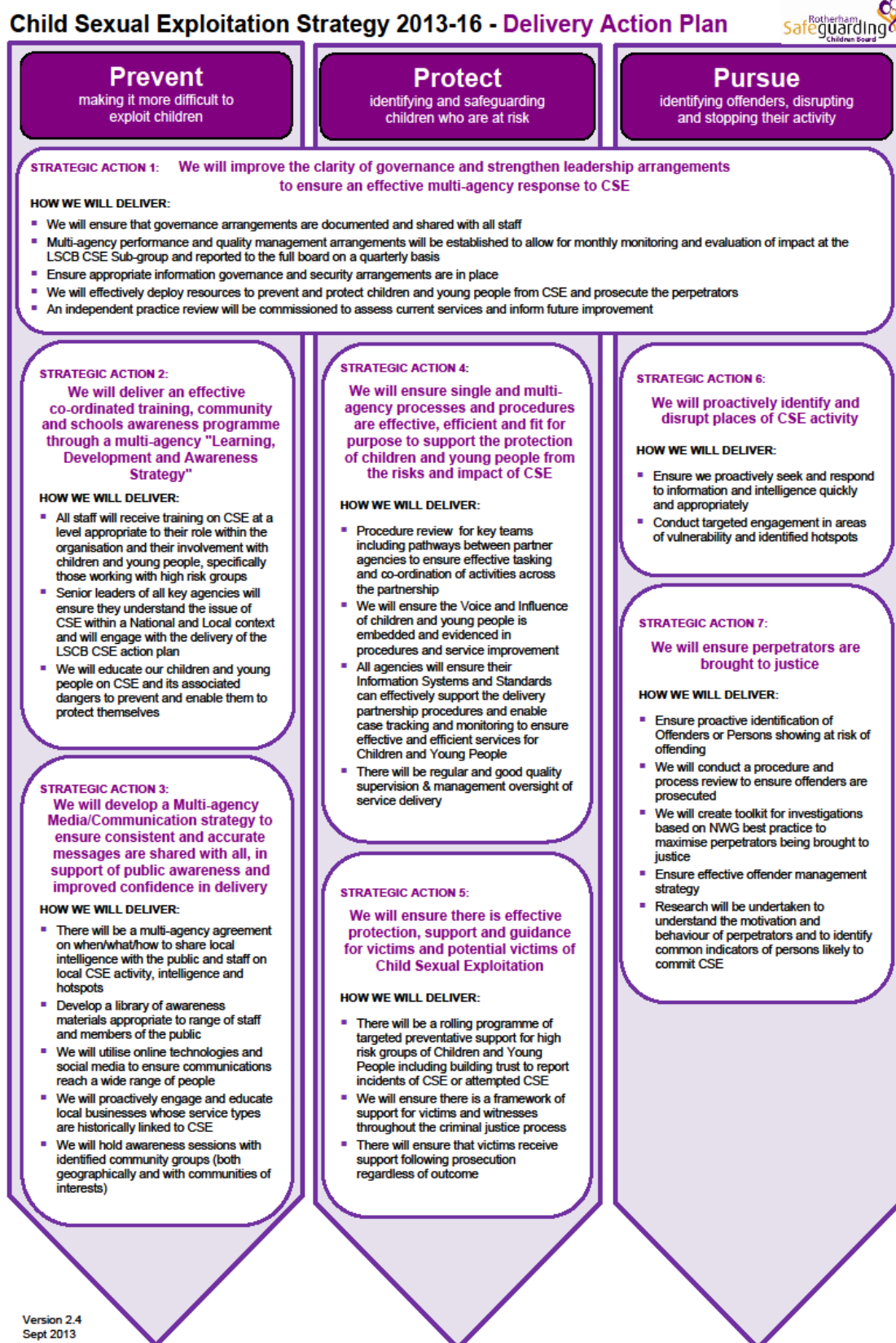
general housekeeping. I believe, based on my previous inspection experience across England and Wales, that Rotherham now finds itself in a better position to tackle CSE than most other Local Authorities and their partners.

I appreciate much has been said and written about this issue and how it is managed in Rotherham. Whilst there is further work still to be done, Rotherham has 'got its act together' in relation to CSE. I am satisfied, as the LSCB Independent Chair, that the progress to date is good and there is a determination and passion at all levels to seek continuous improvement in this area. Senior leaders and managers across the board have developed a strategic approach that is driving through progress and reducing the risk of our children being subjected to sexual exploitation. That drive is reflected in positive outcomes on the front line.

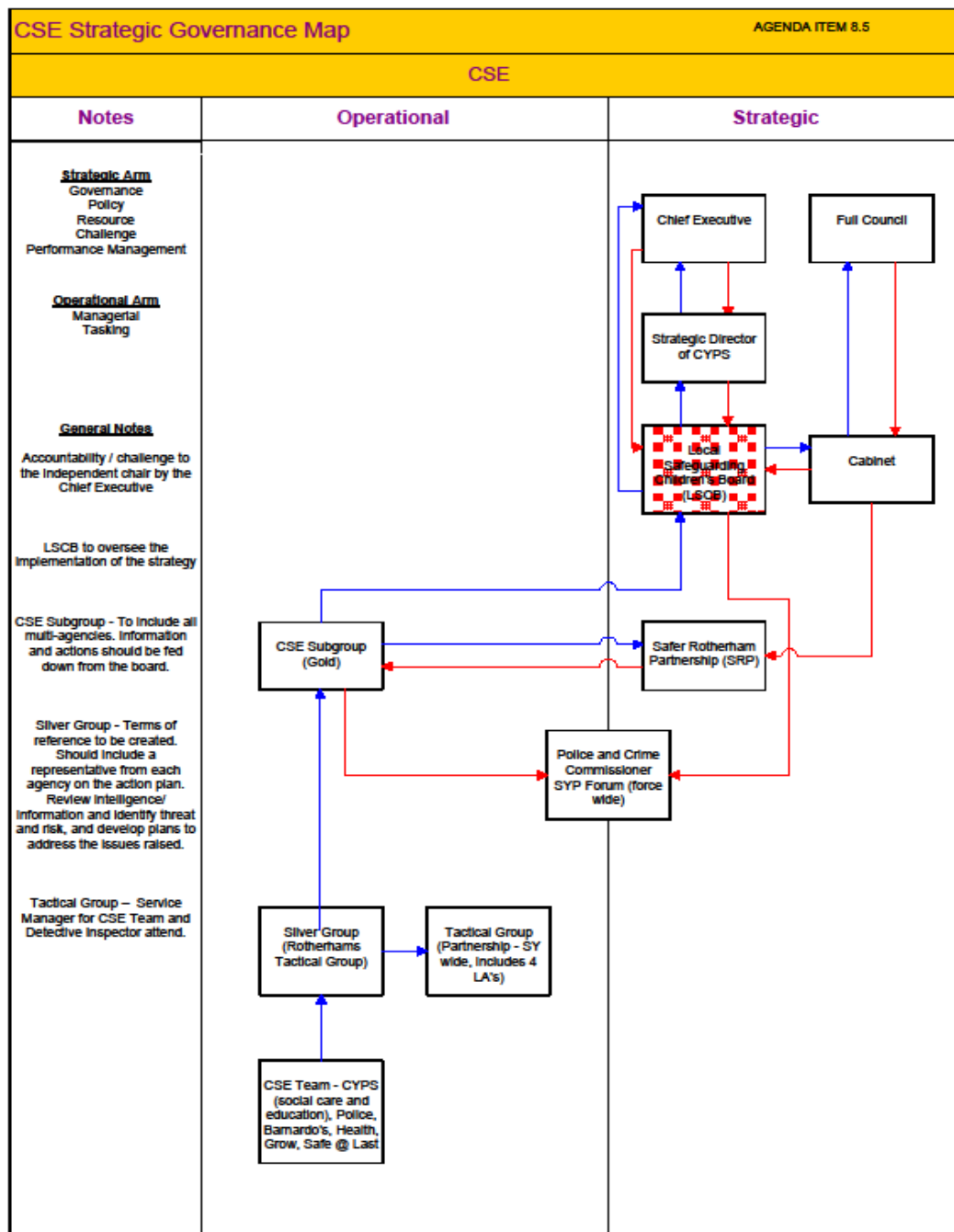
Stephen Ashley
10th December 2013

8. Appendices

Appendix A - CSE Strategy 2013 - 2016

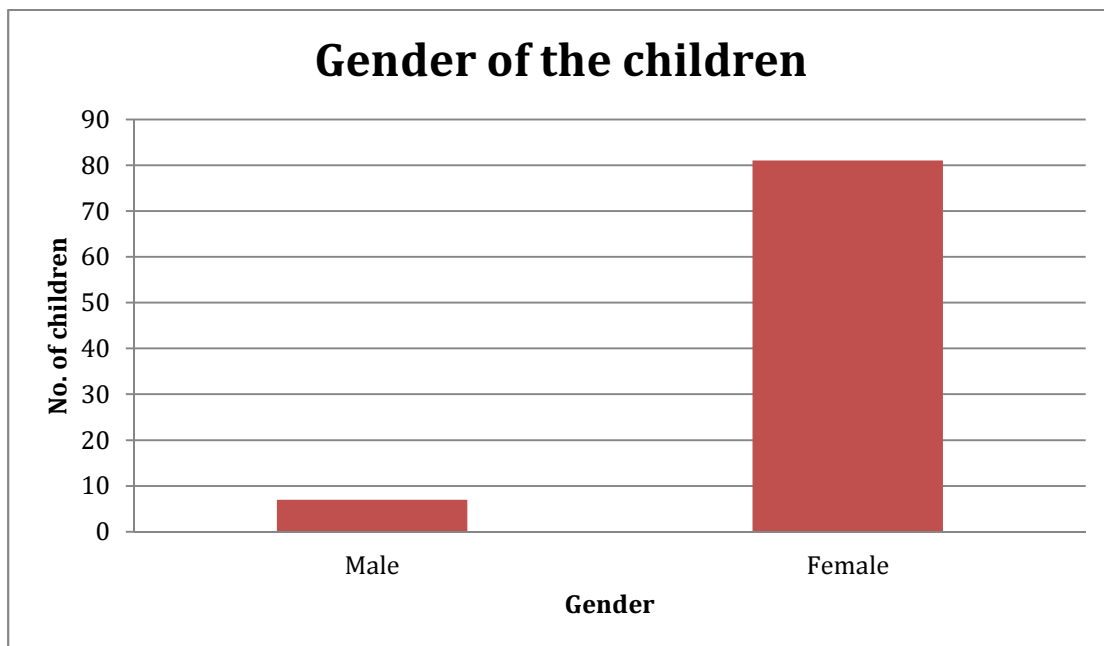
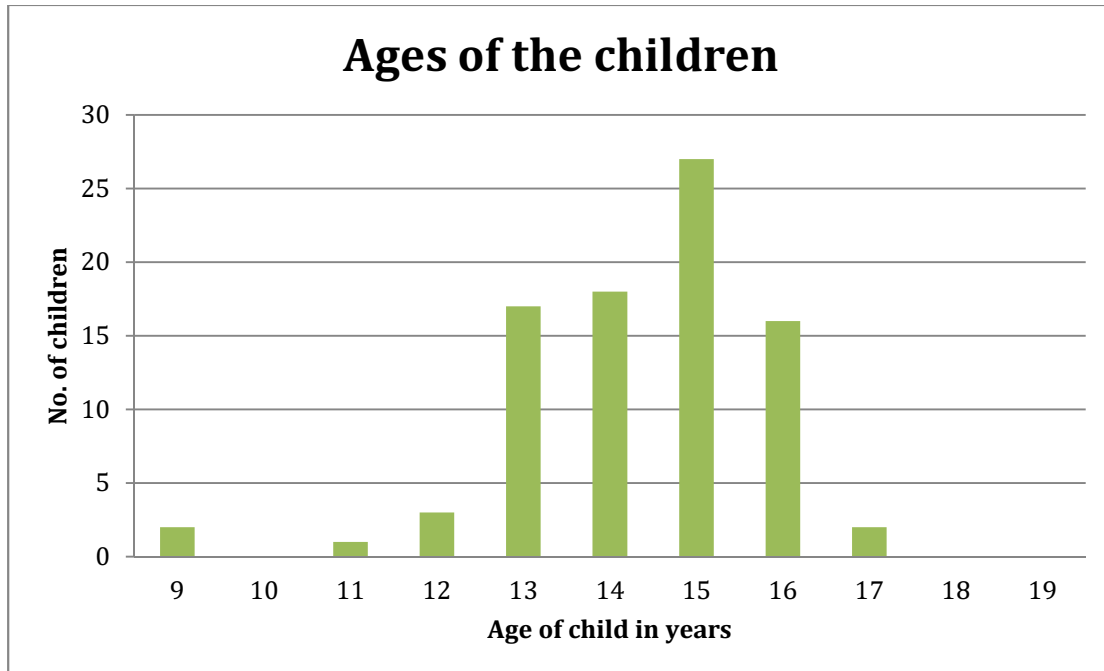


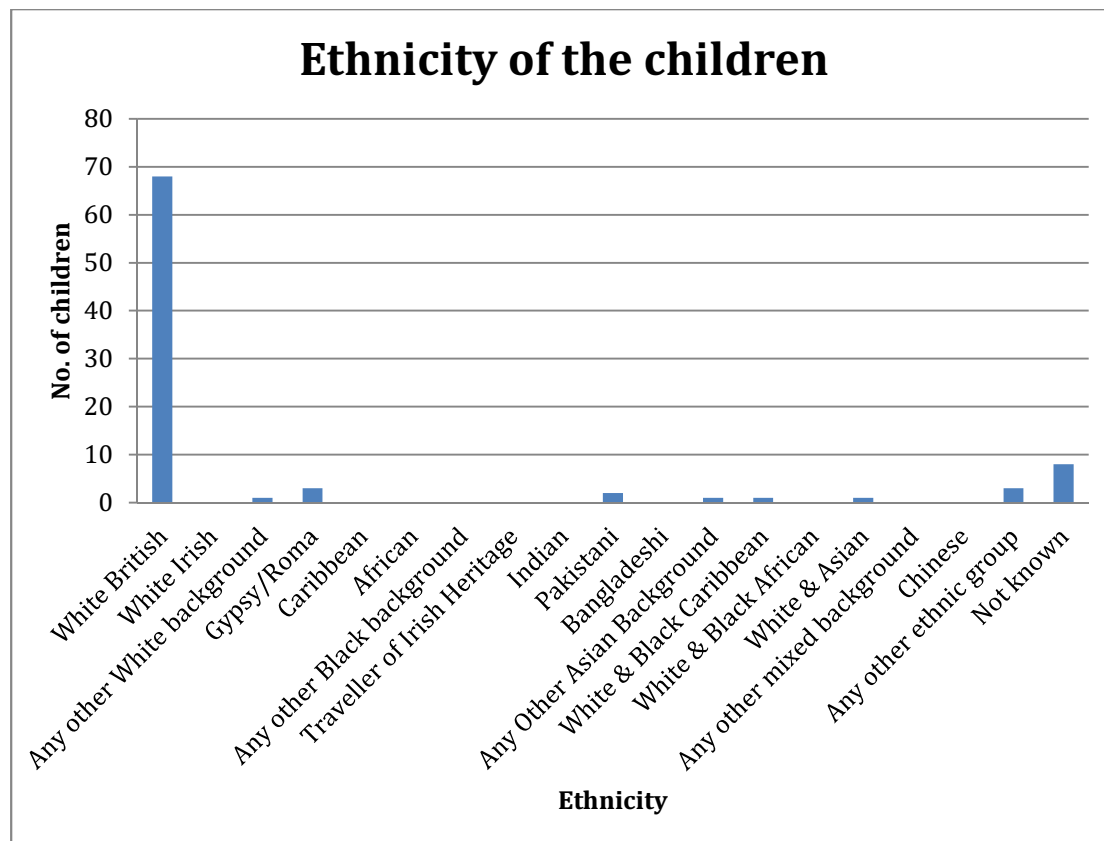
Appendix B - CSE Strategic Governance



Date: 05/08/13 Version: 4

Appendix C – Profile of Children and Young People receiving services from the CSE Team as at September 2013





Appendix D – National Research and Action Plans

Published Date	Title
1998	Whose Daughter Next? Children abused through prostitution: Barnardo's
2009	Whose Child Now?: Barnardo's
2011	Puppet On A String - the urgent need to cut children free from sexual exploitation: Barnardo's
June 2011	Letting Children be Children - Report of an Independent Review of the Commercialisation and Sexualisation of Childhood: Bailey, DfE
June 2011	CSE and Youth Offending: UCL Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science
June 2011	Out of Mind Out of Sight. Breaking Down the Barriers to Understanding Child sexual Exploitation: CEOP
October 2011	What's Going On to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation? How local partnerships respond to child sexual exploitation: University of Bedfordshire
November 2011	Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation. Action Plan: DfE
July 2012	The emerging findings of the Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups, with a special focus on children in care: Office of the Children's Commissioner
2012	University of Bedfordshire 'Self-Assessment tool' to assess progress in protecting children from sexual exploitation: University of Bedfordshire
2012	'Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation. Helping Local Authorities to Develop Effective Responses': Barnardo's and the Local Government Association.
July 2012	Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan. Progress Report: DfE
October 2012	Association of Chief Police Officers: Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan
November 2012	"I thought I was the only one. The only one in the world" The Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation In Gangs and Groups Interim report
March 2013	"If you Shine a Light you will probably find it" Report of a Grass Roots Survey of Health Professionals with Regard to their Experiences in Dealing with Child Sexual Exploitation: Kirtley, National Working Group
June 2013	Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) 'Child Sexual Exploitation and the response to localised grooming'
September 2013	THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE SECOND REPORT FROM THE HOME AFFAIRS COMMITTEE SESSION 2013-14 HC 68 Child sexual exploitation and the response to localised grooming
September 2013	Unheard Voices. The Sexual Exploitation of Asian Girls and Young Women Muslim: Women's Network UK
November 2013	"It's wrong.....but you get used to it" A qualitative study of gang associated sexual violence towards, and exploitation of, young people in England: Office of Children's Commissioner and University of Bedfordshire

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5 th February 2014
3.	Title:	RLSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan 9 Month Progress Report <i>Appendix A – CSE Action Plan on a Page</i> <i>Appendix B – Recommendations of CSE Reviews with links to action plan</i> <i>(All Wards)</i>
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report highlights the achievements made in the first nine months of the CSE Strategy and Action plan and the next steps across it's three key priorities of Prevent, Protect and Pursue.

6. Recommendations

- For cabinet to note progress and endorse the further development areas

7. Proposals and Details

Rotherham's Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy is a three year plan published in April 2013 accompanied by a multi-agency delivery action plan. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) is recognised nationally as one of the most important challenges facing agencies today. It has a serious long term and lasting impact on every aspect of a child or young person's life including their health, physical and emotional wellbeing, educational attainment, personal safety, relationships, and future life opportunities.

In November Cabinet received a six month progress report on the delivery of the plan. This report provides cabinet details further progress achieved in the following quarter (September – December 2013). During this time a number of local independent reviews have now been completed and the Office of the Children's Commissioner's final report into CSE was published. The associated reports outlined a number of recommendations and areas for improvement for local, regional and national services. Details of the recommendations with identified links to Rotherham's current CSE action plan is provided in Appendix B. These findings will help the CSE Sub-Group review and refresh the strategy and action plan for 2014-15 to ensure it is fit for purpose and delivers improved services and outcomes for children, young people and their families.

To aid Members and for reference the 'plan on a page' version of the CSE action plan is provided in Appendix A.

LEADERSHIP

Cross Cutting across Prevent, Protect and Pursue

Strategic Action 1: We will improve the clarity of governance and strengthen leadership arrangements to ensure an effective multi-agency response to CSE

Achievements

Since the last report three independent reviews of Rotherham CSE services have been published;

- HMIC Review of South Yorkshire Police Response to CSE
- Barnardo's Rotherham Practice Review
- Rotherham Local Safeguarding Board Chair Review of Response to CSE

In addition the Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups final national report was published in November.

Each of these reports includes a number of recommendations and highlight areas for improvement. These are detailed in Appendix B, however key themes emerging across the reviews for Rotherham include;

- Clarity and communication of governance
- Further strengthening performance management arrangements
- Reviewing team resources, structures and location
- Increased use of intelligence and analysis to aid pursuit of offenders
- Improving communication with staff and the community

These reports have been welcomed by the RLSCB Sub-group who will be utilising the recommendations to inform and shape the 2014 CSE strategy and action plan review in February.

The Rotherham LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Sub-Group (formerly the Gold Group) and multi-agency Operational Managers group are now well established, driving the delivery of the CSE action plan and taking remedial action on any areas of concern or slippage against timescales. In his recent report Steve Ashley (Independent Chair of Rotherham's LSCB) stated that 'progress made in Rotherham up to 2013 is remarkable'.

The Rotherham reviews also all commented on the passion, determination, commitment and enthusiasm of both front-line staff and senior managers across agencies to eradicate CSE.

Next Steps

As mentioned above a review of the annual review of the CSE strategy and associated action plan will begin in February.

However partners are not waiting for the strategy and action plan review to be completed and work to address these areas and other recommendations has already begun.

This includes the agreement by partners to create a central Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (known as a MASH) for children and young people. This will involve moving the CSE Team, other Public Protection Unit officers, voluntary and community service colleagues, and social services Contact and Referral Team to Riverside this will allow improved joint working not only for CSE but also for Domestic Abuse, anti-social behaviour and the wider safeguarding children agenda. In addition front facing work with young people will be held at Eric Manns. This will be major step forward for Rotherham but due to the number and variety of agencies the project will be very complex to achieve. It is envisaged that this will be fully completed September 2014. A separate report on the MASH development will be brought to Cabinet in the near future.

In addition the Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police has confirmed that all the HMIC recommendations have already been addressed. The Police and Crime Commissioner has also outlined improvements to be made at a force wide level including amalgamating the force CSE team and historic review team to increase flexibility to respond to CSE issues in the county. The PCC will also fund an additional police Child Protection Officer in Rotherham and there will be an increase in detective constables in the District Investigation Offices to enhance resilience and capacity to manage workloads.

The Independent Inquiry of historic CSE in Rotherham commissioned by the RMBC Chief Executive has begun however the findings will not be published until June.

PREVENT

Making it more difficult to exploit children

Strategic Action 2: We will deliver an effective co-ordinated training, community and schools awareness programme through a multi-agency "Learning, Development and Awareness Strategy"

Achievements

In the last quarter a total of 707 partnership staff, business representatives, parish councillors and young people have attended CSE training workshops taking the total for this financial year to 1560. In addition, this year our Integrated Youth Support Service have undertaken informal curriculum sessions on CSE and related issues with 3209 young people.

The CSE Sub-Group have been fortunate to see an early demonstration and be consulted on the new National Working Group (NWG) e-learning package for CSE. This will be used both locally and nationally as a universal training package available to staff who need an awareness and understanding of CSE to enable them to identify those at risk and make referrals, but aren't necessarily working directly with children and young people. A local rollout programme is currently being agreed whilst the NWG finalised the product.

As detailed in the previous report, to ensure the more specialist training reaches all staff who work directly with Children and Young People a 'Train the Trainer' approach was agreed by the CSE Sub-Group. These trainers were trained in November and are cascading the training in their organisation. Further support is planned to utilise this resource pool and support their further development.

Rotherham Healthy Schools PSHCE scheme of work for primaries has now been updated to include age appropriate CSE materials and was launched in the Autumn term at PSHE leads meeting.

CSE is incorporated within the training for school safeguarding leads and additional specific sessions have been held for school safeguarding leads and school governors during the last school term.

Next Steps

The RLSCB Learning and Improvement Sub-group are currently working on finalising the arrangements for roll out of the NWG e-learning package and developing a CSE training programme for 2014/15 and longer term.

Strategic Action 3: We will develop a Multi-agency Media/Communication strategy to ensure consistent and accurate messages are shared with all, in support of public awareness and improved confidence in delivery

Achievements

All organisations are now working towards the joint South Yorkshire Communication Strategy and a specific multi-agency group is in place to oversee it's delivery.

As detailed within previous reports strategies are in place to work across wider multi-agency partnerships including businesses, social landlords and communities. In particular significant work has been undertaken to build relationships and awareness with local hotels and guest house, and in October we held a CSE awareness workshop their staff.

Next Steps

The South Yorkshire CSE launch which will run parallel to the national 'Say something if you see something' campaign, is to be held at New York Stadium on the 4th February and is expected to be well attended by colleagues from across the partnership. The event will launch a poster, billboard and leaflet campaign aimed at raising awareness amongst communities and other stakeholders.

Data Summary - PREVENT				
MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14		Direction of Travel since Sept Rpt
		Upto Sept	Upto Dec	
Numbers attending training and/or awareness raising Events				
Police Supervising Officers trained in CSE	110	0	0	➔0
Ward Members trained in CSE	45	15	15	➔0
Senior Managers trained in CSE	19	0	0	➔0
Staff undertaken multi-agency training on CSE	171	48	48	➔0
Multi-agency staff trained on the lessons learned from the Child 'S' Serious Case Review	175	17	54	⬆37
Ward Members attended 'one off' Local Government Yorkshire and the Humber conference	36	0	0	➔0
Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators trained	-	24	24	➔0
Parish Councillors trained	-	11	11	➔0
RMBC - CYPS Staff	-	0	30	⬆30
NHS Rotherham / TRFT (Hospital)	-	0	25	⬆25

Data Summary - PREVENT				
MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14		Direction of Travel since Sept Rpt
		Upto Sept	Upto Dec	
Schools Staff and Governors	-	0	25	↑25
Voluntary or independent organisations	-	0	9	↑9
Health Other	-	0	1	↑1
RMBC Other	-	0	1	↑1
Local Business representatives	-	0	6	↑6
TOTAL	556	115	232	↑97
Number attending 'Train the Trainer' courses	0	0	8	↑8
CSE Team - Training and awareness of Children and Young People				
Number of under 18 college or 6th Form students engaged in CSE awareness raising	-	40	156	↑116
Number of secondary schools engaged in CSE awareness raising with pupils	13	15	16	All schools reached
Number of pupils involved in CSE awareness raising (through the above schools)	911	887	1320	↑433
IYSS Awareness Raising via Informal Curriculum sessions				
Number of sessions with young people on 'Relationships'	<i>Not collected</i>	-	2207	New
Number of sessions with young people on 'Sexual Health'	<i>Not collected</i>	-	750	New
Number of sessions with young people on 'CSE'	<i>Not collected</i>	-	252	New
Youth Start attendances by young people for;				
Sexual Health	<i>Not collected</i>	-	1005	New
Sex and Relationship Education	<i>Not collected</i>	-	1173	New

The contents of the data and performances will continue to be developed and therefore measures may change/expand in the future.

PROTECT

Identifying and safeguarding children who are at risk

Strategic Action 4: We will ensure single and multi-agency processes and procedures are effective, efficient and fit for purpose to support the protection of children and young people from the risks and impact of CSE

Achievements

The Nurse Practitioner has now joined the CSE Team. This post is funded by Public Health but given professional line management by Rotherham Hospital Foundation Trust. The role will enable better sharing of information on children who present concerns and high level risk factors.

Barnardo's have funded four satellite workers, one in each South Yorkshire CSE Teams. These workers contribute to existing CSE provision through a combination of individual casework and awareness, with specific focus on encouraging access to support for those who are reluctant to engage with statutory services and/or those who do not perceive themselves to be at risk.

Rotherham's worker joined our team in November and currently has a caseload of 10 young people (capped by Barnardo's at 12) whose risk level ranges from low through to high. It is still early days but the worker has managed to engage well with most of the young people open to her ensuring that these young people access support services. Two particular successes are:

- The worker has managed to meet weekly with a 'high risk' young person who would not engage with any other service. Following engagement the Young Person began to re-engage in education at a PRU after months of little to no education in mainstream school.
- After encouraging and supporting one young person to attend health appointments she has now been diagnosed with a serious underlying health need that has up until now gone unrecognised and may have contributed to the identified concerns and vulnerabilities for the young person.

Following revised national guidelines and policies the local procedure for children missing from home, care and education has been redrafted and is currently being consulted on

Relationships have been strengthened with Victim Support and the local Licensing Board. Victim Support are part of the CSE Sub-Group membership and actively involved in the action plan and the Licensing Manager now attends the Operational Managers Group (Silver Group) to ensure concerns and intelligence is shared and influences licensing decisions.

There have been 57 new contacts into the social care CSE team this quarter taking the total for the year to 123

Next Steps

Following its trial, the review of the regional CSE risk assessment tool has been piloted across South Yorkshire is still ongoing. Following the trial some issues need addressing to ensure its effectiveness and suitability for young people's needs. This review cannot be completed locally in isolation as it is a regional tool however it continues to be used until the new model is developed.

A key development for 2014 will be the specific Young Persons Participation Strategy for CSE. This project will be supported by the Integrated Youth Support Service and will commence at the end of January and will be supported by the Integrated Youth Support Service.

Strategic Action 5: We will ensure there is effective protection, support and guidance for victims and potential victims of Child Sexual Exploitation

Achievements

As reported previously the social care 'front door' process and support specifically for CSE has been clarified and strengthened. Any child who is referred to, or already involved with, Children's Social Care Services and is at potential risk of CSE undergoes a screening process using a bespoke CSE checklist. Where issues are identified the specialised CSE Team will then lead on the assessment for new cases or, if the child is already has social care involvement and is allocated to another key team, they will advise and if needed work with their current social worker to ensure child receives appropriate support.

The CSE Sub-Group have been reassured that support for victims and witnesses is in place during court procedures. For all child witnesses technology to allow evidence in chief to be given by video recorded interview and further evidence by live video link is available and the legal presumption is that this will be used. The Young Witness Service in South Yorkshire arrange pre court visits and explain what special measures are available and have now arranged that demonstrations of the equipment at court can be given on all court familiarisation visits to reduce the anxiety of using unfamiliar equipment and increase confidence. Special measures and other will continue to be reviewed and improved to ensure effectiveness in line with National Guidelines.

All officers across various roles within the police (e.g. operational, PCSOs and call handlers) have received training on CSE and the importance of supporting victims and witnesses of any age.

The children and young people number of cases being supported by the social care section of the CSE team at the end of December was 93. 45 of these cases are led directly by a team member, 7 are with the parenting officer and 38 are involvements with open cases supporting their established social worker.

At the end of November the number of open joint investigations had increased to 30 with the total for the year reaching 115.

The number of reported incidents of runaways between April and December 2013 was 282, (average of 31.3 per month), and involved 97 children. This is an increase on the previous year which averaged at 28.1 incidents per month and involved 121 children.

Safe@Last are commissioned to deliver return to home interviews with young people to try identify and address the reason for the run-away incident and educate the young person on the potential risks they face. They also provide an emergency bed for homeless young people and awareness raising with primary school children through their Crucial Crew project. To ensure this wide range of support is captured RMBC Performance and Quality team are worked with Safe@Last to further develop their suite of performance data. At the end of October had received 230 referrals relating to 87 children.

In August Victim Support launched a new initiative to provide independent and confidential services to young witnesses and victims of crime. The enhanced service is funded through the PCC and provides young people and their families support before, during and after trial so they can give the best evidence in court.

Next Steps

The impact of CSE can be long term and affect many life outcomes resulting in a disproportionate number being involved with statutory services later on in life. The Sub-group are now working with partners in health to commission the development and delivery of a package of long term recovery support for victims following prosecution.

The Police Young People's Partnership Officers (PYPPO) are embedded within the IYSS locality teams and work closely with them and schools around crime and disorder. Through this work they build up positive relationships with young people that assist in reporting and making statements. The police and IYSS are currently reviewing the role of the PYPPO to further strengthen joint working arrangements this will conclude February 2014.

Data Summary - PROTECT				
MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14		Direction of Travel since Sept Rpt
		Upto Sept	Upto Dec	
CSE Team				
Cases currently open to social care CSE Team	69	82	45	Not comparable following data developments also included parenting and involvements
Number of the above who are boys	-	7	3	↓4
Cases open to CSE Team parenting officer	-	-	7	New
Number of other open cases the CSE Team also co-work or support	Was included in open cases	-	38	New
Joint investigations	38 (total)	57 (running total) 28 (currently open)	115 (running total) 30 (currently open) Nov figures	↑58 ↑2
Number of contacts made to social services regarding CSE	437	66	124	↑58
Number of children the above contacts relate to	212	60	113	↑53
Number of contacts leading to a referral	129	49	70	↑39
Number of children the above referrals relate to	119	48	69	↑19
Number of Initial Assessments completed by the CSE Team	13	41	53	↑12
Number of Core Assessments completed by the CSE Team	4	17	28	↑11
Number of police referrals into the PPU	114	60	90 As at end of Nov	↑30
Barnardo's				
Number of cases currently open to Barnardo's outreach work (Rotherham only)	-	-	10	New
Runaways				
Number of reported incidences of children running away from home or care	339	95	282	↑107
Number of children the above runaway incidences relate to	121	43	97	↑54
Safe@Last				
Referrals to Safe@Last	-	182	230	↑48

Data Summary - PROTECT				
MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14		Direction of Travel since Sept Rpt
		Upto Sept	Upto Dec	
			<i>end of Oct</i>	
Number of children in the above referrals to Safe@Last	-	77	87 <i>end of Oct</i>	↑26
Return interviews following 'runaway'	-	26	36 <i>end of Oct</i>	↑10
Safe@last follow up visits	-	143	166 <i>end of Oct</i>	↑23
Number of children involved in the above follow up visits	-	25	39 <i>end of Oct</i>	↑14
GROW				
GROW INVOLVE project (started June 2013)	Projects were not running in 2012/13			
Young People referred to the project		5	12	↑7
Families referred to the project		6	9	↑3
GROW AWARE project (now concluded - data relates to April-June 13)				
Young People referred to the project		6	6	Not applicable project ceased in June
Families referred to the project		6	6	

The contents of the data and performances will continue to be developed and therefore measures may change/expand in the future.

PURSUE

Identifying offenders, disrupting and stopping their activity

Strategic Action 6: We will proactively identify and disrupt places of CSE activity

Achievements

On-going improvements and developments in information and intelligence gathering are enabling Police and the CSE Team to respond quickly and appropriately. Further to the review of police intelligence and development of a new associated framework reported at last quarter, the police have clarified their internal referral routes and have processes in place for recording and assessing all intelligence.

There has been an increase in staffing resources within the CSE team including the recruitment of two CSE police analysts for South Yorkshire. One of which is dedicated to Rotherham and sits within the CSE Team this will enable an improved analysis of intelligence to help partners further understand the problem profile and support the identification of needs, impact and outcomes for young people in relation to CSE. This will then feed into the RMBC Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA) and the police lead Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA).

As previously reported to members in addition to case level work Rotherham Police are also involved in a number of on-going live operations, some of which are being led by neighbouring authorities. A summary of these operations is shared below; however further details of live investigations are confidential:

New since last report;-

- Operation Coral – Investigation into CSE related prostitution. Relatively new operation which is at the intelligence gathering stage.
- Operation Clasp - Intelligence received that girls were being taken to a small local Hotel and being exploited. Police held two nights of observations followed by the execution of a warrant. All rooms searched and intelligence was gained. The owner has been interviewed under caution and further enquiries ongoing
- Operation Guardhouse – Child trafficking case involving a Rotherham child this is being led by Nottinghamshire police

Update on operations already reported;-

- Operation K ALPHABET –8 suspects charged with 71 offences against children. 2 individuals have 42 and 21 charges between them. Update; Case currently at Sheffield Crown Court.

- Operation Klan –two Doncaster men on remand for a range of offences. A number of victims identified, some of whom are from Rotherham. Update; Perpretrators have given guilty pleas at court, currently awaiting sentencing.
- Operation Clover – Still ongoing. This is a joint investigation linked to the recent story in the Times and allegations of abuse from 1994 to 2005
- Operation Carriage – operation targeting Prom season and concerns around ensuring child safeguarding. Update: Working with legal to identify appropriate action against any businesses of concern

Next Steps

Work has started on establishing a process for appropriate information currently held in other systems to be included within Police systems to further enrich intelligence. This is subject to and awaiting a force level decision.

A small sub-group has been formed to develop force-wide tactical options and toolkit around the disruption of offenders.

Strategic Action 7: We will ensure perpetrators are brought to justice

Achievements

As mention within 'Leadership' the independent inquiry commissioned by RMBC to review the previous ways of working and outcomes of CSE cases which were open between 1997 to January 2013 is now underway the findings are expected to be published in June.

A variety of criminal intervention techniques are successfully used to cease CSE activity and potential activity as early as possible before it escalates into serious harm for the young person. The use of these techniques are on the increase. In this quarter there have been 1 further attrition activity and 7 abduction notices served taking the total for the year so far to 7 and 27 respectively, compared to 3 and 28 for the whole of 2012/13.

Over this year there have been 20 interviews under caution. There are currently 10 individuals on police bail, 2 on remand and 11 cases pending court.

Next Steps

In October 2013 it was confirmed the Police Analyst promised from the additional resource identified by the South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner would be

based in Rotherham. The PCC was keen to see how effective the analyst role was as part of the CSE team in Rotherham before rolling out force wide.

We continue to see our main offender profile to be single offenders.

There will be a refresh of the full problem profile in November which will inform the CSE Sub-Group and action of the Operational Managers Group and their teams.

Probation Service have started a local offender profile and exploration is underway to identify funding for a full research project to understand the motivation and behaviour of perpetrators and to identify common indicators of persons likely to commit CSE.

Data Summary - PURSUE				
MEASURE	2012/13	2013/14		Direction of Travel since Sept Rpt
		Upto Sept	Upto Dec	
Number of attrition activities	3	3	7	↑ 4
Number of abduction notices	28	20	27	↑ 7
Interviews under arrest	Not captured	-	20	New measure
Individuals currently on police bail	-	6	10	↑ 4
Individuals currently on remand	-	2	2	→ 0
Cases pending court	-	10	11	↑ 1
Number of convictions	-	1	2	↑ 1

The contents of the data and performances will continue to be developed and therefore measures may change/expand in the future.

8. Finance

The CSE team total budgeted expenditure for 2013/14 is £274,086. This is funded by £45,208 Designated Schools Grant, £50,000 Police Crime Commissioner and £178,878 Revenue.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Due to the very nature of CSE, and its emotive nature, there has been national media attention. Rotherham has featured in this from both positive and negative perspectives.

Ofsted have introduced a new framework for inspection. There will be a strand of this inspection looking at CSE. In addition, HMIC will be undertaking a follow-up inspection to their recent thematic CSE review of South Yorkshire Police be reviewed.

The Independent Inquiry of historic CSE in Rotherham commissioned by the RMBC Chief Executive has begun however the findings will not be published until June.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Keeping children and young people safe and therefore the eradication of CSE is one of the highest priorities in the key strategies of the Council, the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children's Board (RLSCB), the Safer Rotherham Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner.

There remains no national performance framework for CSE. In its absence the local multi-agency Performance Framework which accompanies the CSE Strategy and Action Plan will continue to develop to ensure that accurate, timely and meaningful information about key aspects of CSE and safeguarding children and young people is collated and used to inform practice.

If new government guidance on the collection of data relating to CSE it will be incorporated in the performance data; which will be presented to members as part of the regular updates on performance.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- RLSCB Chair Review of Rotherham's response to CSE (December 2013)
- OCC Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups Final Report (November 2013)
- Barnardo's Rotherham Practice Review (November 2013)
- HMIC Review of South Yorkshire Police Response to CSE 2013
- RLSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan 6 Month Progress Report (presented to members 6th November)
- Reports to Cabinet on 28th June, 3rd July and 18th September
- Members briefing on 4th July.
- LGA publication, June 2013 'How councils are raising awareness of child sexual exploitation'
- RLSCB CSE Strategy 2013-2016

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Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy 2013-16 - Delivery Action Plan

Prevent

making it more difficult to exploit children

Protect

identifying and safeguarding children who are at risk

Pursue

identifying offenders, disrupting and stopping their activity

STRATEGIC ACTION 1: We will improve the clarity of governance and strengthen leadership arrangements to ensure an effective multi-agency response to CSE

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 1.1 We will ensure that governance arrangements are documented and shared with all staff
- 1.2 Multi-agency performance and quality management arrangements will be established to allow for monthly monitoring and evaluation of impact at the LSCB CSE Sub-group and reported to the full board on a quarterly basis
- 1.3 Ensure appropriate information governance and security arrangements are in place
- 1.4 We will effectively deploy resources to prevent and protect children and young people from CSE and prosecute the perpetrators
- 1.5 An independent practice review will be commissioned to assess current services and inform future improvement

STRATEGIC ACTION 2:

We will deliver an effective co-ordinated training, community and schools awareness programme through a multi-agency "Learning, Development and Awareness Strategy"

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 2.1 All staff will receive training on CSE at a level appropriate to their role within the organisation and their involvement with children and young people, specifically those working with high risk groups
- 2.2 Senior leaders of all key agencies will ensure they understand the issue of CSE within a National and Local context and will engage with the delivery of the LSCB CSE action plan
- 2.3 We will educate our children and young people on CSE and its associated dangers to prevent and enable them to protect themselves

STRATEGIC ACTION 3:

We will develop a Multi-agency Media/Communication strategy to ensure consistent and accurate messages are shared with all, in support of public awareness and improved confidence in delivery

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 3.1 There will be a multi-agency agreement on when/what/how to share local intelligence with the public and staff on local CSE activity, intelligence and hotspots
- 3.2 Develop a library of awareness materials appropriate to range of staff and members of the public
- 3.3 We will utilise online technologies and social media to ensure communications reach a wide range of people
- 3.4 We will proactively engage and educate local businesses whose service types are historically linked to CSE
- 3.5 We will hold awareness sessions with identified community groups (both geographically and with communities of interests)

STRATEGIC ACTION 4:

We will ensure single and multi-agency processes and procedures are effective, efficient and fit for purpose to support the protection of children and young people from the risks and impact of CSE

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 4.1 Procedure review for key teams including pathways between partner agencies to ensure effective tasking and co-ordination of activities across the partnership
- 4.2 We will ensure the Voice and Influence of children and young people is embedded and evidenced in procedures and service improvement
- 4.3 All agencies will ensure their Information Systems and Standards can effectively support the delivery partnership procedures and enable case tracking and monitoring to ensure effective and efficient services for Children and Young People
- 4.4 There will be regular and good quality supervision & management oversight of service delivery

STRATEGIC ACTION 5:

We will ensure there is effective protection, support and guidance for victims and potential victims of Child Sexual Exploitation

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 5.1 There will be a rolling programme of targeted preventative support for high risk groups of Children and Young People including building trust to report incidents of CSE or attempted CSE
- 5.2 We will ensure there is a framework of support for victims and witnesses throughout the criminal justice process
- 5.3 There will ensure that victims receive support following prosecution regardless of outcome

STRATEGIC ACTION 6:

We will proactively identify and disrupt places of CSE activity

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 6.1 Ensure we proactively seek and respond to information and intelligence quickly and appropriately
- 6.2 Conduct targeted engagement in areas of vulnerability and identified hotspots

STRATEGIC ACTION 7:

We will ensure perpetrators are brought to justice

HOW WE WILL DELIVER:

- 7.1 Ensure proactive identification of Offenders or Persons showing at risk of offending
- 7.2 We will conduct a procedure and process review to ensure offenders are prosecuted
- 7.3 We will create toolkit for investigations based on NWG best practice to maximise perpetrators being brought to justice
- 7.4 Ensure effective offender management strategy
- 7.5 Research will be undertaken to understand the motivation and behaviour of perpetrators and to identify common indicators of persons likely to commit CSE

RECENT CSE REVIEWS & INSPECTIONS REPORTS

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS WITH LINKS TO THE CURRENT ACTION PLAN & FURTHER COMMENTS

APPENDIX B

RECOMMENDATION (with local reference number)	Action No. within existing Action Plan	Comments
RLSCB Chair Review of response to CSE – Dec 13		
RECOMMENDATIONS		
SCB1 - The role and structure of the Child Sexual Exploitation Team and the CSE delivery plan should be reviewed as part of an ongoing process for future strategic development. In particular, consideration should be given to the; Structure, Location, Long term aims and objectives of the team, to ensure clarity of purpose and adequate and appropriate resourcing.	1.2	Linked to OCC2 and BAR 1 (above) Strategy and Action Plan to be reviewed on an annual basis. Next review taking place Feb/Mar. Action plan and performance data monitored on a monthly basis at the sub-group. Formal quarterly reporting process on impact of strategy for Cabinet now established.
SCB2 - The performance management and governance structures around CSE management requires greater clarity. A mapping exercise of current structures, together with a more proactive and intrusive performance management regime, should be considered by all agencies and in particular the LSCB.	1.1 1.2 Work has been initiated	Governance documentation has been completed but is currently being revisited to ensure it is in a clear format and accessible by all. In the absence of any National Performance Management Framework for CSE, during the latter half of 2013, significant progress has been made to develop a local framework representative of the partnership. However it has been recognised that the measures relate to activity rather than impact. This development will continue to look at further solutions. The CSE National Working Group representative at the Sub-Group has stated that Rotherham's current performance model is ahead of others that they are currently aware of.
SCB3 - Future plans should be communicated to both victims and professionals so that there is no doubt about the seriousness with which CSE is taken. Professionals should be provided with the tools to ensure they are able to support victims in an appropriate and timely manner.	To be added to Strategic Action 5	To be made into an explicit delivery point under strategic action 5.
AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT		
SCB4 - The CSE team needs to be provided with a dedicated senior manager. This would ensure better cohesion between Children's Social Care Services, the Police and the CSE team. It would also provide the Borough with a senior person who could deal with all CSE issues and drive through, not only the action plan, but also those recommendations that have been agreed from this and other reports. A 'dedicated' senior manager for CSE may only need to be a short-term appointment but would provide a focus to this work.	1.4	Currently two team managers (one social care one police) share this responsibility. Plans have begun to establish a new single Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub Considerations to be given to a single manager within the structures of the MASH.
SCB5 - The CSE team terms of reference need to be reviewed and referral thresholds and the response across the continuum of need re-considered. Put simply, there needs to be greater clarity on the role and remit of the CSE team. This should not detract from the hard work already undertaken, but without the required clarity of purpose there is a danger the team will be subsumed in a mountain of referrals and case work and will lose focus.	To be added to Strategic Action 4	To be made into an explicit delivery point under strategic action 4.
SCB6 - There would be some obvious advantages to moving the CSE team to a more suitable location. I accept this would require a massive commitment, particularly from the Police and Local Authority, which may be unrealistic at this time, but should nevertheless be given due consideration.	To be added to Strategic Action 4 Work had been initiated	Initial discussions between senior management have already taken place to consider this recommendation. It is intended that a MASH will be formed and situated in the town centre (Riverside) frontline support for young people will be at Eric Mann's alongside IYSS

RECOMMENDATION (with local reference number)	Action No. within existing Action Plan	Comments
		To be made into an explicit delivery point under strategic action 4.
SCB7 The CSE team needs to develop closer links with the Integrated Youth and Support Service to ensure that they continue to develop a 'Prevent' approach to their work and they should undertake a 'needs' assessment and mapping exercise of available support.	Consideration to be given on whether this needs to be more explicit in the Action Plan when reviewed in Feb	IYSS are already part of CSE Sub Group and Operational Groups. IYSS are also leading on the Young Person's Participation Strategy. Needs assessment work would be completed outside the 'Team' and links to the recommendations from OCC. An offender profile and victim profile has been created and share at CSE Sub-Group. And a summary features within the refreshed JSNA. Recruitment of a Police analyst will enable further development of this work.
SCB8 - Whilst the CSE strategy is clear the associated action plan, whilst comprehensive, lacks some clarity and should be reviewed to ensure that actions and milestones are congruent with SMART criteria.	1.2 Work had been initiated	Strategy and Action Plan to be reviewed in February.
SCB9 - The CSE sub group is a practical and effective group. However, it would benefit from a review of membership and terms of reference to ensure it remains strategic in its approach and directs the 'Silver' group to meet the action plan milestones.	1.1	The terms of reference and membership were established and agreed at RLSCB in the last six months. These will be revisited and reviewed following Strategy and Action Plan refresh to ensure the right organisations are included to direct action.
SCB10 - The LSCB is well supported but needs to improve its level of challenge and, in particular, develop a more intrusive and challenging performance management framework.	1.2	(Duplication of SCB2) In the absence of any National Performance Management Framework for CSE, during the latter half of 2013, significant progress has been made to develop a local framework representative of the partnership. However it has been recognised that the measures relate to activity rather than impact. This development will continue to look at further solutions. The CSE National Working Group representative at the Sub-Group has stated that Rotherham's current performance model is ahead of others that they are currently aware of.
SCB11 - The various multi-agency partnership forums need to be reviewed to ensure they all serve a valuable purpose and fit together to improve outcomes at the front end. Each multi-agency forum appears to have been set up in response to a specific problem (for instance the Improvement Panel set up in response to an Ofsted Inspection report) and in some ways they seem to have grown organically. Whilst these groups were all well managed there is confusion, at times, as to their specific purpose and function; and in relation to one another. In other words, there is a need to have unambiguous terms of reference that dovetail to each other, with clear goals and measurable outcomes. This will avoid these groups developing into bureaucratic 'talking shops'.	Not appropriate for inclusion in CSE action plan	This is wider than CSE agenda and will be considered outside the CSE Sub-Group arena.
Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups Final Report - Nov 2013		
OCC1 - The Department for Education should review and where necessary, revise the <i>Working Together guidance on CSE</i> (DCSF, 2009). This should include a review of the definition of CSE.	n/a	Action for DfE. Local safeguarding procedures will be updated on release of updated guidance once released
OCC2 - Every Local Safeguarding Children Board should take all necessary steps to ensure they are fully compliant with the current <i>Working Together guidance on CSE</i> (DCSF, 2009).	1.5	Diagnostic review by RLSCB Chair
OCC3 - Every Local Safeguarding Children Board should review their strategic and	1.2	Strategy and Action Plan to be reviewed on an annual basis.

RECOMMENDATION (with local reference number)	Action No. within existing Action Plan	Comments
operational plans and procedures against the seven principles, nine foundations and See Me, Hear Me Framework in this report, ensuring they are meeting their obligations to children and young people and the professionals who work with them. Gaps should be identified and plans developed for delivering effective practice in accordance with the evidence. The effectiveness of plans, procedures and practice should be subject to an on-going evaluation and review cycle.		Next review taking place Feb/Mar where these principles and reviews outlined within this document will be considered to ensure we are either already meeting recommendations or have clear plans in place to do so
OCC4 - There need to be nationally and locally agreed information-sharing protocols that specify every agencies' and professional's responsibilities and duties for sharing information about children who are or may be in need of protection. At the national level, this should be lead and coordinated by the Home Office through the Sexual Violence Against Children and Vulnerable People National Group. At the local level, this must be led by LSCBs. All member agencies at both levels must be signatories and compliance rigorously monitored.	1.3	ISP in place across the LSCB. Systems in place to facilitate secure data transfer. Having a Multi-agency CSE team, Strategy Discussions and Operational Managers group (silver) facilitate the ability to verbally discuss case level information and identify the appropriate strategies.
OCC5 - Problem-profiling of victims, offenders, gangs, gang-associated girls, high risk businesses and neighbourhoods and other relevant factors must take place at both national and local levels. The Home Office, through the Sexual Violence Against Children and Vulnerable People National Group, should lead and coordinate the development of a national profile. Local Safeguarding Children Boards should do the equivalent at the local level.	1.2 7.1 7.5	An offender profile and victim profile has been created and share at CSE Sub-Group. And a summary features within the refreshed JSNA. Recruitment of a Police analyst will enable further development of this work.
OCC6 - Every local authority must ensure that its Joint Strategic Needs Assessment includes evidence about the prevalence of CSE, identification and needs of high risk groups, local gangs, their membership and associated females. This should determine commissioning decisions and priorities.	1.2 7.1 7.5	Please see above. Due to sensitive nature and low numbers not all data can be made public. However key high stats feature within the new JSNA. In addition the last Police led JSIA has a section dedicated to CSE
OCC7 - Relationships and sex education must be provided by trained practitioners in every educational setting for all children. This must be part of a holistic/whole-school approach to child protection that includes internet safety and all forms of bullying and harassment and the getting and giving of consent.	2.3	SRE being co-ordinated by the Healthy Schools team with PSHA leads. Including updating Primary school materials to include age appropriate CSE information Additional group workshops are being delivered to pupils by the CSE Team.
OCC8 - Through the Sexual Violence against Children and Vulnerable People National Group, the Government should undertake a review of the various initiatives being funded by the Home Office, Department for Education, Department of Health and any others as relevant, in order to ensure services are not duplicated and that programmes are complementary, coordinated and adequately funded. All initiatives should be cross-checked to ensure that they are effectively linked into child protection procedures and local safeguarding arrangements	n/a	Recommendation for Government. Outcomes, once published, will feed into further service and partnership development work.
Barnardo's Rotherham Practice Review – Nov 13		
BAR1 - We recommend that all key managers and Council members revisit the vision and strategy to establish if the original intentions are effective and delivering the expected changes.	1.2	Linked to OCC2 (above) Strategy and Action Plan to be reviewed on an annual basis.Next review taking place Feb/Mar. Action plan and performance data monitored on a monthly basis at the sub-group. Formal quarterly reporting process on impact of strategy for Cabinet now established.
BAR2 - A clear media and communication strategy be developed that all agencies and key	Strategic Action 3	Multi-agency Communication group established. Strategy complete Dec 2013

RECOMMENDATION (with local reference number)	Action No. within existing Action Plan	Comments
personnel share and work towards.		
BAR3 - A named designated manager be identified to manage the day-to-day activities and shape service delivery of the CSE specialist co – located team.	1.4	Currently two team managers (one social care one police) share this responsibility. Plans have begun to establish a new single Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub. Considerations to be given to a single manager within the structures of this MASH.
BAR4 - In line with the action plan, the positioning of a police analyst within the co-located CSE team.	4.4	Completed Dec 2013
BAR5 - The CSE specialist co – located team to undertake monthly team building and clinical supervision in order to assist in the team's development and understanding of various disciplines and to support the relatively new team in bonding together, understanding each other's roles and developing a shared model of work in practice to meet the needs of sexually exploited young people.	-	Fortnightly team meetings in place. Clinical support has previously been provided by student clinical psychologist. This will resume on their return from maternity leave.
BAR6 - The implementation of a South Yorkshire wide CSE Risk Assessment tool.	4.1	Implemented in 2013. Review now underway at regional level to ensure it is fit for purpose
BAR7 - Development of a participation strategy for young people and their families involved/ at risk of CSE.	4.2	Work was commissioned in November and is to be lead by IYSS. Development work to commence Jan 2014
BAR8 - It is recommended that the training strategy be widened and adopt a "train the trainer" approach to include all faith groups and communities, including the local business community.	2.1	Programme in place. 8 trainers trained in November 2013 with representation from various agencies. These will support the current RLSCB Safeguarding training officer in rollout of training.
BAR9 - Annual review of service provision as a way of ensuring that the CSE action plan and CSE strategy are implemented and are effective.	1.2 1.4	LINKED TO BAR1 above To be incorporated into annual review of strategy, action plan and service delivery plans.
PCC HMIC Review of South Yorkshire Police Response to CSE 2013		
<i>Letter to RMBC Chief Executive from Chief Constable of South Yorkshire police (13th January 2014) states that almost all recommendations are now complete with the exception of those actions linked to structural changes across the 4 local authorities.</i>		
<i>Where possible information from this letter has been lifted and inserted below. A specific action plan is owned and managed by SYP and reviewed on a weekly basis, therefore the information below should not be considered to be the complete picture of action taken or planned.</i>		
IMMEDIATELY		
HMIC1 - The force should review the management of cases by staff in the dedicated child sexual exploitation teams, and ensure this always complies with statutory child protection guidance.	1.4	Management structures of Rotherham and other SY PPU's reviewed and staffing changes made. Rotherham has seconded additional resources into the PPU department, these are to be ratified as permanent posts. A number of additional officers will be allocated to work within the district and force CSE teams. Additional staff have also been posted in to the force VISOR unit to increase capacity for the management of sex offenders.
HMIC2 - The force should communicate and explain to the PCC, staff and other interested parties the delay in deploying the ten additional child sexual exploitation officers to the districts.	Strategic action 3	
HMIC3 - Failure to fill a vacant post in the Rotherham team that manages sex offenders means that the remaining officers face an unmanageable workload. The force should review	1.4	See above HMIC1 recommendations

RECOMMENDATION (with local reference number)	Action No. within existing Action Plan	Comments
the team to ensure that it has sufficient staff to manage sex offenders in line with national guidance.		
HMIC4 - The force should review the staffing arrangements within the Hi-Tech Crime Unit, to ensure these are sufficient to manage effectively the demands of a thorough and comprehensive child sexual exploitation strategy.		
HMIC5 - The force should audit its response to child sexual exploitation, to assess whether the changes it is making are having the desired effect (i.e. of improving outcomes for children), and to identify any further work that is required.	1.4	Police performance management framework matrix established. Under constant review and will continue to evolve and develop
WITHIN THREE MONTHS		
HMIC6 - The force should review its internal communication regarding child sexual exploitation and ensure that clear, consistent messages are passed to all officers and staff. The messages should ensure that everyone knows which chief officer is the lead on tackling child sexual exploitation.	Strategic action 3	Complete
HMIC7 - The force should review the tool used to assess the risk of child sexual exploitation to ensure it provides the best possible reflection of the level of risk faced by victims. This could involve additional training for those using the tool, or a change to the scoring mechanism used to calculate the level of risk.		Review is underway.
HMIC8 - The force should translate the PCC's strategic priorities into operational delivery on the ground.		
HMIC9 - The force should review the workloads of all staff within public protection units to ensure they have the capacity to manage effectively the cases they are allocated.		Linked to HMIC1 & 3
WITHIN SIX MONTHS		
HMIC10 - The force should review its training plan to ensure all staff develop and sustain a good understanding of child sexual exploitation.	Strategic action 2	Being considered within the Partnership plan as well as within force staff development
HMIC11 - The force should review the processes in place to respond to child sexual exploitation in all four districts, with a view to creating greater uniformity, and ensuring all areas attain the high standards achieved in the Sheffield district.		
HMIC12 - The force should review the operation of its local intelligence units to ensure child sexual exploitation is thoroughly supported by an intelligence approach.	1.2, 7.1, 7.5	Supported by appointment of CSE analysts
HMIC13 – The force should review how it can make better use of research and analysis to support strategies to tackle child sexual exploitation.	1.2, 7.1, 7.5	The force has appointed two force analysts for CSE. One of which is based at Rotherham PPU (however remains a force-wide resource)
HMIC14 – The force should review how it monitors the internet for evidence of child sexual exploitation to ensure intelligence opportunities are not being overlooked.		
HMIC15 – The force and its partners should examine how it can more efficiently manage the handling of child sexual exploitation information and intelligence. In particular, the difficulties in sharing information within the multi-agency teams at Doncaster and Rotherham (because of incompatible information and intelligence IT systems) should be resolved.	1.3	Secure email being setup and daily team briefings used to share information.

1	Meeting:	CABINET
2	Date:	5th February 2014
3	Title:	Revenue Budget Monitoring for the period ending 31st December 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 9 months of the financial year. It is currently forecast that the Council will overspend against its Budget by £2.217m (+1.0%). This represents an improvement in the forecast outturn of -£0.882m since the November monitoring report. The main reasons for the forecast overspend continue to be:

- The continuing service demand and cost pressures for safeguarding vulnerable children across the Borough;
- Income pressures within Environment and Development and ICT Services;
- Continuing Health Care income pressures within Adult and Children's Services, with concern that this pressure is increasing further;
- 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.

The moratorium on all except 'essential' spend has been in place since 16th October and is contributing to the reduced forecast overspend. Services are also continuing to explore opportunities to maximise the flexible use of grant funding, whilst ensuring grant conditions are complied with. Decisions have recently been taken in respect of a number of applications for Voluntary Early Retirement/Voluntary Severance (VER/VS) and the financial impact of these will be reflected in the next month's monitoring report. 57 applications are also currently under consideration.

Members are asked to note that meetings continue to take place with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) about concerns over access to and timely payment of Continuing Health Care income for clients with Continuing Health Care needs. An Action Plan is being developed and updates presented to a series of future meetings which will take place up to the end of the financial year. As the financial impact of these meetings becomes clearer, this will be reported through to Cabinet.

Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to note the current forecast outturn and the financial challenge presented for the Council to deliver a balanced revenue budget for 2013/14 and the actions implemented to address the forecast overspend.

7.1 Proposals and Details

This report presents details of spending against budget by Directorate covering the first 9 months of the 2013/14 financial year – April 2013 to December 2013 – and forecast costs and income to 31st March 2014.

Resources Services which are currently being matrix-managed by Environment & Development Services and Neighbourhood & Adult Services are included within these respective Directorates.

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	46,095	47,347	+1,252	+2.7
Environment and Development Services	49,732	50,115	+383	+0.8
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	79,053	79,432	+379	+0.5
Resources	10,577	10,812	+235	+2.2
Central Services	36,017	35,985	-32	-
TOTAL	221,474	223,691	+2,217	+1.0
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	73,090	71,819	-1,271	-1.7

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 (+£1,252k forecast overspend)

The forecast overspend for Children's Services slightly deteriorated (£11k) since the last report. (+£1.241m in the November monitoring report). The forecast overspend position is largely due to pressures within the Children & Families Safeguarding Service. The number of looked after children requiring placements at the end of December 2013 was 372, a reduction of 23 since the end of March 2013.

Pressures on budgets for provision of Out of Authority Residential placements (+£1.565m), remand placements (+£180k) and the provision of independent Foster Care placements (+£248k) are the main service pressures. Although the number of Looked After Children has fallen since March 2013 the cost of placements has increased as children are presenting with more complex needs. The service is looking at how they can find suitable, alternative, value for money placements to meet the needs of these young people.

The Fostering & Adoption is projecting to have 30 new adopters by the end of March 2014 which is 9 above the Invest to Save target. 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 (£588k) to date in 2013/14.

Environment & Development Services including Internal Audit, Asset Management, Communications & Marketing and Policy & Planning (+£383k forecast overspend)

The Directorate is currently forecasting an overspend of +£383k largely due to pressures in Customer Services (+£204k) and Planning and Regeneration (+£253k), Communications (+£14k) and Audit & Asset Management (+£135k). The Business Unit is reporting an underspend of -£62k and Streetpride a forecast underspend of -£161k.

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 including Commissioning, Procurement, Performance & Quality and Cohesion (+£779k forecast overspend) and Public Health (-£400k forecast underspend)

Overall the Directorate (including ring-fenced Public Health funded services) is forecasting an overspend of +£379k. Within this, Adult Services are forecasting an overspend (+£1.083m) and Neighbourhood services a forecast underspend of -£133k. Commissioning, Procurement, Performance & Quality and Cohesion services are forecasting a collective underspend of (-£171k). Key pressures include slippage on achieving budgeted income levels for clients with continuing health care needs (£1.5m) and the delays in implementing the restructure within 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 -£400k. (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 (+£234k forecast overspend)

Overall the Directorate is forecasting an overspend of +£234k. This is largely in respect of income pressures in the ICT service (+£575k) significantly mitigated by forecast savings elsewhere in the Directorate – most notably in respect of HR &

Payroll reduced costs and increased income generation. The forecast position for Resources is made up of both forecast under and overspends, shown in Appendix 1.

Central Services (-£32k forecast underspend)

In setting the 2013/14 Budget, the Council proposed a recurrent 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.

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 currently a forecast pressure of +£400k on the Land Bank due to the need to keep vacant council owned properties secure until they are sold or demolished.

There is also a forecast pressure of £81k in respect of Statutory Costs (eg Planning Notices and key investigations). In 2011/12 it was agreed that the earmarked reserve would be closed and in the event of any future pressure above the level of budget (£75k), this would be met from general reserves.

It is now considered prudent to release the unused Council Contingency Fund (-£600k) and -£600k of the Voluntary Early Retirement/Voluntary Severance Budget to mitigate the overall forecast outturn. This latter budget will remain under review pending consideration of the 57 applications still under consideration.

7.3 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (Forecast underspend -£1.271m)

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 £1.328m, a reduction of -£1.271m.

7.4 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 Dec 2012	Cumulative to Dec 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	546	320	603
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	530	251	286
Environment & Development Services	266	149	493
Resources	194	151	39
TOTAL	1,536	871	1,421

Agency staff have in the main, been used as a temporary measure to help introduce more robust and sustainable reductions to the overall staff cost base. This has shown a more marked increase this year to date compared to last year as a result of meeting the demands of various reviews and restructures. These are being kept under close review.

Within Children's Services the increased agency costs during the year have been incurred as a result of the need to cover the Interim Director of Safeguarding, Children & Families post until permanent recruitment takes place; vacant social worker and team manager posts, and social work posts where staff are off sick or on maternity leave; and vacancies, sickness and maternity leave in residential care. The statutory responsibilities and performance and inspection regimes in children's social care mean that posts can only be left unfilled for short periods, and colleague cover for absence is not sustainable. Overall, sickness and turnover is at acceptable levels, below the council average.

Recruitment to the permanent Director post started in early January and interviews will be held at the beginning of March. If a successful appointment is made, the earliest start date for the new Director is likely to be early July 2014 due to potential notice periods.

All team manager posts were filled through recruitment in late 2013. However, the notice periods mean that start dates are up to four months after appointment. The Interim Team Manager for fostering left in early January, although this was forecast to last until February. The Team Manager for Fostering starts in late January. The Team Manager for Looked After Children starts in March. This post is being covered by an Agency Manager at present.

Monthly recruitment of social workers has resulted in successful appointments; currently there are two vacancies expected to be filled through the January recruitment. Two extra posts, over establishment, have been recruited to – these are peripatetic staff that can be used to provide cover for emergent gaps due to vacancy, sickness or maternity leave rather than using agency staff. One member of staff has transferred from the fostering team temporarily to fill a vacancy in the Looked After Children's Team. There has been a reduction in the use of agency staff, but there is still a need for a small number of agency staff to cover sickness, maternity leave and the time between a social worker leaving and their replacement starting.

The use of agency staff in Adult Services has increased compared to December 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 a revised timetable, agreed with the Council, for the new staffing structure in Residential Care.

Environment and Development Services agency costs are greater compared with the cumulative spend to December 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 also exists within ICT services 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 Dec 2012	Cumulative to Dec 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	338	219	161
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	0	0	47
Environment & Development Services	108	40	125
Resources	1	1	23
TOTAL	447	260	356

Consultancy spend within Children's Services for the first 9 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 and services funded by external funding. School Effectiveness consultancy spend is funded from a combination of revenue budget, Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and earned income from Schools.

NAS Consultancy spend is within Neighbourhoods services and is in respect of Green Deal Housing energy advice and help to improve employment outcomes/prospects of future employment for long-term unemployed individuals. This spend is largely grant funded.

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

Consultancy spend within the Resources Directorate is predominantly in respect of Legal Services associated with the investigation into sexual exploitation of children and specialist ICT Services.

Non-Contractual Overtime

Directorate	Outturn 2012/13	Cumulative to Dec 2012	Cumulative to Dec 2013
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Children & Young People's Services	84	69	96
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	403	300	306
Environment & Development Services	499	326	399
Resources	139	106	109
TOTAL	1,125	801	910

Children's Services overtime is largely in respect of safeguarding in residential care homes. OfSTED requirements are that, if possible, agency staff are not used to cover vacancies, hence the reliance on overtime in the short term pending newly recruited staff taking up post.

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 where work is often undertaken at times to avoid inconvenience and danger to the public. Planning and Regeneration Services and Waste Management Services for sickness and holiday cover. The Environment & Development Services overtime cost to end of December also includes provision of cover within Facilities Services (+£22k).

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 (£60k), maintaining ICT services (£28k), maintaining Financial systems (£1k), HR and Payroll Services (£7k), and Town Hall attendants (£13k).

7.5 Collection Fund

Council Tax: Based on the first 9 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 (£34.304m) as confirmed by a mid-year return for the DCLG. (97% budgeted Collection Rate).

This would be a considerable achievement – with regard to business rates, as previously reported, there has been considerable uncertainty over the number and value of appeals - particularly those backdated to earlier years – which can have a significant impact on the level of rates collectable going forward. Details of the number and value of appeals are held by the VOA which has only recently made this information available to authorities.

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 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

- November Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Cabinet December 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 (+£1.252m forecast overspend)**

The key factors contributing to the forecast overspend are:

School Effectiveness (-£51k)

Rockingham PDC is currently projecting not to achieve £2k of its £33k income target & the School Effectiveness Service has had delays in filling vacancies resulting in a -£53k underspend.

Special Education Provision (+£13k)

Forecast overspends on Education Welfare (+£12k) due to loss of academy income caused by a change in legislation, SEN Assessment/Admissions Team (+£20k) due to additional hours to cover sickness & additional printing and SEN Complex Needs placements (+£44k) are all offset by staff savings, some of which are from Voluntary Early Retirement/Voluntary Severance, Learning Support Service (-£1k), children in Public Care (-£2k), Parent Partnership (-£11k) and Education Psychology Service (-£49k).

Safeguarding, Children and Families Service Wide (+£72k)

The forecast over spend on legal fees (+£89k) due largely to an increase in court fees notified to us in July 2013, Agency costs (+£17k) and inspection consultancy costs (+£38K) is partially offset by staff cost savings (-£72k) in Business Support.

Children in Need Social Work Teams (+£136k)

This forecast overspend is in respect of (+£128k) Agency staff costs & additional staff appointments within the Children in Need North team & the Borough Wide team (+£46k) and a charge for call handling for the Out of Hours Team offset with staff slippage from the Early Intervention teams (-£25k) & the Children in Need South team (-£13k).

Looked After Children (+£1,468k)

The service is forecasting an overspend mainly due to the cost of out of authority residential placements (+£1,565k), remand placements (+£180k) and independent fostering placements (+£248k). Further details of placements are below:

- The number of children in residential out of authority placements at the end of December 2013 is 29 (an increase of 3 since November). Since 2011/12 the average number of children in OOA residential placements per week has increased from 18 to 24 currently. Due to the increasing complexity of children's needs that are going into residential out of authority placements & despite successful negotiations by the Commissioning team to minimise the cost of these placements, the average cost per week of these has also increased over this period from £3,022 to £3,199;
- From 1 April 2013 children's remand placements are fully funded by the Local Authority & RMBC was provided with a national grant of £78k to cover these additional costs. The current projected cost of these placements is £258k which shows that the grant was grossly inadequate. There are currently no remand placements.
- The number of children in Independent foster care as at 31st December is 105 (a reduction of 1 since November & a reduction of 8 since the end of March 2013). The average number of children in these placements has reduced from 125 per week in 2011/12 to 107.6 currently in 2013/14. The average cost per week of these placements has increased from £887 to £912 over this period.
- The number of children in in-house fostering placements as at end of December is

148 (a reduction of 23 since 31 March 2009). Since 2011/12 the average number of children placed in in-house fostering placements per week has increased from 159 to 167 currently. The average cost per week of these has also increased over this period from £230 to £251.

- The number of looked after children was 372 at end of December, a reduction of 23 since 31st March 2013

Additional overspends in this area are: (+£28k) Consultancy costs to review health care contributions towards children's continuing health care needs, (+£5k) court ordered care package, (+£22k) agency costs in respect of Contact workers & (+£10k) in transport costs. These pressures are partially offset by projected underspends in Children's Homes (-£106k) mainly due to not staffing the Silverwood annexe, Fostering Services (-£169k) due to a forecast underspend on fostering allowances, Residence Orders & Families together placements, (-£150k) due to the re-profiling of adoption placements and the impact of this on inter-agency adoption costs & maximising grant income, (-£50k) reduced use of transport for LAC children & (-£115k) in Leaving care on accommodation costs & a reduction in the number of weekly payments required.

Disability Services (+£52k)

This service is now forecasting an overspend mainly due to overtime & agency costs at Cherry Tree & Liberty residential homes due to needing to cover sickness & vacancies (+£71k) and an overspend on Direct payments (+£51k) partially offset by staff costs underspends within the Disability Team (-£70k). The over spend on Direct payments is due to providing carers to support families with children with extremely complex needs which would otherwise require OOA residential placements at a much higher cost.

Remaining CYPs Services (-£438k)

The overall CYPs overspend is also partially offset by projected under spends on Pension costs (-£10k) due to a reduction in numbers receiving pension payments, (-£208k) due to ceasing non-essential spend & reallocation of funding in the Early Years' service, (-£212k) staff cost savings, ceasing non-essential spend & maximising grants in the Integrated Youth Support Service and a further contribution from the Education Catering Service (-£8k).

Environment & Development Services (+£383k 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 (-£161k forecast underspend)

Network Management is projecting a pressure of +£41k.

Network Management is projecting a small improvement since last month. Parking continues to report a pressure of (+£176k) which is mainly due to a shortfall on income recovery where income targets were inflated on Parking Services budgets by 2.5%. Other service pressures (+£15k) within Drainage. These are being offset by increased income from Streetworks and Enforcements(-£62k) and reduced Street Lighting energy costs (-£44k), and reduced costs on Highways Maintenance (-£41k) and in Public Rights of Way (-£3k).

Waste Services +£17k

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 (+£310k), but Waste Disposal is projecting to be underspent by (-£258k) based on known changes to tipping locations, fluctuations in waste streams and an underspend of (-£35k) on the Waste PFI project.

Corporate Transport Unit is still showing a forecast saving of -£170k mainly due to expected reduced costs on Home to School Transport. Additionally a surplus on Stores is still anticipated -£50k as a result of the materials issued, in the main for Street Lighting schemes.

Leisure and Green Spaces +£90K.

Green Spaces position now shows a pressure +£82K, (£36K allotments saving proposal, £113K Country Parks due to VAT issue - -£7K under spend on recreational grounds, - £60K underspend on Urban Parks due to vacant posts and increased income from Play park inspections, this position has improved from last month due to a vacant post now not likely to be filled until 14/15. Leisure services are reporting +£12K pressure: from Sports Development mainly due to the late implementation of saving at Herringthorpe Stadium. Across the rest of the service, +£2K vacancy factor pressure on Trees & Woodlands and an improved position within landscape Design and LGS Management & Admin £-6k.

Across the rest of Streetpride services an improved position is being reported, -£164k partially due to increased income from current transportation and highways work which is offsetting some pressures within Community Services, mainly due to increased pressures regarding fly-tipping and a shortfall in income within grounds maintenance totalling +£75k.

Regeneration, Planning, Customer and Cultural Services (+£457k forecast overspend)

At April – November +£503k overspend was reported. Budgets from Policy and Partnerships are now showing within this Service Area. The details below are the key pressures as at the end of December

Regeneration and Planning (+£253k) :

The key pressures within Regeneration and Planning are : (+£358k) from Planning due to reduced income from planning applications, additional required spend on the Local Development Plan and a VAT payment due from previous years, resulting from an audit. Smaller pressures are reported from Markets (+£58k). These are being partially offset by identified savings (-£103k) from higher than expected occupancy levels at the Business Centres and further savings of (-£60k) from other areas.

Customer and Cultural Services (+£204k) :

Within Customer Services there remains an unachievable saving from 2012/13 of (+£80k) and a further (+£120k) from the 2013/14 savings proposals and a further pressure (+£29k) within the Customer Contact Centre.

The change in venue for celebratory services has created a pressure of (+£62k) which is being partially mitigated by some staff savings (-£38k) across Heritage Services. A further saving of (-£4k) is being shown on museum stores having vacated a site earlier than anticipated. Across Theatres and Arts. there is a combined saving of (-£16k), due to some salaries savings, increased one-off income and due to the moratorium. Within Library Services due to the moratorium and staff leaving under the voluntary severance

scheme further savings have been declared totalling (-£29k).

All the pressures continue to be reviewed, and wherever possible, the budget holders will look to reduce any costs to mitigate the forecast overspend.

Business Unit -£62k

The service are now reporting an underspend due to a decision being made to implement a reduced training programme.

Communications +£14k

The pressures within this service are +£31k due to an unachievable vacancy factor and increased overhead costs, these are being partially mitigated by a reduced spend due to the imposed moratorium, on printing and design costs -£10k and a reduced marketing and events programme -£7k.

Asset Management, Audit and Insurance(+£135k)

There are pressures across the Asset Management service: unbudgeted property disposal fees (+£80k), Land & Property income under-recovery (+£38k), operational costs of Community Buildings (+£34k), increased accommodation costs, including energy, (+£46k), pressure due to loss of income in Design and Corporate Projects (+£17k), and Internal Audit (+£20k). Further savings have been declared within Facilities Services (-£86k) and Emergency Planning (-£14k). Identified pressures on the Land Bank are being reported centrally.

Neighbourhoods & Adult Services (+£779k forecast overspend) and Public Health Services (-£400k forecast underspend)

Adult Services are currently forecasting an overspend of **+£1.083m**. The key underlying budget pressures include:

Older People (+£760k)

Forecast over spend on In-House Residential Care due to delays in implementing the 2013/14 budget savings target (+£362k), increase in Direct Payments over budget (+£581k) and overall forecast over spend on Domiciliary Care services (+£388k) due to an increase in demand for independent sector care.

There is also a forecast overspend on independent sector residential and nursing care (+£780k) due to lower than expected discharges than forecast (78 additional clients in placement than budgeted), this is after additional income from property charges is being received. These pressures are being partially reduced by a number of forecast underspends including: planned delays in developing dementia services (-£248k), carers breaks (-£183k) and additional income and delays in enhancements in Rothercare (-£132k). Higher than anticipated staff turnover within Assessment & Care Management and community support plus additional income from Health (-£615k), staff vacancies within Day Care services (-£88k), additional income in Extra Care Housing (-£23k) and Transport (-£40k) plus planned delay in recruiting to vacant posts within locality services (-£22k).

Learning Disabilities (+£249k)

There is a forecast overspend on Day Care (+£177k) due to delays in 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 (+£94k) due to slippage in meeting an agreed budget saving plus additional costs due to staff cover within In House Residential care (+£43k). Additional discharges from residential care is resulting in a forecast underspend of -£35k. High cost placements within independent day care and community support are resulting in a forecast overspend of +£122k. These forecast overspends are partially mitigated by delay's in developing Supported Living schemes plus additional funding from health (-£15k), efficiency savings on Service Level Agreements (SLA's) for advice and information (-£62k), lower than expected increase in demand for direct payments (-£25k) and planned delay in recruitment within Assessment & Care Management (-£50k).

Mental Health (-£208k)

There is a projected overspend on the residential care budget due to delays in the budget savings plan to move clients into community support services (+£77k) and a continued pressure on the direct payments budget (+£25k). Additional staffing costs within Assessment & Care Management to cover vacant posts (+£57k). These are more than offset by forecast underspends in the community support budget (-£367k).

Physical & Sensory Disabilities (+£419k)

Further increase in demand for Direct Payments (+10 clients) together with recurrent cost pressure (+£681k) and a continued increase in demand for domiciliary care +£218k. These pressures are being partially offset by forecast underspends within residential and nursing care, day care, provision of equipment and efficiency savings on contracts (-£480k).

Adults Safeguarding (+£15k)

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

Supporting People (-£86k)

Efficiency savings on subsidy contracts have already been identified against budget (-£86k).

Adults General (-£66k)

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

Neighbourhoods General Fund (-£133k)

The projected year end outturn position for Neighbourhoods shows a forecast underspend of (-£133k).

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. The overall forecast underspend includes underspends within the Members Community Leadership Fund (-£16k) and Dispersed Units Trading Account (-£43k) which are likely to be subject to a request for carry-forward at the year end.

Commissioning, Policy & Performance services are forecasting an underspend of -£144k mainly in respect of staff cost savings.

Procurement Team – a forecast underspend of -£27k in respect of staff cost savings.

Public Health (-£400k)

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 -£400k. The main reason is a variation in the sexual health contracts from the original budget. The grant conditions allow for any underspend at the year-end to be carried forward in a Public Health Grant Reserve, however, this underspend will contribute to public health related expenditure within the NAS Directorate therefore reducing the overall Directorate overspend.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The overall forecast as at end December 2013 is that the HRA will outturn on budget with a planned (budgeted) use of its working balance (reserves) of £1.328m a reduction of £1.271m from the original budget.

Currently forecasts show an over-recovery of income from charges for services and facilities together with under spends on the cost of borrowing and supervision and management.

Resources Directorate (+£234k forecast overspend)

ICT Services – A forecast overspend of +£575k due to the under-recovery of income as a result of lower than budgeted income because of reduced demand by Schools (relating to both Rotherham Grid for Learning and general IT provision); £300k and reduced spend on IT by Council services (£275k); the latter being partly as a result of the moratorium on non-essential spend.

Legal and Democratic Services – A forecast overspend of +£53k due to income and postage cost pressures.

Human Resources & Payroll are forecasting an underspend of -£306k largely in respect of staff cost savings and additional income generation.

Management savings are also forecast across the service amounting to -£71k.

Pension cost savings of -£17k are also forecast across the Directorate.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	05th February 2014
3.	Title:	Improving Lives Select Commission Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse
4.	Directorate:	Neighbourhoods and Adult Services

5. Summary

The report provides an update on the recommendations of the Improving Lives Select Commission Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse, presented to Cabinet on November 6th 2013. The recommendations focus on the improvement of service provision to victims of Domestic Abuse in Rotherham.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That Cabinet receives and accepts the report and update**
- 6.2 That any further Cabinet response to the report is fed back to the Safer Rotherham Partnership in February 2014**

7. Proposals and Details

The Improving Lives Select Commission Scrutiny Review of Domestic Abuse report was presented to Cabinet on November 6th 2013. The focus of the review recommendations was to develop more integrated domestic abuse service provision that had clear protocols and pathways for all risk levels that were understood by every partner agency. It was also recommended that domestic abuse should be more integrated at a strategic level so that other workstreams were addressing the impact it has on victims. The response to the recommendations of the Scrutiny Review are attached.

8. Finance

The Review highlighted the value of supporting Domestic Abuse Service provision during the austerity measures. The financial impact of each recommendation will need to be considered and acknowledged.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

By not following the review recommendations, Rotherham will find it difficult to

- Evidence that Domestic Abuse features in strategic frameworks
- Evidence that partner agencies are proactively undertaking a risk focused approach to Domestic Abuse, in line with emerging best practice
- Increase confidence of the Public in reporting Domestic Abuse and accessing support
- Evidence its compliance with the Home Office's national agenda to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls
- Withstand scrutiny in a Domestic Homicide Review which is submitted to the Home Office

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

By responding to the review recommendations, Rotherham will be able to

- Evidence its local compliance with the national Violence Against Women and Girls' Agenda
- Evidence that the Domestic Abuse Priority Group (DAPG), on behalf of the Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP), are proactive in reducing the risk of domestic homicide in line with emerging national best practice that is focused and coordinated
- Enable the actions of agencies to withstand scrutiny in a Serious Case Review or Domestic Homicide Review
- Respond to victims and their families effectively

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Call to End Violence against Women and Girls HM Government November 2010

A Call to End Violence Against Women and Girls: Action Plan HM Government April 2013

Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews Revised – applicable to all notifications made from and including 1 August 2013, Home Office, June 2013

Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment 2013-14

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2011

Draft SRP Strategy to Eliminate Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence 2012- 2015

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Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review - Domestic Abuse

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision (Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)	Cabinet Response (detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
<p>1</p> <p>In order to facilitate longer term planning and retain skilled and experienced staff IDVAS funding should be mainstreamed rather than being 12 monthly.</p>	Defer	<p>The council fully endorses the intention of this recommendation, but following discussions between Departments we are unable to accept this at this time. The proposal would require funding up front from mainstream budgets which, due to current budget pressures, it has not been possible to achieve. The responsible officer will have discussions with key partners to look at funding from a multi-agency perspective.</p>	Joyce Thacker	March 2014
<p>2</p> <p>A full audit of need for domestic abuse support and services is recommended with a view to moving towards joint commissioning of services.</p>	Accept	<p>Domestic Abuse now features in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. Although the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment now includes Domestic Abuse and an analysis of Domestic Abuse provision for 16 – 18 years was undertaken by Children's and Young People's Services in 2013/14, a full needs audit is to be undertaken. This will be completed by March 2014 and this will be led by RMBC</p>	Chrissy Wright	March 2014

3	Agencies need to ensure a balance of appropriate workshop based training and e-learning is available for all relevant staff, workers and professionals, considering joint commissioning and joint funding to make the best use of time and resources.	Accept	A proposal to review and refresh the domestic abuse training provision is being prepared for discussion and approval at DAPG	Helen Wood	March 2014
4	Members recommend that the statutory agencies i.e. the Council, Police and Health explore and report back on the feasibility of a pooled budget for domestic abuse services.	Accept	The SRP Executive agreed this recommendation on 08.01.14, but noted this was an extensive piece of work which, if a pooled budget was approved, would transform Domestic Abuse service provision in Rotherham. This also links to recommendation 1.	Steve Parry/Cherryl Henry-Leach	March 2014
5	Members recommend that agencies explore and report back on the feasibility of an integrated joint working approach across all risk levels, such as a “one stop shop” or a “golden number” for domestic abuse referrals.	Accept	<p>We are currently exploring the co-location of Domestic Abuse service providers in order to improve the multi-agency working in cases of Domestic Abuse. If this is achieved it is anticipated there will be a central number for victims to telephone for support and advice.</p> <p>We are also investigating the feasibility of linking in with help line provision in other areas of South Yorkshire and moving this forward will be subject to available funding.</p>	CI Ian Womersley	September 2014
6	The SRP Board should ensure sufficient resource allocation to	Accept	A paper was presented to the Safer Rotherham Partnership Executive on the 29 th November 2013.	Cherryl Henry-Leach	Completed – 19/12/13

enable any domestic homicide reviews to comply with the revised statutory guidance published by the Home Office in June 2013.		<p>This proposed that the Independent Chairing and report authoring of future DHRs would be jointly financed by the statutory partners of the Safer Rotherham Partnership. This proposal was considered by the Safer Rotherham Partnership and agreed on (insert date).</p> <p>The contributions will be as follows:</p> <p>Health (CCG) – 30% RMBC – 30% SYP – 30% NPS - 10%</p>		
<p>7</p> <p>Domestic abuse is an issue that cuts across multiple portfolios therefore Cabinet might wish to consider identifying a Cabinet lead for domestic abuse.</p>	Accept	The Chair of the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Abuse Priority Group has discussed this the elected members for Safeguarding Adults and Children and have the recommendation confirmed by the Leader of the Council	Joyce Thacker	February 2014
<p>8</p> <p>As Domestic Abuse is a priority it should be made more explicit within other key strategies and plans. The JSNA and HWBS are both being refreshed, as is the Council's Corporate Plan, so this provides an opportunity to strengthen the focus on domestic abuse.</p>	Accept	<p>This is completed, as the JSNA has recently been refreshed and now includes Domestic Abuse. The Health and Well Being strategy will incorporate Domestic Abuse when it is next refreshed. In the interim, the JSNA will be the key resource to inform plans and priorities across the council and partners.</p> <p>Members may wish to note that the Safer Rotherham Partnership has identified its priorities for the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) and Domestic Abuse has been confirmed as one of the Safer Rotherham Partnership's priorities for 2014/15. The review that the SRP will undertake in relation to</p>	Kate Green/Cherryl Henry-Leach	Completed - 19.12.13

		recommendation 12 will, it is anticipated, strengthen the links between the JSIA and the JSNA		
9	Drugs and alcohol play a significant part in domestic abuse cases, especially for standard/medium risk; therefore work-streams should take account of domestic abuse.	Accept	The Drugs and Alcohol Team (DAAT) within Rotherham Public Health are to arrange a workshop and invite all relevant partners to attend. This will enable to build a data profile in relation to Domestic Abuse where substance misuse is a feature. This will inform service responses to victims and perpetrators who may be in need of NHS services to reduce the dependence on drugs and alcohol.	Anne Charlesworth March 2014
10	Links with schools/colleges and other local organisations who work with 16-17 year old young people need to be strengthened to ensure age appropriate services and support.	Accept	<p>The Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) Curriculum in schools does not feature Domestic Abuse as routine. However, PHSE leads are updated as to how sensitive issues such as Domestic Abuse can be addressed within the PHSE curriculum. Discussions are underway to adapt current Domestic Abuse training materials to ensure they are relevant for delivery within schools.</p> <p>Discussion is also underway with local colleges to ensure they are familiar with contemporary Domestic Abuse processes and referral pathways (e.g. referral to MARAC) in addition to their statutory safeguarding obligations.</p>	<p>Kay Denton-Tarn March 2014</p> <p>Cherryl Henry</p>
11	Sexual violence should be integral to strategies and plans for work on violence against women and girls, whether it occurs in domestic or non-	Accept	The South Yorkshire Rape Steering Group is looking at developing a South Yorkshire wide strategy. This group will feedback progress from the County level meetings and assist local authority leads to translate the county wide priorities into relevant local	Mel Simmonds March 2014

domestic settings.		strategies. In the New Year, we will identify which Council lead will hold the lead for sexual violence - Public Health or the Community Safety Partnership.		
<p>12</p> <p>A full review of domestic abuse structures, communications and governance arrangements within the SRP should be carried out to clarify and reaffirm roles and responsibilities between:</p> <p>a) DAPG and RDAF</p> <p>b) SRP Executive, JAG and DAPG</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>Accept</p>	<p>Discussions between the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Abuse Priority Group and Forum are underway. It is anticipated that the outcome of those discussions will be the two groups will be merged from April 2014.</p> <p>The SRP accept there is a need to ensure other Boards and Partnerships are clear on the reporting structures for Domestic Abuse to the SRP. The Executive agreed, on 08.01.14, to lead this review</p>	<p>Joyce Thacker</p> <p>Steve Parry</p>	<p>April 2014</p> <p>April 2014</p>
<p>13</p> <p>The ACPO DASH risk assessment form should be used by all agencies, supported by training, to ensure a universal and consistent approach to risk assessment</p>	Accept	SYP advise that they are on target to switch to use of this risk assessment tool in February 2014 and will be training front line Police staff throughout January and February. The MARAC and Risk Assessment Workshop will also continue to be run and, as Multi Agency Training, will be open to all agencies who come into contact with cases where Domestic Abuse is a feature.	Pete Horner/Cheryl Henry-Leach	March 2014

14	A standard multi-agency protocol and process should be developed for standard and medium risk assessment to ensure consistency in approach and common pathways communicated and understood by all partners, to include risk assessment in children's health and social care such as pre-birth assessments	Accept	The RLSCB has a Domestic Abuse protocol (from 2008). This is to be reviewed to ensure consistency and common pathways that are clearly understood by partners in cases non-high risk cases of Domestic Abuse. Pre Birth Assessments where Domestic Abuse has been identified as an issue during pregnancy are now being undertaken.	Phil Morris/Cherryl Henry-Leach	April 2014
15	A standard multi-agency protocol and process should be developed for contacting victims at all risk levels to avoid duplicating referrals or initial contact.	Accept	Much of the duplication in contacting victims of Domestic Abuse links to national protocol between the Police and Victim Support. We are currently exploring how the duplication of contacting victims of Domestic Abuse and sexual violence can be reduced at a local level. This may be achieved through co located service provision which we are currently exploring.	Cherryl Henry-Leach	April 2014
16	Subject to agreement with CAADA Members recommend that NHS South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw be approached with a view to rolling out the GP flowchart setting out how to respond to domestic abuse to dentists and pharmacists.	Accept	Whilst we welcome this recommendation, CAADA informed us in November 2013 that their GP Flowchart cannot be rolled out to other services, but that they have no objection to our developing a similar flow chart for use by dentists, pharmacists, solicitors and other disparate service providers. This is now under development and launch is anticipated by 31 st March 2014. It will need to be agreed by the CCG and NHS England prior to launch, which may	Ruth Fletcher-Brown/Cherryl Henry-Leach	March 2014

		delay the date.		
17	<p>A perpetrator programme should be established in Rotherham as part of the work on prevention and early intervention and to ensure compliance with the SDVC components.</p>	Accept	<p>A bid was submitted to the EEC Daphne funding stream to finance the development and roll out of a perpetrator programme. We were informed on 27th November 2013 that this bid was unsuccessful and we are now scoping for other funding opportunities to support this area of work. This includes approaching the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding of a non- criminal justice community based perpetrator programme. We have been advised that the Daphne bid is being reconsidered.</p>	<p>CI Ian Womersley</p> <p>April 2014</p>
18	<p>A review should be carried out on resource allocation in order to focus more on standard/medium risk cases as part of the early intervention and prevention agenda and to prevent escalation to high risk and MARAC which is very resource intensive.</p> <p>Funding allocation for low cost but effective target hardening measures should be considered in the review.</p>	<p>Agree</p> <p>Agree (subject to available funding)</p>	<p>We are currently undertaking a review that covers this area of work and have established the need to train our Early Help workforce in the use of a Domestic Abuse Matrix that will ensure appropriate alignment of support of a child living with Domestic Abuse and the management of the risk posed to the abused adult parent or carer. This training will be completed by June 2014. In addition, we have also established the Early Help Panel which ensures, where Domestic Abuse is a feature in cases referred to this Panel, that Domestic Abuse is responded to appropriately where the risk is assessed as standard and medium to ensure risk escalation is prevented.</p> <p>This is available for victims of Domestic Abuse who reside in Local Authority Housing. Victim Support Rotherham has received temporary funding from the Ministry of Justice for this and this is reviewed annually at a national level. Funding opportunities at</p>	<p>Clair Pyper/Warren Carratt</p> <p>June 2014</p> <p>Cherryl Henry-Leach</p>

		a local level are being sourced to ensure that increased security measures can be offered to victims of Domestic Abuse living in private tenure properties where the risk posed to the victims are standard or medium.		
19	Members emphasised the importance of raising awareness with children and young people of how to recognise coercive relationships and to recognise and report domestic abuse, but recommend a review of the training strategy, including who is best placed to deliver the training, in order to ensure the best use of staff resources.	Accept	This recommendation will be achieved through completion of the actions on recommendations 3 and 10.	Helen Wood and Kay Denton-Tarn
20	Members recommend that Forced Marriage and so called "Honour" based violence be the subject of a separate review by Improving Lives Select Commission in 2014.	Accept	<p>The JSIA has identified Forced Marriage and "Honour" based violence as an area of work to be developed by the Safer Rotherham Partnership. We will be undertaking a review of Forced Marriage and "Honour" based violence during February to April 2014 which will enable us to map the prevalence of this form abuse and identify gaps in local service provision. Findings will be presented to the Safer Rotherham Partnership Domestic Abuse Priority group in May/June 2014.</p> <p>Stalking and Harassment is also identified within the Joint Strategic Assessment and this also to be reviewed during February to April.</p>	Cherryl Henry-Leach June 2014

		Members may wish to undertake their review once the findings from the above planned reviews are available.		
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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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7. Meeting:	Cabinet
8. Date:	5 February 2014
9. Title:	Scrutiny Review of Support for Carers
10. Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

This report sets out the main findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review of support for carers in Rotherham. The draft review report is attached as Appendix 1 for consideration by Cabinet.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 That Cabinet receives the report and recommendations.**
- 6.2 That Cabinet submit their response to the review to OSMB within two months of the report submission.**

7. Proposals and Details

- 7.1 Following a Member seminar on dementia and ensuing discussion about the important role and contribution of carers in Rotherham, at the request of the Leader, the Health Select Commission and the Improving Lives Select Commission agreed in September 2013 to undertake a joint scrutiny review of support for carers.
- 7.2 The key focus of Elected Members' attention was to ensure carers have access to the right information to enable them to access the support and services they require to assist them in the caring role and to maintain their own quality of life and health and wellbeing. As such it was very important to consider this from the perspective of carers, especially adult carers of adults with long term conditions.
- 7.3 The following definition of a carer was used for the review:
- "A carer is an adult or young person who provides unpaid care for a partner, relative, friend, an older person or someone who has a disability or long term illness, including people with alcohol/substance misuse and mental illness."
- 7.4 There were six main aims of the review, which were to establish:
- if carers generally identify themselves as carers in line with the definition above
 - the degree to which carers access support or consider they need support to assist them in their caring role
 - who carers go to for initial support when they first become a carer
 - where carers usually go for ongoing support
 - key factors necessary for ensuring carers receive good and timely information
 - any areas for improvement in current information provision
- 7.5 Members also wished to complement and add value to the review carried out by Neighbourhoods and Adult Services of current support services for carers, which focused on how support is currently provided to carers and how this may be improved.
- 7.6 A spotlight review was carried out, chaired by Cllr Brian Steele, and evidence gathering commenced in October 2013, concluding in December 2013. This comprised an on-line survey for carers supplemented by direct engagement with carers at two events, followed by two small discussion groups. Further evidence was provided by Council officers and witnesses from partner agencies in health and the voluntary and community sector.
- 7.7 Members recognised the large number of "hidden" carers in Rotherham, who are key to the effective provision of social care. There is a very strong case, both morally and financially, to ensure that carers are provided with the most effective support possible as it is estimated that nationally, carers save the country an estimated £119billion in care costs. The review group consider that any resources invested within the carers community in Rotherham, therefore supports the prevention and early intervention agenda, particularly with the demographic pressures created by an ageing population.
- 7.8 There are eleven recommendations, set out in full in section 6 in the review report, and in summary these focus on:
- increasing the number of people recognising themselves as carers and willing to

seek support for this vital role they carry out;

- ensuring that support for carers adequately includes emotional support and counselling;

- providing a multi agency “carers pathway” that recognises the journey that carers are on and provides them with the correct support and information at the right time and in the right place on that journey;

- increasing the number of carers receiving a fit for purpose carers assessment, which is reviewed on an annual basis.

8. Finance

The recommendations from the Select Commissions will require further exploration by Cabinet, the Strategic Leadership Team and partner agencies on the cost, risks and benefits of their implementation, taking into account the invest to save potential over the longer term.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Rotherham has a significant number of carers, many of whom are older people who may themselves have underlying health conditions, and with an ageing population it is vital that support is in place to ensure that carers maintain their own health and wellbeing and are supported in their caring role.

The last census showed that carers were more likely to report their general health as ‘Not Good’, compared with people providing no unpaid care and that the general health of carers deteriorated incrementally as the number of hours of care provided increased, up to the age of 65.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Children and Young People’s Plan 2010-2013

Corporate Plan

Ensuring care and protection are available for those people who need it most.

- Carers get the help and support they need

- People in need get help earlier before reaching crisis

- People in need of support and care have more choice and control to help them live at home

The Care Bill 2013-2014, which will reform the law relating to care and support for adults and the law relating to support for carers, is currently progressing through parliament and will impose new duties once enacted.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

See Section 8 of the review report and Appendices 1 and 2.

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Appendix 1

Scrutiny review: Support for Carers

Joint Review of the Health Select
Commission and the Improving Lives
Select Commission

October – December 2013

Scrutiny Review Group:

Cllr Brian Steele (Chair)
Cllr Colin Barron
Cllr Christine Beaumont
Cllr Jane Hamilton
Cllr Denise Lelliott
Cllr Lyndsay Pitchley

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Executive summary

The review group comprised the following members:

Health Select Commission

- Cllr Brian Steele (Chair)
- Cllr Colin Barron
- Cllr Christine Beaumont

Improving Lives Select Commission

- Cllr Jane Hamilton
- Cllr Denise Lelliott
- Cllr Lyndsay Pitchley

Summary of findings and recommendations

The six stated objectives of the review were to consider:

1. if carers generally identify themselves as carers
2. the degree to which carers access support or consider they need support to assist them in their caring role
3. who carers go to for initial support when they first become a carer
4. where carers usually go for ongoing support
5. the key factors necessary for ensuring carers receive good and timely information
6. any areas for improvement in current information provision

The review was therefore structured around these six objectives through engagement with carers at two events and through an on-line survey, followed by discussions with two small groups of carers to explore issues in more depth. Further evidence was provided by Council officers and partner agencies in health and the third sector.

Although many carers do access support there are a large number of “hidden” carers in Rotherham, who are key to the effective provision of social care. There is no doubt that should this hidden support system not exist, the cost burden to the main service providers would be huge. There is a very strong case, both morally and financially, to ensure that carers are provided with the most effective support possible.

Carers praised a number of organisations across all sectors, including some excellent work by named individuals, but also raised areas where their experiences had been less positive. The review discussed a number of good examples and noted recent work through pilot initiatives with scope for further development, but there are still some core areas requiring improvement in order to support carers.

It is the view of the members of the review group, therefore, that these carers represent a vital unpaid workforce within the Borough, and like all workforces they need investing in to get the best out of them. It is estimated that nationally, carers save the country an estimated £119billion in care costs. The review group consider that any resources invested within the carers community, therefore represents an invest to save opportunity, particularly with the demographic pressures created by an ageing population.

There are eleven recommendations and in summary these focus on:

- increasing the number of people recognising themselves as carers;
- ensuring that support for carers adequately includes emotional support and counselling;
- providing a multi agency “carers pathway” that recognises the journey carers are on;
- increasing the number of carers receiving a fit for purpose carers assessment, which is reviewed on an annual basis.

Recommendations:

1. That NHS England, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Council work with GPs to ensure that the first line of support aims to increase the number of carers identified and seeking support.

2. In looking at recommendation 1 above, the partners consider whether professionals should work on the presumption that the close family member or friend is a carer and ask questions to determine if this is the case, and therefore what information resources are required to back this up.
3. That Rotherham Council investigates further with the Advice in Rotherham partnership (AiR) and the Department of Work and Pensions, what specific information carers need to access benefits that are available to them. This may also help to identify more carers.
4. That NHS England, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Council, work with their VCS and other partners to create the carers pathway of support; an integrated, multi agency response to the needs of carers, using carers assessments and crucially the allocation of a “buddy” or “lead worker” to champion their individual needs. This lead worker should, where possible, come from the most appropriate agency identified for individual needs.
5. That Rotherham Council considers via its review of services to carers, and in light of the new requirements imposed by the Care Bill, reconfiguring its advice and information offer for Carers including; Assessment Direct, Connect 2 Support, Carers Corner and outreach services, to ensure that flexible support is offered within existing resources.
6. That the “triangle of care” presented by RDaSH be considered as part of this process as something that could be adapted and rolled out to all partners providing support to carers.
7. That Rotherham Council reviews its carers assessment tool in the light of the Care Bill to ensure it is fit for purpose. This should involve considering whether it could be less onerous. The correct title of the document “Carer’s needs form and care plan” should be used by partners to reflect that it is an enabling process rather than an “assessment”.
8. That Rotherham Council looks to set more stretching targets for carers assessments and regular (annual) reviews.
9. That steps are taken to ensure that the Joint Action Plan for Carers meets the recommendations of this review and is more accountable in terms of its delivery, seeking to influence external partners accordingly.
10. Whilst the review group has sought to make recommendations that can be accommodated within existing resources it also recognises that there is a strong case for further investment in this sector, in line with the prevention and early intervention agenda. It therefore recommends that the allocation of resources to carers (including the Better Care Fund) is reviewed to demonstrate how the changes to services proposed within this review are to be achieved.
11. Although outside the original scope, the review group recognised the important role public, private and third sector employers, play in providing flexible employment conditions for carers and therefore recommend that the findings of this review are shared with partners as widely as possible. In addition they reaffirmed the commitment in the Carer’s Charter to actively promote flexible and supportive employment policies that benefit carers.

1. Why Members wanted to undertake this review

Following a Member seminar on dementia and ensuing discussion about the vital role and contribution of carers in Rotherham, at the request of the Leader, Cllr Roger Stone, Overview and Scrutiny Management Board agreed to initiate a review of support for carers. The purpose of the review was to establish the extent to which carers in Rotherham are able to access timely and appropriate information, which helps them to access support and services that meet any specific needs they have as carers.

There were six main aims of the review, which were to establish:

- 1 if carers generally identify themselves as carers
- 2 the degree to which carers access support or consider they need support to assist them in their caring role
- 3 who carers go to for initial support when they first become a carer
- 4 where carers usually go for ongoing support
- 5 the key factors necessary for ensuring carers receive good and timely information
- 6 any areas for improvement in current information provision

2. Method

A joint spotlight scrutiny review was carried out by a sub-group of the Health Select Commission and Improving Lives Select Commission, consisting of Cllrs Barron, Beaumont, J Hamilton, Lelliott, Pitchley and Steele (Chair).

An initial report to both commissions provided an introduction and set the local context - including the definition of a carer; a profile of carers in Rotherham based on the 2011 census; and an overview of current work to support carers through the Rotherham Carers' Charter and Joint Action Plan for Carers 2013-16.

For the purposes of this scrutiny review a carer was defined as:

“A carer is an adult or young person who provides unpaid care for a partner, relative, friend, an older person or someone who has a disability or long term illness, including people with alcohol/substance misuse and mental illness.”

Evidence for the review was gathered through the following means:

- An anonymous on-line survey on the Council website from 17 October to 15 November 2013 asking carers about their experiences of accessing information and support.
- Posters and a small number hard copies of the survey in Carers Corner and Healthwatch Rotherham.
- Direct consultation with carers at Fair's Fayre on 30 October 2013 and at the Dementia Café at Davies Court on 5 November 2013.
- Two informal discussion sessions with small groups of carers to explore issues from the survey in greater depth.
- Round table discussions with RMBC officers and partners from health and the voluntary and community sector (VCS).

Appendix 1 is a copy of the survey and Appendix 2 has a summary of the results and the equality monitoring information about the carers who took part.

Neighbourhoods and Adult Services (NAS) have also undertaken a recent review of current support services for carers, focusing on how support is currently provided to carers and how this may be improved. The intention is that the scrutiny spotlight review

Members would like to thank everyone who gave evidence for the review and in particular the carers who gave up their time to participate in the discussion sessions. They would also like to thank Carers Corner and partner agencies in the voluntary and community sector, especially Alzheimer's Society, Carers for Carers, Crossroads and Healthwatch, who helped to publicise the survey and encouraged carers to take part in the review.

3. Background

In Rotherham and throughout the UK carers underpin the statutory services saving the country a vast sum in care costs annually; quite simply without their support the welfare system would fail. Estimates in 2011 by Carers UK and the University of Leeds calculated the value of care provided by friends and family members to ill, frail or disabled relatives at £119 billion every year nationally or £326 million per day. Further calculations estimated each carer saved the state on average over £18,000 a year. Here in Rotherham the role and value of carers has long been acknowledged, however forthcoming changes in the legislation will have implications for carers and the support they are entitled to receive.

Rotherham has a significant number of carers, many of whom are older people who may themselves have underlying health conditions. Having information widely available that is easy to understand and relevant is a key factor in ensuring carers are able to access services and support and maintain a good quality of life and their own health and wellbeing if they are to continue in their caring role.

The difficulty with supporting carers is that many of them are "hidden" to the various agencies that offer services to them. This has been found to be of particular concern to Members of the review group and their focus therefore has very much been about how effective information is targeted at this hidden and unpaid workforce.

3.1 Census data

The 2011 census data showed that although both women and men are carers proportionately there are more women carers than men in England and Wales - 57.7% compared with 42.3%. The share of unpaid care provision fell most heavily on women aged 50-64; but the gender inequality diminished among retired people, with men slightly more likely to be providing care than women.

Rotherham continues to have a higher rate of people with limiting long-term illness than the national average of 17.6% - 56,588 (21.9% of the population). The census also revealed that Rotherham's population is ageing faster than the national average with a 16% increase in the number of people aged over 65 (from 2001 – 2011). Those aged over 85 increased at over twice this rate (+34.6%). This population profile has implications for the number of people needing care now and potentially in the future.

In 2011, 31,001 people in Rotherham said that they provided unpaid care to family members, friends or neighbours with either long-term physical or mental ill-health/disability or problems related to old age. The number of carers has increased only slightly from 30,284 in 2001 but still equates to 12% of the population and is higher than the national average of 10%. One noticeable change is that compared to 2001 fewer people are now providing 1 to 19 hours of care a week (19,069 in 2001 down to 17,400 in 2011) but more are providing care for 20 or more hours per week. The number of people providing 20 to 49 hours care has increased (3,828 to 4,736), as has the number providing 50 or more hours (7,387 to 8,865). See graph in Appendix 3.

Carers were more likely to report their general health as 'Not Good', compared with people providing no unpaid care. 'Not Good' health was derived from those who answered 'fair', 'bad' and 'very bad' to the health question in the 2011 Census. The general health of carers deteriorated incrementally as the number of hours of care provided increased, up to the age of 65, across all economic positions. Providing 50 hours or more unpaid care per week appears to have the greatest impact on the general health of young carers under 24.

3.2 Lifestyle Survey

The Young People's Lifestyle Survey carried out annually with local schools also shows a large number of young people who identify themselves as carers. In the most recent survey 27% of pupils consider themselves to be young carers (up from 25% last year). Most are caring for their parents (57%) or siblings (60%). Around 20% were aware of the Young Carers Service (down from 24% the previous year).

4. Carers' Charter

The Council and Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group jointly agreed a Rotherham Carers' Charter in 2013 which provides a clear commitment to all carers in Rotherham, replacing the previous Joint Carers' Strategy. Over the period 2013-2016 work is focusing on a set of four priority outcomes, based on the views and experiences of carers gathered through a range of consultation activities. These priorities are linked to the six priorities in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

- Priority 1 - Health and Wellbeing: all carers will be supported to make positive choices about their mental and physical health and wellbeing
- Priority 2 - Access to information: accessible information about the services and support available will be provided for all carers in Rotherham
- Priority 3 - Access to services: all carers will be offered and supported to access a range of flexible services that are appropriate to their needs
- Priority 4 - Employment and Skills: all carers will be able to take part in education, employment and training if they wish to

The charter contains various commitments linked to the four priority outcomes and each commitment is underpinned by a number of actions and measures which comprise the Joint Action Plan for Carers 2013-16. This was approved in March 2013 and in order to build on previous successes and achieve further improvements for carers, effective performance management is necessary to ensure meaningful and measurable outcomes.

5. Findings

5.1 If carers generally identify themselves as carers

A very strong issue emerging from the survey, consultation with carers themselves and with the professionals who work to support them was that for many the transition from family member/friend to carer is a gradual one. This means that they don't often see themselves as 'carers' with a common description being that it "creeps up". However for other carers the change to becoming a carer is an overnight one, for example following an accident, brain injury or stroke. Most carers see themselves in terms of their relationship to the person being cared first and foremost.

The implications of this are around how carers are identified in the first place and how support services work to support carers in these circumstances – what is provided and how. Members considered carefully how this might most effectively be addressed and

drew on experience from other areas. For example, in Swansea, professionals work on the presumption that the close family member is a carer and are encouraged to ask questions to determine if this is the case. This removes the need for the carer to self identify in order to receive support. Members felt very strongly that the onus should be on the professionals working with the person being cared for to identify the carer and to provide them with the information they need to firstly recognise their role, and secondly to access the support they need. It was considered that the point of diagnosis for the person being cared for is key, making health services paramount to this process, and thus in many circumstances is likely to be a GP. Further work with GPs on maintaining carer registers is required and this will be raised at the Practice Managers Forum as not all practices use and update them regularly as yet.

"Your details be taken at time of diagnosis and someone to contact you (shortly after) and send you more information and explain what will be available to you"

"There are plenty of posters etc in GP surgeries which ask you to register if you care for people. Not sure how registering actually benefits someone"

".....Information should be available at discharge from hospital"

"More promotion needed through community corner at TRFT"

"Overall GPs are very important, doctors surgeries should have more information"

Positive work is taking place as shown by the Integrated Case Management pilot where GPs lead a multi-disciplinary team of health and social care professionals working with a group of patients with long term conditions and their carers to signpost them to early support. Linked to this is the Social Prescribing Service pilot which enables a link from GPs through a number of VCS Advisors into the VCS sector and the various alternative support options to help meet non-clinical needs of patients and to support carers.

Members also noted evidence received about the emotional impact on carers of coming to terms with this change in relationship and agreed that services need to aim to support them in this process.

"I don't think of myself as a carer but he calls me his carer."

"I am a mother not a carer".

"Didn't realize – it was the mental health team that said 'You are a carer'."

"A nurse at the doctors said 'You are a carer'."

"Just creeps up."

"..... I think getting people to acknowledge they are carers is the first step."

"Hard to recognise when you've reached your limit."

"Changes the relationship with the cared for person, they can often become difficult"

5.2 Accessing support

Carers

As a result of 5.1 above, there are a large number of carers who are not accessing support. In section 3.1 it is reported that there are over 31,000 carers in Rotherham, however, the Council's Neighbourhoods and Adult Services are providing services to only a percentage of these.

The number of people receiving adult social care services was 5,229 in November 2013. So with 31,000 carers locally this suggests a significant volume of family members and/or friends providing care for people, who although not all meeting the Fair Access to Care Services (FACS) criteria, currently at substantial level, still require help and support. Thus it is important that this wider group of carers knows how to access support to help them in their caring role.

Carers praised a number of organisations and sectors, including some excellent work by named individuals, but also noted areas where their experiences had been less positive. Of those who took part in the survey and who are accessing services or support (approximately two thirds of respondents), the majority had found this to be easy or very easy - a very positive finding for the services targeted at carers in Rotherham. There is, however, a significant number who find it difficult and anecdotal evidence from the consultation shows that at least some of those people accessing services did so because of a family member or friend having prior knowledge, or as a result of a chance comment from someone they have met. It is also clear from the survey that Council employees who are also carers do not necessarily know how to access services, despite being already "linked in" to one of the major service providers.

The two direct consultation locations were Fair's Fayre (31 people) and Davies Court café (18) who were more likely to be people with contacts and links to information. Nevertheless ten respondents at Fair's Fayre answered that was very difficult/difficult to find out about services or support and two at Davies Court.

Although the consultation was carefully targeted to encourage new or recent carers to respond, and those who do not self identify as carers, it should be noted that most of the consultees had accessed local agencies for support. This further emphasises the difficulties in reaching "hidden carers".

The implications of this, considered by members of the review group, are around how to promote and make services more accessible when people have recognised themselves as carers and need/want support. This is considered in more detail in the following sections looking at initial and ongoing support needs.

"I am unaware of any support I could get to assist with the caring I provide."
 "I don't know, I have never received help so not sure what is available."
 "I was lucky as I know about Carers through family links however if I had not been in this position I would have struggled."

Emotional support

Discussions took place with carers around support that they may consider they need. Many carers mentioned the difficulty of the decision to send someone into full-time care and the ensuing guilt; coping with the mental aspects of seeing the decline in the person you love; and anxiety when people go for respite, worrying about how they are doing so not switching off.

"It would be good to have someone to speak to such as counsellor"
 "Support later in progression of illness, own wellbeing."
 "They give you plenty of literature but our experience is that none has ever materialised."

Framework Agreement

In terms of provision of adult social care, members of the review group heard about the Council's Framework Agreement and how services are commissioned from a range of providers within this framework. Assessment Direct, a direct phone number, is the route via which needs are assessed and referrals made if appropriate. This all depends on whether the person being cared for meets the eligibility criteria, currently set at substantial. If they do, then a brokerage service will refer the person to the relevant service provider.

Concern was expressed, however, that Support Officers who carry out the majority of carers assessments¹, are unable to refer carers through to brokerage for a respite service in their own home (particularly appropriate for people with dementia as routine is key to maintaining equilibrium). This means that carers who are assessed as requiring a break have then to be referred through to Assessment Direct for a social worker to undertake a further assessment. This is time consuming, costly and confusing. Members therefore raised the question of where carers of people who may not meet the FACS criteria (substantial level) actually receive support to prevent a breakdown in their ability to provide care. Witnesses who provided evidence felt very strongly that having a single point of contact for carers was very important and may help to overcome some of these issues. The Council used to have a dedicated Carers Officer who worked proactively to develop such relationships with partners and providers; however, this post was lost during a recent re-structure.

5.3 Who carers go to for initial support when they become a carer

The survey showed that the most frequently used sources of initial support were split fairly evenly across GPs, the Council, Carers Corner (which opened in May 2010) and "other". Hospital services and VCS were lower in numbers for initial support. In considering this information members of the review group felt that it is important that all support services are equipped to recognise carers and to have the right information to be able to link them to support and other agencies. However it was felt that GPs are critical to this early identification and referral process.

Stag Medical Centre was the first GP practice to establish a virtual carers corner (June 2013) and is pro-active in signposting people, holding drop-ins and providing information, with an area set aside in both surgeries. The practice has a good patient participation group which includes some carers and which ran with the idea of setting it up. The demographic profile of their patients has above average numbers of over 65s (23%) and 51% are over 45.

Members therefore considered the potential for further development of working in partnership with GPs on early identification of carers' needs, building on the pilot initiatives referred to above and the establishment of a clear carers pathway, including earlier referral to VCS partners. This carers pathway should include a well publicised clear entry point for all carers, commencing with a fit-for-purpose detailed assessment and including reviews at key stages. The review carried out by NAS also seeks to maximise the benefits of partnership working.

It was noted that in the evidence received from VCS partners they have to limit the promotion of their services due to capacity issues. More effective use of the VCS contributes to preventing crises and implies potential cost savings further down the line for statutory partners, such as reducing admissions to residential and hospital care. Therefore a multi-agency approach to the resourcing of the carers pathway is required.

5.4 Where carers usually go for ongoing support

With follow on support services, according to the survey, the VCS and hospital services come much higher, with VCS being the highest number. It should also be noted that although access to benefit advice is identified as an issue in both the survey and separate consultation, being described as a "minefield" and a "battle", only one respondent commented that they went directly to the Department of Work and Pensions for support and/or advice. Unfortunately the review was unable to carry out any further investigations around this agenda, in particular looking at benefits advice, however, this is something they considered to be an important issue.

¹ Carers assessments is the term used but the document is the "Carer's Needs Form and Care Plan".

Members considered this information carefully as it showed that carers use a wide range of services, being equally comfortable with seeking support from formal providers such as GPs, hospitals and the Council and informal services via the VCS. It also shows that carers needs are not met by just one or two key services. The implications of this is that they could be moving around between services and potentially be missing out on support or not receiving consistently high quality support. Some of this was supported by evidence from both the VCS and Council and NHS service providers, in that communication and referrals between the agencies don't work as effectively as they probably should. Members considered during their discussions how to ensure that a clear pathway of support exists for carers and who the key partners might be in achieving this, particularly focusing on the use of a carers assessment tool. This should also include an allocated "buddy" or "lead worker" from the most appropriate agency to ensure that support is accessed consistently and according to the identified needs of the carer.

Evidence from the sessions suggested that carers assessments were not being used consistently, with some carers saying they had never received one, and those who had reported varying experiences of how successful they had been in identifying their needs or in actually helping them on a practical level. Few of the carers who took part in the discussion groups have an updated assessment review on an annual basis.

This was considered to be very important given the fact that members of the review group had already established that carers are very often on a journey and therefore their needs change considerably over time, often requiring referral between a number of partner agencies. Members were not convinced that the carers assessment process was facilitating this adequately.

The statutory duty to carry out carers assessments will form part of the new legal framework when the Care Bill is enacted. However, of equal importance is the need to carry out regular reviews and to ensure assessments result in tangible outcomes for the carer.

"Although 'Carer's Assessments' in theory are an excellent way of identifying problems/potential 'crisis' points, help required etc., they do not seem to follow through as being a particularly helpful tool in so far as people do not seem to feel that they have been of any use."

"... led to overnight respite"

5.5 Key factors for ensuring carers receive good and timely information

Volume and timing of information

Overall the general consensus is that there is a lack of information and that difficulties exist in accessing information. Some carers mentioned overload of information at early stages, with some information only being required later on in the progression of the person they are caring for's condition, however, it was noted that this may be particularly pertinent to those caring for patients with Alzheimer's or dementia. VCS partners mentioned the need for earlier referrals from social care to help prevention of crisis.

"Carers need the right information at the right time – NOT masses of info when first diagnosed"

Accessible information

Accessibility of information was felt to be key. It needs to be accessible in equalities terms – plain English and simple easy to understand messages. Members also

considered the need for better advertising and circulation of leaflets. A well publicised single point of access was also considered, via a telephone line.

“Information in plain English for everyone, including health and wellbeing information”
“Less bureaucracy on application forms, simpler on-line screens”
“Simplified internet searches”
“Don’t use big posh words in leaflets”
“Office staff don’t explain things properly to carers”

Where to go for information

Consultation with carers highlighted the need for a range of communication methods to ensure carers are able to access information in a way that best suits their needs. Preferences for the best way to receive information varied demonstrating the need to give people options including face to face communication, telephone, leaflets and electronic communication via social media and dedicated webpages. ICT barriers were cited for some groups, especially many older carers and those without computers and internet access at home.

“Someone to speak to face to face”
“Ring the person more often to keep them up to date”
“Using local media and social media, as most carers do not have time to visit walk in centres and seek advice, you just get on with it and try to maintain your own life.”
“Ok if know where to go but need good signposting”
“I found out about Crossroads from my husband’s GP waiting room - leaflets displayed in a way that makes you want to go and read them i.e. tidy, well stocked”.
“Golden phone number – staffed”
“Keep Carers Corner. Introduce and fund outreach services. Look at development and provision of Carers Corner.”
“More community based support required. Rather than all resources being Rotherham centrally based”
“1 point of call – one-stop shop”
“Include carers round the borough”
“an information hub”

As part of the review by NAS snapshot monitoring of people specifically going to Carers Corners to request help or information was carried out. During the four month period from June to September 2013 126 people went in to request help or information, an average of 1.5 enquiries per working day. 20% of these resulted in signposting to either Assessment Direct or another organisation for information and advice and the other 80% related to issues including benefits enquiries, housing advice, blue badge scheme, TV licensing and debt related advice. This monitoring does not include people who attended for other purposes, including drop-ins or services provided by other organisations.

The NAS review also identified the success of outreach workshops run to date with workers going out to meet carers in different venues across the borough such as GP surgeries and at the hospital, reflecting some of the comments above.

The implications for discussions around Carers Corner and the NAS review of how this service is delivered are clear. Members considered that Carers Corner emerged as very popular in the survey with some very positive feed back received. It is also clear, however, that more focused outreach would also help to address some of the issues being raised in terms of accessing “hidden” carers and getting the right information to them.

The review did look at information needs for all carers, including young carers, however, it was apparent that how young carers are referred into support services works very differently than for adults. Members spoke to representatives from Barnardo's and heard how the referral process works. An initiative being developed with young carers around a carers card in schools, was received very well and members of the review group considered how this could be adapted to adult carers too. This has been considered but resource implications have precluded its implementation to date.

Triangle of Care

Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust (RDaSH) brought to Members' attention their work towards the Triangle of Care, a three way partnership between the staff, the patient and the carer. Members received this information positively and considered whether it could be adapted for other partners too. This approach encompasses six standards necessary to improve partnership working in mental health services. One standard highlights the essential role of carers who should be identified at first contact and another covers training for staff to become "carer aware". More details about the standards are in Appendix 4.



Extract from RDaSH Carers Information Leaflet at Swallownest Court

5.6 Areas for improvement in current information provision

Less than half of the survey respondents (44 people) answered yes to the question: "Do you think you receive information at the right time?", showing that there are issues to address to make it easier to access help and support at the right time. In their responses to the survey and in the ensuing discussion sessions carers made some thoughtful and interesting comments and suggestions for improvements as well as highlighting examples that work well. These suggestions (summarised under 12 broad headings in Appendix 2 question 7) focused primarily on operational issues and will be fed back to the relevant agencies.

In terms of helping to plan for information provision the survey also asked about the topics that carers found most useful and the clear top five answers were:

Welfare and benefits	45
Local groups	39
Health	38
Respite	21
Council services	21

The need for information is ongoing and changing over time, also there are many new carers being identified, therefore one-off information campaigns are not sufficient. It was agreed across all witnesses that there will always be a large number of carers who are “hidden” to the support agencies. This is identified in the Joint Action Plan for Carers, but it is not clear whose responsibility this is and it is not a smart action.

It was noted that many of the actions in the Joint Action Plan for Carers would cover some of the issues that have arisen in this review, however, as with the point above Members expressed some concern that arrangements for clear targets, monitoring and accountability to key officers, were missing from many of them.

Corporate Plan outcome 17 - former NI 135 (see Appendix 3 Table 2)

Monitoring of indicator former NI 135 (one of the corporate plan outcomes) is carried out by NAS, and it measures the number of carers known to Social Services being assessed. Members were concerned to see a seeming lack of ambitious growth targets around this, both in terms of increasing the number of carers being assessed (of those known to Social Services) or to increase the overall number of carers being supported. Under current arrangements most assessments are carried out by the four Carers Support Officers whilst reviews are carried out by the Planning and Reviewing team. This review has considered ways to widen the pool of assessors.

Flexible working

Time and work pressures were raised by several carers in paid employment showing the importance of flexible working policies. Members wished to re-iterate the Council's support in terms of flexible working and access to support for its own employees who are carers.

“I often feel that assisting my mum to attend appointments is the most difficult as I can not take time out of work.”

6. Conclusions and recommendations

Although many carers do access support there are a large number of “hidden” carers in Rotherham, who are key to the effective provision of social care. There is no doubt that should this hidden support system not exist, the cost burden to the main service providers would be huge. There is a very strong case, both morally and financially, to ensure that carers are provided with the most effective support possible.

It is the view of the members of the review group, therefore, that these carers represent a vital unpaid workforce within the Borough, and like all workforces they need investing in to get the best out of them. It is estimated that nationally, carers save the country an estimated £119billion in care costs. The review group consider that any resources invested within the carers community in Rotherham, therefore represents an invest to save opportunity, particularly with the demographic pressures created by an ageing population.

The Council and its partners should therefore seek to:

6.1 Increase the number of people recognising themselves as carers and willing to seek support for this vital role they carry out.

Recommendation 1 – That NHS England, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Council work with GPs to ensure that the first line of support aims to increase the number of carers identified and seeking support.

Recommendation 2 – In looking at recommendation 1 above, the partners consider whether professionals should work on the presumption that the close family member or friend is a carer and ask questions to determine if this is the case, and therefore what information resources are required to back this up.

Recommendation 3 – That Rotherham Council investigates further with the Advice in Rotherham partnership (AiR) and the Department of Work and Pensions, what specific information carers need to access benefits that are available to them. This may also help to identify more carers.

6.2 Ensure that support for carers adequately includes emotional support and counselling.

6.3 Provide a multi agency “carers pathway” that recognises the journey that carers are on and provides them with the correct support and information at the right time and in the right place on that journey.

Recommendation 4 – That NHS England, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group and Rotherham Council, work with their VCS and other partners to create the carers pathway of support; an integrated, multi agency response to the needs of carers, using carers assessments and crucially the allocation of a “buddy” or “lead worker” to champion their individual needs. This lead worker should, where possible, come from the most appropriate agency identified for individual needs.

Recommendation 5 – That Rotherham Council considers via its review of services to carers, and in light of the new requirements imposed by the Care Bill, reconfiguring its advice and information offer for Carers including; Assessment Direct, Connect 2 Support, Carers Corner and outreach services, to ensure that flexible support is offered within existing resources.

Recommendation 6 – That the “triangle of care” presented by RDaSH be considered as part of this process as something that could be adapted and rolled out to all partners providing support to carers.

6.4 Significantly increase the number of carers receiving a fit for purpose carers assessment, which is reviewed on an annual basis. This links to the point made previously of widening the pool of assessors.

Recommendation 7 – That Rotherham Council reviews its carers assessment tool in the light of the Care Bill to ensure it is fit for purpose. This should involve considering whether it could be less onerous. The correct title of the document “Carer’s needs form and care plan” should be used by partners to reflect that it is an enabling process rather than an “assessment”.

Recommendation 8 – That Rotherham Council looks to set more stretching targets for Carers assessments and regular (annual) reviews.

Recommendation 9 – That steps are taken to ensure that the Joint Action Plan for Carers meets the recommendations of this review and is more accountable in terms of its delivery, seeking to influence external partners accordingly.

Recommendation 10 – Whilst the review group has sought to make recommendations that can be accommodated within existing resources it also recognises that there is a strong case for further investment in this sector, in line with the prevention and early intervention agenda. It therefore recommends that the allocation of resources to Carers

Recommendation 11 – Although outside the original scope, the review group recognised the important role public, private and third sector employers, play in providing flexible employment conditions for carers and therefore recommend that the findings of this review are shared with partners as widely as possible. In addition they reaffirmed the commitment in the Carer's Charter to actively promote flexible and supportive employment policies that benefit carers.

7. Thanks

Our thanks go to the following for their contributions to our review:

Cllr Roger Stone, Leader of the Council

Partners

Helen Cryan – Crossroads

Lesley Dabell – Age UK

Jacky Fairfax – Rotherham Foundation Trust

Lyndsey Hallatt – Barnardo's

Liz Hopkinson – Alzheimer's Society

Chris Thompson – Stag Medical Centre

Jane Whaley – Barnardo's

Helen Wyatt – Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group

RMBC Officers

Jenny Greaves – Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Trust/RMBC

David Stevenson

Richard Waring

8. Background papers

Report to Health Select Commission 12 September 2013

Report to Improving Lives Select Commission 18 September 2013

Notes of evidence sessions on 19 and 29 November 2013

Results of "Are You a Carer?" Survey

Young People's Lifestyle Survey

2011 Census data

Full story: The gender gap in unpaid care provision: is there an impact on health and economic position? Office of National Statistics May 2013

The Triangle of Care Carers included: A Guide to Best Practice in Mental Health Care in England Second Edition Carers Trust 2013

Valuing Carers (2011) Carers UK and University of Leeds

Rotherham Carers' Charter and Joint Action Plan for Carers 2013-16

Terms of reference for NAS carers review

Scrutiny review reports:- Swansea and York

Appendix 1 – “Are you a carer?” survey

**Are you a carer?**

The Council is carrying out a short scrutiny review to look at information for carers. We want to hear about your recent experiences of finding out where to go, or who to ask, for information to help you in your caring role.

We are particularly interested in hearing from you if you who have become a carer in the last two years.

For the purpose of the review we are using the definition of a carer as someone who provides unpaid care for a partner, relative, neighbour or friend who is an adult who has a long term illness or condition, including people with alcohol/substance misuse and mental illness.

We would be grateful if you could assist us by completing the questionnaire, which should only take a few minutes.

Your responses will be completely confidential and the information you provide will help us to identify any areas for improvement.

1. Have you used any services or had any support specifically for carers?
☐

Yes

☐

No (if No please go to straight to Question 7)

2. How easy was it to find out about services and support available for carers?

very easy

☐

easy

☐

difficult

☐

very difficult

☐
3. Who did you speak to or where did you go for support when you first became a carer? (please tick ONE)
☐

GP

☐

Hospital Services

☐

Carers Corner

☐

Other (please let us know)

☐

Council Services

☐

Voluntary & Community Group

4. Where else have you been for support since becoming a carer?

(please tick all that apply)

☐

GP

☐

Voluntary & Community Group

☐

Carers Corner

☐

Hospital Services

☐

Council Services

☐

Other (please let us know)

5. Do you think you receive information at the right time?

☐

Yes

☐

No

6. Which information do you find most useful? (please tick all that apply)

☐

Welfare and benefits

☐

Respite

☐

Local Groups

☐

Leisure

☐

Council Services

☐

Employment and training

☐

Health

☐

Other (please let us know)

☐

Housing

7. How do you think information about support for carers could be improved?

Could you please tell us about you to help us with our evaluation

8. Are you male or female?

☐

Male

☐

Female

Please continue

9. Please select an age range Page 124

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> under 20 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 50 – 59 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20 – 29 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 60 – 69 years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30 – 39 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 70+ years |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40 – 49 years | |

10. How do you describe your ethnic origin?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Heritage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or Black British | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese, Yemeni, Arab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Asian British | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnic Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy or Traveller | |

If you want to take part in the discussion please continue below

11. Would you like to take part in a small informal discussion?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

12. If yes, please let us know how to contact you **(Please print clearly)**

Name:

Email:

Telephone:

If you would like more information please contact us:

Email: scrutiny.works@rotherham.gov.uk

Telephone: 01709 822776 (Sharon Crook) or 01709 254421 (Janet Spurling)

For advice and support about being a carer contact Carers Corner:

Email: carerscorner@rotherham.gov.uk

Telephone: 01709 254809

Call in – located in the town centre on the corner of Drummond Street and Effingham Square, Rotherham

Please seal your completed form in the envelope provided and leave it with a member of staff at Healthwatch or Carers Corner.

Total responses – 95 (note that not all respondents answered all questions)

1. Have you used any services or had any support specifically for carers?

Yes 61
No 28 (19 people were directed straight to question 7, see note at end)

2. How easy was it to find out about services and support available for carers?

very easy 17
easy 32
neutral 1
difficult 17
very difficult 5

3. Who did you speak to or where did you go for support when you first became a carer?

GP 13
Council Services 13
Voluntary & Community Group 7
Hospital Services 9
Carers Corner 14
Other 14

Other where more detail given or more than one chosen:

GP and Council services
Carers Corner and Voluntary/Community group 2
Carers Corner, Council services, Voluntary/Community group
GP, Carers Corner, Voluntary/Community group
GP and Carers Corner
Private Company
Rotherham
Macmillan
Adult social care/Social services 2
Howarth House
Alzheimer's Society 4

4. Where else have you been for support since becoming a carer?

GP 26
Council Services 19
Voluntary & Community Group 26
Hospital Services 19
Carers Corner 17
Other 12

Other where more detail given:

Family member who works for a charity
DWP
Macmillan cancer support hospital
Mencap
Victim Support
Red Cross
Memory Cafe/Singing for Brain groups
Memory service have provided best support
Most useful support from Alzheimer's Society
Crossroads Care x2
HealthWatch

5. Do you think you receive information at the right time?

Yes 44 Sometimes 4 No 21

6. Which information do you find most useful? (please tick all that apply)

Welfare and benefits	45	Housing	8
Local Groups	39	Employment and training	3
Health	38	Training	8
Respite	21	Employment	1
Council Services	21	Other	6
Leisure	13		

Other where more detail given:

Day care/Day care services 2

Financial

Mobility aids

How to access the right funding for residential services

Information and support when someone has been sectioned

I needed support

Alzheimer's Society

7. How do you think information about support for carers could be improved?

Responses may be summarised under 12 headings, as follows:

- 1 Identifying self as a carer
- 2 Not knowing how to access support
- 3 Wanting support
- 4 Time and work pressures
- 5 More advertising/signposting/information
- 6 Making information easier/more accessible
- 7 Specialist information
- 8 Welfare information
- 9 Single point of contact v More outreach/community
- 10 Carers' Corner
- 11 Suggestions for service providers
- 12 Suggestions for where to get more information/advertise more

Equality monitoring:**Gender:**

Female 71 Male 19

Age	under 20 years 0	50 – 59 years 24
	20 – 29 years 1	60 – 69 years 15
	30 – 39 years 14	70+ years 13
	40 – 49 years 21	

Ethnic origin:

White 80 Asian or Asian British 6 Other 1

The carers cared for people with a range of conditions – learning disability, autism, Alzheimer's, mental illness and physical disability. Some are caring for more than one person, such as two adult children or both parents.

Note:

Respondents who answered "no" to question 1 on-line were directed straight to question 7, whereas those responding "no" through other methods often did answer questions 2-6.

Appendix 3

Table 1

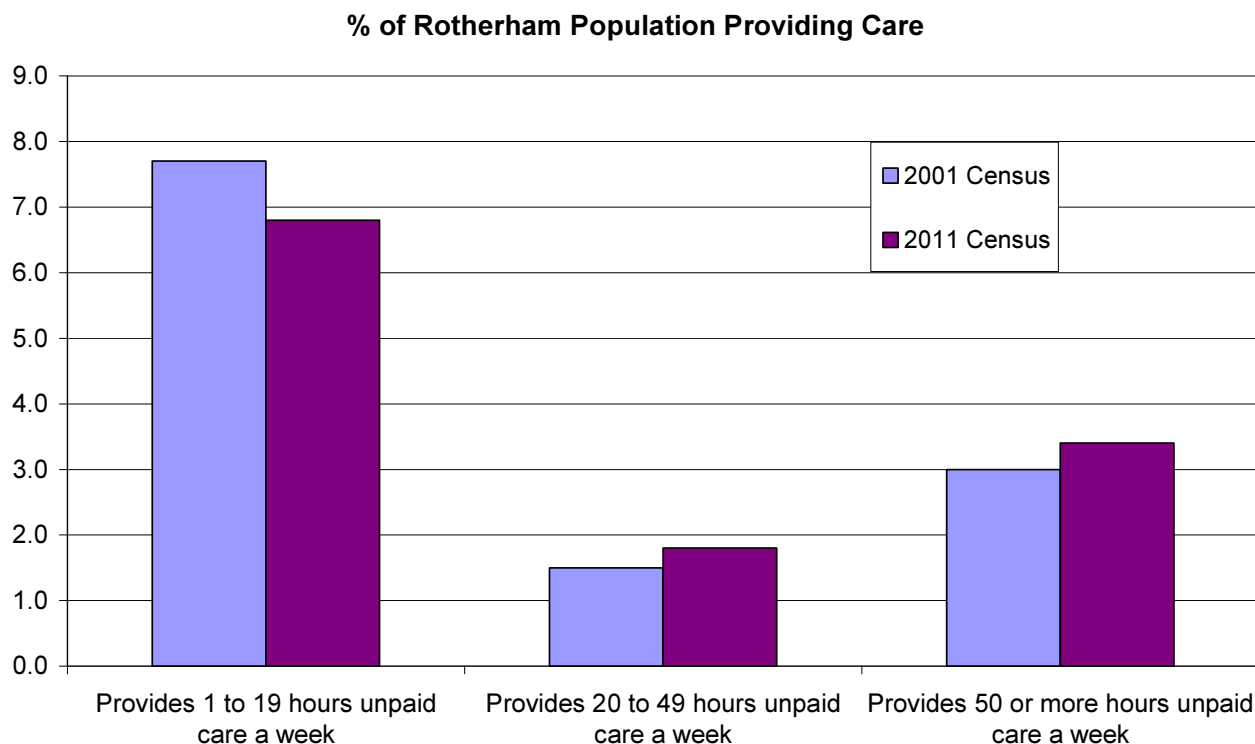


Table 2

Corporate Plan indicator 17 - Carers get the help and support they need
(former national indicator NI 135)

Indicator Title	11/12 Actual or baseline	12/13 Q1	12/13 Q2	12/13 Q3	12/13 Q4	12/13 Year end	13/14 Target	Performance as at 5/11/13
Number of carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information.	41.51%	12.05%	18.77%	25.38%	42.02%	42.02% Target was 42%	43%	27%

This measure accumulates throughout year and is on track to hit the marginal continuous improvement target set at 43%. Latest figures for 2013/14 performance at 5th November 2013 was 1412/5229 = 27%. The denominator is based on the number of people receiving adult social care in the year.

Appendix 4 The key elements to achieving a Triangle of Care:

1) Carers and the essential role they play are identified at first contact or as soon as possible thereafter.

- Carers' views and knowledge are sought, shared, used and regularly updated as overall care plans and strategies to support treatment and recovery take place.

2) Staff are “carer aware” and trained in carer engagement strategies.

- Staff need to be aware of and welcome the valuable contribution carers can make and be mindful of carers' own needs.
- Staff need knowledge, training and support to become carer aware.

3) Policy and practice protocols re: confidentiality and sharing information are in place.

- To ensure proactive engagement carers need to be part of the care planning and treatment process across the care pathway, that is, for inpatient, home treatment and community, the service should have clear policies and mechanisms and ensure these are routinely used, including:
 - Guidelines on confidentiality and for sharing information – a three-way process between services users, carers and professionals.
 - Information release forms and protocols.
 - Advance statement forms and protocols.

4) Defined post(s) responsible for carers are in place, including:

- Carers lead or champion for all wards and teams irrespective of which service.
- Carers links delegated for each shift/team.

5) A carer introduction to the service and staff is available, with a relevant range of information across the care pathway, including:

- An introductory letter from the team or ward explaining the nature of the service provided and who to contact, including out of hours.
- An appointment with a named member of the team to discuss their views and involvement.
- Ward orientation/induction procedure and leaflet.
- Carer information packs
- Discharge planning and aftercare support.

6) A range of carer support services is available, including:

- Carer support
- Carer needs assessment
- Family interventions

There also needs to be regular assessing and auditing to ensure the six key standards of carer engagement exist and remain in place.

Source: The Triangle of Care Carers included: A Guide to Best Practice in Mental Health Care in England Second Edition Carers Trust 2013

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5th February 2014
3.	Title:	Child Protection – Information Sharing Delivering better protection for children All wards affected
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

The *Child Protection – Information Sharing* (CP-IS) project is an NHS England sponsored work programme dedicated to developing an information sharing solution that will deliver a higher level of protection to children who visit NHS unscheduled care settings such as emergency departments and walk-in clinics.

It proposes to do so by connecting local authorities' child protection social care IT systems with those used by staff in NHS unscheduled care settings.

The information sharing focuses on three specific categories of child only:

Those with a child protection plan

Those with looked after child status

Any pregnant woman whose unborn child has a prebirth child protection plan

6. Recommendations

- (i) That Cabinet receive this report
- (ii) That Cabinet give approval for CYPS to proceed with this key information sharing project by signing the Acceptance Letter

7. Proposals and Details

The child protection information sharing (CP-IS) project will target specific unscheduled care settings such as: Emergency departments, Out of hours GP services, Walk-in centres, hospital wards where children are likely to present.

The project will take a minimal change approach by building upon the existing NHS IT infrastructure. CP-IS will be delivered by making upgrades and changes to current systems (rather than developing a new system from scratch). It is working with a range of IT suppliers who supply to children's social care including Northgate, the supplier of the system in use in Rotherham (CCM / SWIFT). North Tyneside LA have been the lead children's services for Northgate Customers

NHS settings can then view the information via a variety of means so that it can access the child protection information automatically from the secure central data store. The data will be accessed via a safe, electronic system, and only those with an NHS Smartcard and the correct level of permissions will be able to see it.

The system will automatically retain a record of who has accessed the child's details, when and from where, and this can be viewed by health professionals. It is also available to the local authority that has a responsibility for the child. This will help to highlight the children who have a child protection plan or are *looked after* who are visiting different healthcare settings over a short period of time, which could be an indicator of continued abuse or neglect.

Neither the contents of the child protection plan nor detailed information about the child's *looked after* status will be made available to the NHS, just high level demographic information. Similarly, information about when and where a child has received unscheduled medical care will be shared with social care, but not clinical information (such as the reason for the child's visit and the treatment they received).

The specific areas covered by the project are :

Those with a child protection plan – 42,700 at 2011/1012 in England (336 in Rotherham as at 31st March 2013)

Those with *looked after* child status (children with full and interim care orders and voluntary care agreements) – 59,470 at 2011/2012 in England (396 in Rotherham as at 31st March 2013)

Any pregnant woman whose unborn child has a prebirth child protection plan —860 unborn children with a child protection plan as at 2011 in England (5 in Rotherham as at 31st March 2013)

Missed medical and health appointments are often a sign of neglect and abuse, this information will then be shared back with the social care system which will allow social workers to include this information in assessments and the work they do with the children and their families.

As part of moving this forward Rotherham will have to sign a letter of agreement (by the 11th February stating that they will implement the solution between April 2014 and April 2015. The LSCB chair will be contacted by HSIC to gain support for the project as will the Rotherham Foundation Trust.

A national information sharing agreement has been developed which avoids Rotherham having to develop agreements.

8. Finance

The project will cost £8.6 million to deliver over a five year period, but by enabling early intervention and better outcomes for children, CP-IS will contribute to a reduction in the costs of dealing with abuse and neglect that is much greater than the initial investment.

The cost to Rotherham is currently being explored which is thought to be minimal as NHS England have funded the work with Northgate and other social care system suppliers

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Many families of children at risk from abuse and neglect often use different health settings to avoid professionals becoming suspicious and raising concerns with social care.

Further discussions will take place with the social care systems supplier (Northgate) to ensure that the national system meets the needs of Rotherham and that ongoing costs are minimum

Data Protection is often a barrier for sharing information with partners, however privacy statements have been developed nationally which can be used.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The OFSTED inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers takes into account how authorities work with health partners and this project will be seen as both good practice and evidence.

Information Sharing is important and Specific agreements between agencies need to be in place to share this information, however a national agreement has been developed which avoids Rotherham having to develop its own

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Health and Social Care Information Centre

<http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/cpis/needed/factsheetjun13.pdf>

Contact Name : *Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Service , 01709 822677 or joyce.thacker @rotherham.gov.uk*

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5th February 2013
3.	Title:	Schools Capital and Revenue Funding 2014/15
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Service

5. Summary

On 18 December 2013, the Department for Education (DfE) announced basic need capital allocations for 2015-17, as well as capital funding to support the provision of free school meals to infant pupils. Also announced was the School Funding Settlement for 2014-15, including allocations for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and for the Education Services Grant (ESG).

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet note the details of the announcements and the implications for Rotherham Schools, Academies and the Council.

That Cabinet notes the delegated authority of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services in determining the allocation of funding across the 3 funding blocks.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 On 18 December 2013, the Department for Education (DfE) announced:

- Allocations of capital funding in relation to the continuing growth of the school population, with additional funding to expand existing maintained schools, free schools or academies and to establish new schools
- The policy decision to provide free school meals to all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils, with capital being required to upgrade facilities
- Sebastian James' independent progress report, following on from a previous review of Education Capital in 2011, the purpose of which was to consider the DfE's existing capital expenditure approach (and, in particular, the Building Schools for the Future programme) and to make recommendations on future delivery models for capital investment, with a focus on achieving better value for money, higher quality and more rapid deployment.
- The main school funding allocations for 2014-15 through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and Education Services Grant (ESG).

7.2 Capital Allocations for School Places

The basic need funding announced was for 2015-17. Taken together with the 14-15 funding announced previously this allocation provides Rotherham with a 3 year planning horizon to support longer term strategic delivery of our capital programmes and the creation of additional school places.

The DfE capital allocation for school places was established using planning area data. This approach was used to ensure that funding was distributed more fairly across the country. This enabled Rotherham to receive a level of basic need funding in proportion to its needs as the funding was based upon on local data validated by Rotherham MBC School Organisation.

For Rotherham the funding over the 3 year period is allocated as follows:

Years 2014-15	£1,461,500
Years 2015-16	£2,300,357
Years 2016-17	<u>£2,415,375</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>£6,177,281</u>

It's important to note that Rotherham has yet to receive notification from the DfE of the Capital Maintenance Budget allocation for 2014-15.

The above basic need funding is not ring fenced and can be allocated to support capital Maintenance projects where required.

7.3 Capital Allocations for School Meals

The provision of Universal Infant Free School Meals from September 2014 is supported by capital sums for both Local Authority, £600,152 and Voluntary Aided Schools, £70,739 with Academy schools receiving their own allocations.

The money available will be used to support the service provision and ensure that the kitchens have sufficient capacity to prepare, cook and serve the additional 2,900 lunches per day. Education Catering Services have forecast the additional meal requirements per school and are assessing which schools require new/additional ovens (including extraction canopies), servery counters, dining furniture, etc to use the capital funding most effectively.

It is anticipated that some schools will require minimal investment and others significant investment to meet the production requirements. The provision of new kitchens is beyond the resource available and the 14 schools without kitchens will continue to receive freshly prepared meals from other school kitchens on a daily basis.

7.4 Review of Progress on Education Capital

Education capital has provided the following:

- Expansion of Thornhill Primary (30 – 45) – 4 additional classrooms
- Expansion of Flanderwell Primary (30 – 45) – 4 additional classrooms and a mainstream attached Special Educational Needs resource for Y4-6 children with Autism Spectrum Condition and a statement of SEN
- Expansion of Aston Hall J & I (30 – 45) - 4 additional classrooms
- Expansion of Herringthorpe Infant and Junior schools (70 – 90) – 5 additional classrooms (2 Infant and 3 Junior)

Increase in Admission numbers at:

- Treeton Primary School (37 – 45) by addition of additional classrooms
- Catcliffe Primary School (25 – 30) by addition of additional classrooms
- Sunnyside Infant and Junior Schools (80 – 90)
- Bramley Grange Primary School (40 – 45)
- Kilnhurst Primary School (28 – 30)

Total number of eventual permanent through school places created = **665**

The following are projects undertaken or are planned

Herringthorpe Infant and Junior Schools

Permanent increase in admission number from 70 – 90 creating **140 through school places**. The cost of this project is £1.6 million to provide 5 additional classrooms planned for completion by Christmas 2013.

Listerdale J & I School

Proposals to expand the school from an admission number of 30 to 45 creating an additional **105 through School places** by the provision of 4 additional classrooms at a cost of approximately £900K and will be completed at the latest by August 2014, the project was approved by Cabinet on 27th November 2013 subject to a successful planning application.

Broom Valley Community Primary School

A temporary increase has been implemented in admission number from 60 to 90 in Y1/2 for 2013/14 and FS2 for 2014/15 creating **60 temporary places**. The additional pupils are to be accommodated by the installation of 2 temporary classrooms which will be located on site at an estimated cost of £150K. by December 2013. Places have been allocated for the start of the Spring term.

Targeted basic need funding

The CYPS Capital Projects Team submitted a funding bid to DfE to provide funding for the provision of a new centrally based Primary School close to the Eastwood area. Under new DfE guidance there is an Academy / Free School presumption in relation to the control of the new school. Confirmation was received from DfE in August 2013 that RMBC had been successful in relation to this bid, a sponsor has been approved by Cabinet for the school and work is on-going to move the project forward for a September 2015 opening. This will create an additional **315 through school places** once completed.

Monkwood Primary School / Thorogate J & I School (105 eventual through School places)

CYPS School Organisation and Asset Management Service are considering options at this present time. The outcome will be dependent on the Cabinet decision in relation to the proposal to close the Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD) unit at Thorogate. Longer term plans are to create up to an additional 105 through School places.

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Wath C of E Primary

A proposal has been approved by the Cabinet Member to expand the school from an admission number of 30 to 45 **creating 105 through School places**. The permanent expansion to provide an additional 4 classrooms will cost approximately £1M and will be completed by August 2014. Funding for the project will be from Basic Need Funding and Section 106 funding and the expansion will be implemented on a phased basis.

Brampton the Ellis Junior School

The 2 feeder infant schools (Ellis and Cortonwood) have a combined admission number of 80 which is greater than that of the Junior School which is currently 70. Pre statutory consultation is currently being undertaken in relation to proposals to expand the school to an eventual admission number of 90. The estimated cost of expanding Ellis Junior School is £500k and funding will be from a combination of basic need funding and Section 106 funding subject to trigger points being reached. The completion date for this proposal is August 2017. This project will create an additional **80 junior school places**.

Brampton Cortonwood Infant School

Pre statutory consultation has commenced on proposals to expand the School from an admission number of 40 to 50 at an estimated cost of £250K to provide additional teaching and learning space. This expansion has a completion date of August 2017. Funding for the project will be from a combination of Basic Need Funding and Section 106 funding, subject to trigger points being reached. This project will create an additional **30 infant school places**.

Wickersley School and Sports College

Confirmation was received from DfE in August 2013 that RMBC had been successful in relation to a bid to expand this successful and popular school. Work has commenced with the School's Head teacher and Governing Body in relation to the expansion. A project is currently in progress to install 17 additional classrooms to accommodate the increasing future demand for places at the school from within the catchment area. There are also discussions around expanding special educational needs provision at the school for pupils with difficulties under the Communication and Interaction overarching type of need.

Brinsworth Howarth J & I

The Cabinet Member has approved a proposal to expand Brinsworth Howarth from an admission number of 30 to 45 on a phased temporary basis. A new Foundation Unit has been installed at the school and some internal modifications have been made to the main

school building to accommodate the additional pupils. The cost is £350K funded from Basic Need Funding and Section 106 funding. This project will create **105 through School places on a temporary basis** until the First Waverley Primary School is constructed. Should the expansion be made permanent, a full consultation will need to be undertaken to make the prescribed alteration.

Wales Primary School

The Cabinet Member has approved the temporary increase in admission number from 30 to 45 in FS2 for 2 years from 2014/15 onwards. A full consultation will need to be undertaken to make a prescribed alteration to the school on a permanent basis. The temporary increase will create **30 temporary through School places**

Thurcroft Infant School (60 to 75 = 45 eventual through School places)

Consultation is currently being undertaken to expand the School from its current admission number of 60 to 75 with effect from September 2014. The cost of the expansion is estimated at £200k to provide additional teaching and learning space funded from Basic Need Funding and Section 106 funding.

NB: Should all the above projects be approved and completed the combined total of permanent Primary School places to be created will be **945** with an additional **195** temporary places created.

7.5 Dedicated Schools Grant Allocations for 2014/15

School Funding for Local Authorities in England is provided by a ring-fenced grant rather than as part of the Revenue Support Grant settlement. For 2014/15 the allocations continue to be set out in three non-ring fenced spending blocks for each authority: an early years block, a schools block and a high needs block. The provisional total for Rotherham is £217.041m prior to recoupment in respect of academies. This is an increase of £3.195m on the current year allocation of £213.846m, largely due to an increase in pupil numbers and additional funding for new 2 year old education places.

Early Years Block

Rotherham will receive £3,870 per pupil for the Early Years Block which is the same as for 2013-14. This gives a total provisional allocation (based on the January 2013 Early Years Census) of £9.242m which funds 3 and 4 year old places in Rotherham maintained schools, private and voluntary/independent provision. This figure will be adjusted based on 2014 and 2015 census data.

The hourly rate which Rotherham providers currently receive is one of the lowest in Yorkshire and Humber. It is important that this full allocation is passported to providers. Any reduction in rate will have implications on the sustainability of provision in the borough and risk the ability to meet the statutory requirement to deliver early education places, and PVI Early Years and child care businesses may be forced to close.

There is also a further allocation of £4.091m which is provided to secure early learning places for two-year-olds from lower income households. From 1 September 2013, early learning became a statutory entitlement for around 20% of two-year-olds across England, and this will extend to 40% of two-year-olds from September 2014. This level of funding will enable the local authority to meet that national implementation requirements, as well as ensuring the most vulnerable children receive early education as soon as possible.

Schools Block

Rotherham will receive £4,844 per pupil which is the same as for 2013-14. This gives a total provisional allocation of £183.581 million (based on the pupil numbers from the October 2013 school census). The schools block funds the Individual School Budgets which are delegated to schools and allocated to academies. It also funds (either wholly or partly) the following services in Rotherham:

Schools in Financial Difficulty Fund
Behaviour Support Service
Exclusion Officer Post
Free School Meals Eligibility Assessment
Trade Union Officer
Pupil Growth Fund
Winterhill and Rawmarsh City Learning Centres
Children in Public Care
Rotherham School Improvement
Education Welfare
Outdoor Education Co-ordinator
Training for Children with Medical Needs
Moving and Handling
Sexual Exploitation Team
Operational Safeguarding Unit
Termination of Employment Costs
Servicing of Schools Forum
SEN Transport

High Needs Block

The High Needs Block is a single block for local authorities' high needs pupils/students aged 0-24. The provisional allocation for Rotherham (subject to the High Needs Places review which is being carried out by the DfE) is £20.126m. compared to £19.723m in the current financial year.

This level of funding will be insufficient to cover in year 2014-15 pressures arising and brought forward from 2013/14. The most significant pressure on the budget arises from increasing numbers of children and young people with complex and intensive health, care and educational needs requiring very expensive out of authority residential placements. Continuing increasing needs and under allocation in previous years gives rise to a carry over and further pressure on the 2014-15 budget. Projected net cost for this provision is set to rise to £2.613m. in 2014-15. The average cost of such placements is currently £98.4k and increasing; the aggregate cost of the last seven placements is £791k per annum.

The Strategic Director has proposed that approximately £1.2m of funding be moved from the Schools Block to the High Needs block for 2014/15 to offset the anticipated funding pressure. The affect of this will be to limit the funding allocated to individual schools delegated budgets from the Schools Block. Schools will continue to be protected by the Minimum Funding Guarantee (as required by the Department for Education), which requires that no school loses more than 1.5% per pupil compared to the previous financial year.

Further pressures arise from additional support provided via Statements of Special Educational Needs for individual children and young people across primary, secondary and special schools in Rotherham, (£788k) as well as additional special school places intended to reduce the need for, and cost of, 'education only' out of authority placements, (£600k).

Education Services Grant 2014/15

Before 2013-14, academies received funding from the Department for Education through the Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG) to compensate for monies paid to local authorities to provide central services. From 2013-14, new funding arrangements for education services applied for local authorities and academies with the LA Block LACSEG for academies, and the corresponding element of local government revenue funding being replaced by the new **Education Services Grant (ESG)**. The ESG will continue to be allocated on a simple per-pupil basis to local authorities and academies according to the number of pupils for whom they are responsible as follows:

- A General Funding Rate for local authorities of £113.17 per pupil in mainstream schools and £424.38 and £480.97 per place in PRUs and special schools respectively . These rates have been reduced by 2.82% compared to 2013/14 rates.
- A general minimum per pupil Funding Rate for academies of £140 for mainstream academies and of £525 and £595 for Alternative Provision and special academies

For the 2014-15 the total indicative allocation of ESG to the Council is £4.547m. This is a reduction of approximately £200k compared to the current year allocation and is based on current pupil numbers in academies. Due to the opening of academies during 2014-15 this amount is estimated to reduce by a further c£700k.

7.6 Confirmation of Final Allocations

- Local authorities were required to return their submissions on the High Needs places review by 23 December 2013 and these will influence the final allocations for the High Needs Block.
- In February 2014, the High Needs Block will be confirmed, including deductions for places in academies and other non-maintained settings.
- In March 2014, the estimated DSG to be paid to local authorities net of recoupment for existing academies will be confirmed.
- In June 2014, the Early Years Block will be updated for Early Years pupils from the January 2014 Census (and again in June 2015 for Early Years pupils from the January 2015 Census).
- The Final DSG allocation to be paid to local authorities will be confirmed in August 2014.

8. Finance

The financial implications are contained within section 7 above.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risk that the funding allocated as a whole will be insufficient to cover in year 2014-15 pressures arising and brought forward from 2013/14. In particular this is a risk for High Needs Funding. However the SEND review will include a review of the allocation of resources alongside the improvement of the offer for SEND children.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Corporate Plan Priority: Stimulating the local economy and helping local people into work

- We will focus on all children, young people and their families to improve their qualifications and skills and for them to be economically active through lifelong learning

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The link below gives further detailed information on:

- Written ministerial statement on education funding
- Letter to local authority Directors of Children's Services
- DSG allocations table for 2014 to 2015
- DSG technical note for 2014 to 2015
- Operational guide for 2014 to 2015
- DSG pupil number information for 2014 to 2015
- DSG pupil number tool 2014 to 2015
- ESG technical note for 2014 to 2015
- Table of ESG allocations for 2014 to 2015

<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/adminandfinance/financialmanagement/schools/revenuefunding/a00230728/schools-rev-fund-2014-2015>

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5th February 2014
3.	Title:	Proposal to Close Rawmarsh Thorogae J & I School SEBD Unit.
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young Peoples Services

5. Summary

Statutory consultation by public notice on proposals to close the SEBD Unit at the School have stood from 6th December 2013 to 17th January 2014 and the matter can now be determined by Cabinet.

6. Recommendations

In the absence of any objections to the proposals it is recommended that:

- a. Cabinet approves the closure of the SEBD Unit at Rawmarsh Thorogate J & I School with effect from 14th February 2014.**
- b. The Secretary of State for Education be informed accordingly by the School Organisation Section.**

7. Proposals and Details

The Governing Body at Thorogate J & I School have requested that the Local Authority should commence due process to formally close the Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD) Unit attached to the School.

Following discussions with the Department for Education (DfE), the closure of an EBD Unit attached to a School is classed as a 'prescribed alteration' under the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007. It is therefore necessary to consult on the proposals including a 6 week representation period prior to implementation.

Although pupils have been relocated to an alternative location prior to formal closure, the Governing Body have been informed that they will remain the accountable body until formal closure is approved by Cabinet under the requirements of the above Regulations.

8. Finance

Although there are no cost implications to this proposal, the Local Authority will need to establish a new provision as part of the restructuring of PRU provision within the Borough.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference. (Ref: CYD0015/018 - Corporate risk register).

A final decision should be determined by Cabinet within 2 months of the end of the representation period. If this fails to be done, then the matter is referred to the Schools Adjudicator for decision.

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'.

Rotherham School Improvement Mission:

- ~ All children will make at least good progress
- ~ There will be no underperforming cohorts
- ~ All teachers will deliver at least good learning
- ~ All schools will move to the next level of successful performance

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Reports to Members in relation to the proposals:

18th September 2013

27th November 2013

Minutes of meetings and correspondence

Public Notice period 6th December 2013 to 17th January 2014.

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5 February 2014
3.	Title:	Use of Land and Property Assets to Maximise Growth
4.	Directorate:	Environment & Development Services

5. Summary

The purpose of this report is to ask Cabinet to agree an updated approach to the use of Council land and property that will focus on supporting the Council's priorities, particularly in relation to the generation of economic activity and growth.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to agree the approach and principles set out in this report for using the Council's land and property.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Background

Rotherham Council uses 170 operational properties, excluding schools, as summarised below:

Category	Total
Children's Centres (some within School premises)	24
Office Buildings (including Riverside House)	23
Community Centres	22
Care Establishments	22
Libraries	11
Youth Clubs	6
Depots and Workshops	5
Investment Property	5
Joint Customer Service Centres	3
Markets	3
Museums and Galleries	1
Public Conveniences	1
Theatres	1
Leased Premises	18
Surplus Assets	25
Grand Total	170

Riverside House accounts for more than half of the cost of property, at £5m per year, with the remaining assets collectively costing £4.4m per year (total annual cost = £9.4m).

In recent years the Asset Management Service has successfully disposed of properties that have become surplus to requirement, generating over £20m in capital receipts in the last 3 years. The revenue benefit of these disposals is over £2m per year, which has helped the Council soften the impact on front line services of the unprecedented cuts the Council has been facing.

The service continues to dispose of surplus assets, in line with Cabinet approvals.

7.2 Future Priorities and Opportunities

There are a number of factors that mean we should now be re-looking at our need for land and property and how we meet the needs of citizens and current and prospective businesses in the borough. We have an opportunity to use our estate more proactively to support our corporate priorities, particularly in relation to economic growth. The factors now influencing our future requirements include:

- Economic growth remains suppressed in the area, and we should look at any new actions we can take to stimulate economic activity and development.
- Citizen's requirements are steadily but determinedly shifting towards on-line 24/7 services. As an organisation we will be failing to meet the demands of citizens if we do not focus more on enabling digital interaction with the Council, while ensuring we support the diminishing minority who will still require assistance with their transactions.

- Partly as a result of the above, we are not maximising the use of the service centres and, without action, there is a real risk the service centres could become uneconomic.
- The housing growth plan will require sites to be identified.
- Like the Council, our partners are critically assessing their property needs, with a view to consolidating provision and reducing costs and this could involve the withdrawal of services currently delivered through our premises.
- We will continue to need to reduce the cost of property, to help the Council with its budget challenge.

7.3 Future Direction

There has already been a successful and beneficial asset management programme, for example with regard to the town centre office accommodation redevelopment, the creation of service centres and the substantial capital receipts programme referred to earlier.

However, in bringing forward updated principles for approval by Members it is recognised that there is opportunity to respond to evolving Citizen's expectations and requirements, and use our assets better to support our corporate priorities. Crucially, in considering the new principles, it should be recognised that if we **do nothing**, we run the risk of:

- Failing to take opportunities that may exist through the use of land and property to stimulate local economic activity.
- Failing to contribute to other corporate priorities and requirements, for example relating to housing development.
- Inefficient use of our estate.
- Inefficient use of service centres.
- Incurring unnecessary costs.

Principles for Estate Management

In order to meet the challenges described in this report, Members are asked to agree an overall approach and key principles for determining our future approach to estate management, which puts the achievement of corporate priorities at their core.

The relevant corporate priorities are:

- Priority 1; *"Stimulating the local economy and helping local people into work"*.
- Priority 4; *"Helping people to improve their health and wellbeing and reducing inequalities within the borough – We will ensure that people are able to live in decent affordable homes"*. Around 36% of new housing is taking place as a result of the Council making land available.
- Priority 3; *"Ensuring all areas of Rotherham are safe, clean and well maintained – We will improve the quality of public spaces"*.

The Council as a major land holder can stimulate new development on its land by making best use of Council owned land and buildings.

The overall approach proposed is that:

- Central services that can be arranged and delivered effectively and efficiently from Riverside House will be, to maximise the use of our mostly costly asset
- Services that need to be accessed in communities should be provided at 'area' level, where an area might cover 2 or 3 neighbouring wards – service centres should be used as the base for locally delivered services.
- Other properties held in localities should be made available to local organisations or freed up for development except where they are needed to house key services.

The key principles that flow from this overall approach and the way in which these will support corporate priorities are summarised below:

Key Principles	Benefits Relating to Corporate Priorities
Optimise the use of Riverside House, by maximising Council Services provided from it and / or sub-letting parts of it.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficient use of key assets • Potential to generate income • Increased footfall in the town centre, thereby supporting economic activity and growth
Consolidating area based services into service centres, including with partners where relevant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to better, joined up, services for citizens • Better use of assets • Retains important offices in each area of the borough • Potential to generate income (Partner contributions) • Supporting economic activities in areas
Releasing other properties to stimulate local development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling development, encouraging the use of local contractors and by doing so assisting citizens and local businesses • Improving the local environment by replacing old & unfit buildings • Potentially providing housing development sites

In the past sites have been identified only when services declared them as being surplus to operational requirements. Following a review of the surplus building or land it would then be brought back into use or disposed of – to produce capital receipts. However, the full potential for growth will not be achieved by only using sites as they are freed up by services declaring them surplus, the council must actively seek to identify and make available assets to support growth.

The new principles would, therefore, involve a more proactive approach to the use of the Council's Land and Property assets both in terms of how assets are used and how assets can be provided to enable growth.

7.4 Land and Property Strategy

The implementation of the approach and principles included in this report will identify sites to support growth. Any such plans will be subject to a full business case and agreement with the relevant service Director, Cabinet Member or Cabinet as appropriate.

It is proposed that a single Land & Property Strategy (LPS) is created to include all the Council's interests in land and property, including property held for both operational and non-operational purposes, and to include all forms of tenures (where the Council are landlords or tenants). The purpose of the LPS will be to ensure that all the Council's land and property assets are utilised as effectively as possible to support the approach and principles set out in this report.

Current asset strategies already in place will be supporting documents to the LPS and will also link their future plans to the priorities within the LPS.

8. Finance

All rationalisation, growth projects and asset maintenance that cannot be funded by existing budget lines, plus asset creation, acquisitions or disposals shall be subject to a business case which will require agreement through Finance, legal and CSART before progressing to the relevant officer or Member group for approval.

It is envisaged that this rigorous business case based approach will assist in reducing pressure on the capital programme and ensure that all future costs are identified in the MTFS

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The implications of failing to maximise the use of our assets are set out in the report.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Contribution to corporate plan priorities are detailed in the report.

Report Author:

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5 February 2014
3.	Title:	Local Plan: Consultation on Main Modifications to the Core Strategy
4.	Directorate:	Environment & Development Services

5. Summary

The report seeks authorisation to consult on modifications to the Core Strategy to accommodate the changes required by the Planning Inspector. These modifications are necessary to make the document sound and enable the Council to adopt the document following due process.

6. Recommendations

- 1. That Cabinet approve public consultation on Main Modifications to the Core Strategy.**
- 2. That the Council's response to the Main Modifications consultation be endorsed by Cabinet prior to submission to the Inspector.**

7. Proposals and Details

Background

Rotherham's Local Plan consists of two documents – the Core Strategy setting out the broad amount and distribution of future growth and the Sites & Policies document setting out the detailed sites and development management policies to deliver this growth.

On 6 June 2013 we submitted the Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for independent examination to determine whether the Core Strategy is “sound”, ie legally compliant and fit for purpose. The public hearing sessions took place in Riverside House between 22 October and 6 November 2013. The Inspector also visited several areas of the borough to inform his examination of the Core Strategy.

The Council put forward a very strong case in support of the Core Strategy at the hearings. Recognising local residents concerns about loss of Green Belt, we argued for a housing target that is lower than the previous government-imposed regional target. The Plan's target for new homes strikes a balance between meeting our future needs and protecting the environment.

Over the last few years Rotherham has not seen as many new homes built as we would have liked. This is despite there being capacity for over 5,000 new homes with planning permission each year for the last five years. The Council believes this shortfall is due to market conditions and not a lack of permissions on suitable sites.

We also promoted a phased approach to development to try and recycle brownfield land first before greenfield or Green Belt land. We argued strongly that this would allow us to choose the right sites at the right time in settlements across the borough.

We sought to continue our policy of seeking 25 per cent of new housing development as affordable housing.

We received the Inspector's initial conclusions on 6 January 2014 (Appendix 1) and the key recommended changes are set out below. These changes are required by the Inspector to make the Core Strategy sound – without these changes the Council cannot adopt the document.

- **Housing numbers** - the housing requirement for the Plan period (2013-2028) should be increased from 14,370 to 17,133. The Inspector accepts the Council's use of a local housing target set below the previous Regional Strategy figure. But he considers we should do more to make up the shortfall from under delivery in previous years.
- **Phasing of development sites** – the Core Strategy should be reworded to remove reference to the phasing of sites (i.e. which development sites should come forward first). This is to bring the Core Strategy in line with the national planning policy framework that does not prioritise this aim.
- **Commitment to Co-operation** - the Core Strategy should be modified to include a commitment to ongoing co-operation with relevant bodies and neighbouring

authorities and to an early / immediate review of the Core Strategy. This reflects concerns around the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). However, the inspector favours continuing with the examination of the Core Strategy and finalising his report as soon as possible so the Council can adopt the plan.

- **Bassingthorpe Farm** - Bassingthorpe Farm should be included in the Core Strategy as a Strategic Allocation, allowing it to come forward ahead of other sites in the Sites and Policies document.
- **Affordable Housing** - the Inspector endorses our 25% target and supports the amendments suggested to the affordable housing policy during the examination, primarily concerning commuted sums. These were made to clarify and strengthen its application while exempting self-build from the requirements.
- **Waverley** - the scale of development taking place at Waverley warrants its identification as a Principal Settlement in the Core Strategy settlement hierarchy, rather than as a Local Service Centre.

The Inspector has asked the Council to draft the wording of these modifications for his consideration and approval, prior to undertaking consultation. Officers are currently working to prepare these for the Inspector.

Consulting on Modifications to the Core Strategy

The Council is required to consult on the Inspector's Main Modifications on his behalf. Consultation will take place over a 6 week period. The timing will be dependent upon the Council receiving the final wording of the Main Modifications from the Inspector and also the preparation of the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal. We envisage that consultation will start end of February / early March 2014. A consultation plan is attached for information at Appendix 2.

Representations will be invited in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal and the 'legal compliance' and 'soundness' of the Main Modifications only. It will not be an opportunity to repeat or raise further points about the Core Strategy, or to seek further changes.

We may also make available a schedule of minor changes to the Core Strategy. These do not affect the soundness of the plan and will be published for information only, not for comment.

Next steps

Following the close of consultation we will send any representations to the Inspector to enable him to take them into account when writing his final report. We expect that this report would then recommend that the Core Strategy was sound subject to the inclusion of the Modifications.

Under the Local Plan Steering Group scheme of delegation, Cabinet approval is required for public consultation on Development Plan Documents. This report seeks authorisation to undertake consultation on the Main Modifications. As the Main Modifications are proposed and approved by the Inspector (not the Council) there is

no mechanism for the Council to influence these changes prior to consultation starting.

However, the Council will be able to make formal comments on the Modifications, along with all other interested parties. The Council's views on the Modifications can be determined during the consultation period via the Local Plan Steering Group 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.

Sites & Policies document

The inspector has set out changes to the Core Strategy to make it sound. The most fundamental change is to increase the housing target. However, the inspector has made no recommendations about how or where this should happen. It is for the Council to revisit the draft Sites & Policies document to determine how and where extra housing sites can be found when we have received the inspector's final report.

Public consultation on the next version of the Sites & Policies document is programmed for summer 2014. At this stage the public and all interested parties can comment on the latest draft that will incorporate the results of the inspector's changes to the Core Strategy.

8. Finance

Costs incurred in relation to consultation on the Main Modifications to the Core Strategy will be met by the Planning Policy budget.

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

Appendix 1: Inspector's letter

Appendix 2: Consultation Plan

Core Strategy Examination website:

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

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Appendix 1: Letter from the Planning Inspector

Dear Mr Shepherd

Introduction

1. As you know, I have conducted a series of 7 Hearings and visited a good deal of the Borough. These visits have included 2 accompanied site inspections at Dinnington and Bassingthorpe Farm with Wentworth Woodhouse. I am now able to set out some preliminary thoughts on the Core Strategy and its examination so far. They should not be construed as final or all-embracing conclusions.
2. I regret to say that I am not convinced that, in its present form, the Core Strategy is sound. I therefore set out below the issues which I consider should be the subject of Main Modifications and which should be consulted upon in due course. I invite you to draft them for my consideration.

Housing numbers

3. The evidence refers to various estimates and targets for housing during the plan period, depending upon the base date and assumptions made. I have come to the view, however, that the 2008-based household projections provide the most realistic basis for the housing target. On its own, the outcome is a good deal fewer dwellings than the Regional Strategy (RS) target but, as you say, it closely aligns with the early results of the 2011 Census. A greater emphasis should, however, be placed upon the need to address the backlog. The backlog should be assessed according to the degree to which net housing completions have fallen short of the target set out in the development plan which was extant at the time.
4. From 2004/05 to 2012/13, this was the RS and RSD/14 Table 2 gives a total backlog during 2004/05 – 2011/12 of 3,738 dwellings to which should be added the 2012/13 deficit of 645 (1160-515). This total backlog of 4,383 dwellings equates to an annual provision of 292 dwellings, although the Council should aim to accommodate it within the first 5 years of the plan period. This change will have implications for the housing trajectory which should continue to include the 20% buffer to which the Framework refers. The total annual provision of 850 + 292 would bring it up to 1,142 annually, about the same as the RS annual requirement of 1160 dwellings which several participants advocate. It would better accord with the Government's policy to boost significantly the supply of housing and provide for a greater choice of sites. An annual 100 or so windfall sites would augment the supply. These revised housing numbers should be the subject of a Main Modification, and I look forward to receiving your suggested draft of it.

Phasing

5. Policy CS3 seeks to prioritise the development of the most sustainable sites. This appears to me to be a phasing policy and, even though you consider that

it would apply to no more than *a handful of sites*, I do not consider that it accords with the Framework. Development which is sustainable, it says, should go ahead without delay. The Sites and Policies DPD should identify sustainable sites in accordance with the strategy set out in the Core Strategy and the Council should encourage their suitable development straightaway. I therefore ask you to re-draft this Policy, taking my views on it as set out in Document ED/26.

Commitment to co-operation

6. It is unfortunate that the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) relates only to Rotherham rather than to the entire housing market area and that this Assessment is of some age. But provided that the Core Strategy includes a commitment to continue to co-operate with relevant bodies, particularly Sheffield City Council, and to its early or immediate review, I do not think these shortcomings need be fatal. I would welcome your further thoughts on the prospect of such a review, including the date when it could be started, and would ask you to draft a Main Modification to ensure it. It could be based upon FC 147.
7. I understand that Sheffield City Council has decided to withdraw its Sites and Policies DPD and so it will not be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination. This withdrawal would appear to me to be a good opportunity for your Council, the City Council and any neighbouring authorities to co-operate in the preparation of a SHMA for the entire housing market area. I should appreciate your views on this, including any implications for the progress of the submitted Rotherham Core Strategy. In my judgement, however, it would be better to press on with the examination of your Core Strategy and the submission of my Report on it as soon as possible on the understanding that an early/immediate review will take place. Hence, unless you request otherwise, I shall continue to prepare my Report.

Bassingthorpe Farm

8. You consider that enough work has been undertaken on Bassingthorpe Farm for the Core Strategy to identify it as a strategic allocation rather than as a broad location for growth, as at present. I agree, and a Main Modification should provide for it. It would bring forward development by a year or so, and with it an earlier completion of about 125 dwellings. The housing trajectory should be modified accordingly.

Affordable homes

9. You have put forward proposed changes to Policy CS7 and its supporting text. I consider that they are of enough significance to warrant consultation upon them as a Main Modification.

Waverley

10. Waverley is identified as a Local Service Centre, yet it is proposed at present to take as much as about 17% of the Core Strategy's housing requirement. This is substantially more than that proposed for other such centres, and it will include employment land and presumably a commensurate range of services. I consider that its importance in the strategy should be acknowledged by its inclusion as a Principal Settlement.

Conclusion

11. I hope that these, my present thoughts, are helpful. Please put this letter on the examination web-site. I look forward to your response which should also be placed upon the website. Arrangements will, of course, have to be made for public consultation on the proposed Main Modifications. In view also of the increased provision for housing, it may be necessary to undertake further sustainability appraisal.
12. This further appraisal should be undertaken while the Main Modifications are being drafted so that consultation on them and the publication of the sustainability appraisal can take place at the same time, demonstrating that the sustainability appraisal has suitably informed the Main Modifications.

Yours sincerely

Richard E Hollox

Inspector

6 January 2014

Appendix 2: Consultation Plan



Rotherham Core Strategy



Consultation on Inspector's Main Modifications: Consultation Plan

Why are we consulting?

The Council is not able to progress towards adoption of the Core Strategy until the Inspector conducting the examination into the Core Strategy has published his final report finding that the Core Strategy is, or can be made, sound. In his preliminary findings the Inspector has indicated that in its present form the Core Strategy is not sound and recommends that a number of modifications to the plan will be required.

The Council is required to undertake public consultation on the Inspector's modifications, responses to which will be forwarded to the Inspector for his consideration in preparing his final report.

How will consultation be undertaken?

The consultation plan is set out in the table below:

What is being consulted on?	<p>The Council will consult on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A schedule of the Main Modifications recommended by the Inspector • The Sustainability Appraisal of the Main Modifications <p>Representations will be invited in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal and 'legal compliance' and 'soundness' of the Main Modifications only. It will <u>not</u> be an opportunity to repeat or raise further points about the Core Strategy, or to seek further changes.</p> <p>The Council may also make available a schedule of minor changes to the Core Strategy. These do not affect the soundness of the plan and will be published for information only, not for comment.</p>
What is the consultation period?	<p>Consultation will take place over a 6 week period. The timing will be dependant upon the Council receiving the draft Main Modifications from the Inspector and also the preparation of the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal. It is envisaged that consultation will start end of February / early March 2014.</p>

<p>Where will information be available?</p>	<p>The Consultation documents will be available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online via the Council's website • The documents will also be made available for inspection at all Customer Service centres and libraries in the Borough (during normal opening times)
<p>How will people be informed of the consultation?</p>	<p>The consultation will be publicised in line with previous consultation exercises via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter / email mailout to contacts on the Local Plan database. This includes key organisations, agents, members of the public, and town and parish councils. • Press notices • Press release
<p>How can people respond to the consultation?</p>	<p>Comments will be encouraged via the Council's Local Plan online consultation website. Consultation publicity will emphasise the availability of internet access at all of the Borough's libraries. Written comments can also be provided via the response forms which will be made available.</p>
<p>How will representations be considered?</p>	<p>All responses received will be forwarded to the Planning Inspector for his consideration in preparing his final report on the Core Strategy.</p>
<p>How will feedback be provided?</p>	<p>The Inspector will publish a final report which will be informed by the consultation responses. This will be made available on the Council's website and a hard copy will be available for inspection at Riverside House.</p> <p>Under the Regulations the Council must inform all those consultees specifically requesting to be informed when the final report is available and where it can be viewed.</p>

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	6th February 2013
3.	Title:	High Speed Two (HS2) Phase 2 Consultation
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

The report outlines the current Government consultation on the proposed High Speed Two (HS2) Phase 2 consultation and presents Rotherham's response to the consultation which was submitted from the Leader on the 16 January, 2014.

Under the Council's Constitution this is a key decision and all key decisions are to be made by Cabinet.

The definition of a key decision, in the Constitution, relating to this report is:-

"to be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards or electoral divisions in the area of the relevant local authority".

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- i) Note and endorse the response to the HS2 Phase 2 consultation submitted to Government, and;
- ii) Refer the consultation response for information to a future meeting of the Improving Places Select Commission.

7. Proposals and Details

Background

In January 2012 the Government announced its intention to proceed with the first phase of the scheme from London to Birmingham (Phase 1). In January 2013 it published details of phase 2 of the line from Birmingham north to Manchester and Leeds. This is commonly referred to as the 'Y network'. The eastern arm of the network proposes stations at:

- **East Midlands at Toton** (East Midlands Hub), located between Nottingham and Derby, 1.2 miles from the M1 and close to the A52;
- **South Yorkshire at Sheffield Meadowhall**, to the east of Sheffield city centre, adjacent to the M1;
- **Leeds at New Lane**, in Leeds city centre to the south of the River Aire and with close links to the existing Leeds City station;

Phase 2 Consultation

The Government consultation on Phase 2 was published in July 2013; with a closing date for responses of 31st January 2014.

The consultation document explains the Government's case for phase 2 and sets out the proposed route from the West Midlands to Manchester and Leeds. A technical report was also published and this included detailed information including route maps and station location plans. It also provided details of those station locations and route alignments that have been discounted by Government in reaching their preferred scheme. Alongside the consultation the Government published a sustainability statement.

At the start of the consultation Government also published details of an 'exceptional hardship scheme' which was introduced to deal with cases of property blight caused by the Phase 2 proposals. Whilst this is not a statutory requirement, it has been introduced to enable owner occupiers of property to apply to have their properties bought by the Government (subject to criteria being met) prior to the decision on Phase 2 being made.

Since launching the consultation Government has published a report by KPMG outlining further details of the expected regional economic gains from HS2 and in October 2013 it published a new strategic case and an updated economic case for the project.

HS2 Ltd, the Government owned company responsible for developing and promoting the UK's new high speed rail network, have also undertaken public consultation events along the line of route and at the proposed station locations with a 2-day event for the Meadowhall Station (held at Ice Sheffield) on the 8th and 9th of November 2013. HS2 Ltd has also confirmed that they have written to all property and land owners directly affected by the line of route using information from the land registry.

Locally HS2 Ltd engagement officers have also contacted Parish Councils and Area Assemblies closest to the line of route, attending meetings where possible, and have sent literature highlighting the consultation to local libraries and contact points. In addition, HS2 Ltd officers have attended two Member Briefings at Rotherham Town Hall (on 29th May 2014; and further information on the consultation process on 4th

November 2014) to present the proposals for Phase 2, including the line of route implications for Rotherham and station location at Meadowhall.

The Government consultation on HS2 Phase 2 poses questions on the proposed line of route and station locations for the eastern and western arms of the route, and the appraisal of sustainability.

South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTe) has prepared a response to the consultation on behalf of the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (SYITA). This response supports high speed rail and a well-served station stop at Meadowhall and has been endorsed by SYITA on the 9th January 2014. To support the response a study highlighting the connectivity improvements that will be required to make the proposed HS2 station fully accessible by classic rail, tram, tram-train, private vehicles, taxis and bus. In addition, a study on how the released capacity on the current classic rail network could be used post-HS2 has been completed and used to inform the response. In addition to the strategic South Yorkshire response to the consultation it has been agreed that South Yorkshire Local Authorities will also submit their own responses to the consultation.

The response submitted on behalf of Rotherham is attached at Appendix A and for consistency aligns to the strategic response submitted by the SYITA whilst also highlighting Rotherham specific issues that it is considered essential for Government to consider when progressing to the further more detailed development stages of the scheme.

Future HS2 timeline

In terms of legislation, a 'paving bill', the High Speed Rail (Preparation) Act 2013, was given Royal Assent in November 2013. It authorises further spending in preparation for HS2. The Hybrid Bill for Phase 1 was published on 25th November 2013.

Following the consultation deadline a report on the response is likely to be published in October 2014 and a final decision on Phase 2 is expected to be made by Government before the end of 2014. The Hybrid Bill for Phase 2 will not be introduced in Parliament before the next election.

HS2 Ltd currently anticipates that Phase 1 will begin operation in 2026 with the complete HS2 Y network fully operational in 2032.

8. Finance

None

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The future of HS2 will be determined by the progress of the Hybrid Bill for Phase 1 and Governments decision on Phase 2 before the end of 2014.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

HS2 is a long term strategic scheme of national significance which aligns to Rotherham's and the Sheffield City Regions Economic Growth ambitions. The SCR Strategic Economic Plan that is due to be submitted to Government by the 31st March 2014 features the need to harness the economic benefits that will arise through delivery of HS2 and sets out proposed schemes considered necessary to maximise this.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Government consultation on HS2 Phase 2, including technical reports and route plans can be found at:

<http://www.hs2.org.uk/route-consultation>

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✉ leader@rotherham.gov.uk

Freepost RTEL-YAZX-HAZT
Phase Two Route Consultation
PO Box 1152
HARROW
HA1 9LH

16 January 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

RMBC RESPONSE TO THE HS2 PHASE TWO ROUTE CONSULTATION

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) fully endorse the response to the High Speed Two Phase 2 consultation that the South Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority (SYITA) and Sheffield City Region have submitted in support of HS2. This response provides further detail of those issues which RMBC would ask Government and HS2 Ltd to consider when confirming its support for, and development of, the eastern arm of Phase 2 and the station at Sheffield Meadowhall.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council strongly supports the inclusion of the Sheffield City Region (SCR) in the High Speed Two network because it will provide much needed capacity and significantly enhance journey times from SCR to London, and other core regional centres including Leeds, Nottingham, Derby and Birmingham. HS2 will deliver wider economic benefits of £400m directly to SCR.

We fully support the 'Y' network as a comprehensive high speed connectivity solution for the UK and urge Government to consider the joint delivery of both Phases 1 and 2 so that the full economic benefits of HS2 can be fully realised earlier than 2033. However, should that not be possible, it is essential that the full HS2 Phase 2 proposals is realised and that the eastern leg of the 'Y', the economic benefits of which are estimated at £4.2 billion, is delivered at the same time as the western leg to Manchester.

Eastern Leg - West Midlands to Leeds Route

In terms of the route selected, we are broadly supportive. We also fully support the inclusion of a connection between the 'Y' network and the East Coast Main Line. The following principles should be applied to development of the eastern leg to ensure that the economic potential of the scheme for both SCR and the country as a whole is fully realised:

- HS2 should not negatively affect existing plans to upgrade and electrify the Midland Main Line (MML), including enhancements at Sheffield;
- Lines north of Sheffield, to Leeds and Doncaster (via Rotherham) should be electrified as an extension of current MML plans before HS2 is delivered;
- Existing rail capacity released by HS2 should be used to improve services at stations across SCR;

- Adverse environmental impacts of the line, the new Meadowhall Station and the proposed Infrastructure Maintenance Depot at Staveley should be avoided where possible, or minimised and mitigated through excellent design;
- Full compensation for people and businesses who are adversely affected by the new line. Meadowhall Station and maintenance depot made available at the earliest opportunity;
- High quality 'classic rail' services should be developed between Meadowhall and the SCR urban centres;
- A comprehensive access package should be provided to the new Meadowhall Station by tram, bus, walking and cycling;
- Highway constraints are addressed to provide ample capacity for all network movement in 2033 and beyond. In particular, solutions are required for M1 Junctions 34 and 33 and the local networks surrounding them;
- The HS2 station is integrated with heavy and light rail platforms, forms a bus interchange and has parking/park and ride facilities;
- The station is supported by a regional tram train network, providing express links to Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield;
- The infrastructure should have minimum negative impact on SCR residents, existing SCR businesses and their supply chains;
- Companies based in SCR should have a fair opportunity to win contracts to support construction and delivery.

The route will impact one of SCR's key development sites, the Waverley New Community (WNC). Developer, Harworth Estates, has considered the implications of the line of route as it passes through the eastern side of the WNC site and it is estimated that over 1000 proposed homes may be affected. As a result of the change in alignment of the line of route immediately north of the proposed station at Meadowhall (to avoid the Firth Rixton site), the proposed route now has a greater impact on WNC than the one announced in January's Initial Preference. Whilst the benefits associated with protecting Firth Rixton, particularly to the economy, are acknowledged and supported, we urge Government to consider changes to the proposed alignment to minimise the impact on the WNC development during the detailed engineering design process. A further issue to be considered is that Harworth Estates own review of the planned route of HS2 would indicate that the vertical alignment of the route across the former opencast site is potentially at current ground level and would not require a viaduct or embankment.

However, when considering the previous line of route options, the line of route to Meadowhall is significantly preferred to the line of route that HS2 Ltd considered for the loop option to serve Victoria Station which was aligned across the WNC site and part of the Waverley Advanced Manufacturing Park. As we have previously raised with HS2 Limited, that line of route would have an even greater adverse impact on these strategic developments and would affect investment by Rolls Royce in their factories to support the civil nuclear programme and would now involve the demolition of homes that have recently been built and others in construction.

Further detailed issues on the line of route and its impact within RMBC are attached at Appendix A. A number of issues are raised that HS2 need to consider and work with us to resolve.

Wherever possible the impact on residential and business properties should be avoided or minimised. Where the demolition of property is unavoidable Government must ensure that the appropriate compensation arrangements are applied to provide for certainty and financial security of householders, businesses, and landowners at as early a stage as possible. Consideration should also be given to the support that can be provided for tenants having to move home and employees that have to find alternative employment. Those properties and locations likely to most need to be considered further, including those through potential noise and/or visual impacts, are included in Appendix A.

In terms of the environmental impact it is acknowledged that the full scale of development impact is not yet clear and further details will become known as the scheme progresses. The Environmental Statement for Phase 1 sets out the proposals to avoid, reduce or remedy the significant environmental effects it identifies and we would welcome local input and liaison on the ES and EIA for Phase 2 from an early

stage. Issues relating to the potential environmental impact, including impacts on rights of way and parks, are included in Appendix A.

HS2 Station location - Sheffield Meadowhall

RMBC anticipates that the beneficial economic impact of the HS2 station at Meadowhall will not be confined solely to the immediate proximity of the station itself but, with improved connections from Rotherham and the other urban centres in Sheffield City Region, the development and economic growth impact will be seen across SCR. Whilst some of these improved connections from Rotherham are currently committed, such as the Bus Rapid Transit North scheme and the proposed tram-train trial, with further enhanced connections the new HS2 station will provide a first class interchange.

Rotherham Town Centre is located approximately 6-8 minutes from the current Meadowhall Interchange by rail and is ideally placed to maximise the journey time savings and productivity benefits delivered by HS2. There will be significant benefits in regional connectivity for businesses and residents in Rotherham (both existing and prospective). Journeys to Leeds currently take up to 1 hour 10 minutes during the morning peak. With HS2, journey times to Leeds from Meadowhall only taking 17 minutes; a journey time closer to half an hour between Leeds and Rotherham is achievable. With similar regional journey time savings, HS2 will provide a massive step change in connectivity for businesses and commuters in Rotherham.

We anticipate that HS2 will act as a significant catalyst to grow Rotherham's economy and, in addition to the 4,000 to 5,400 jobs which HS2 Ltd estimate will be created around the Meadowhall station, the number of businesses and employment opportunities will also increase significantly in Rotherham, particularly in the Town Centre, and locations close to it such as Parkgate, and along the Lower Don Valley.

Waverley's proximity to the Meadowhall Station will significantly enhance access to the Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) from London and other regions. The AMP lies at the heart of the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Zone, is one of the first Technology Innovation Centres and is the UK's premier advanced manufacturing technology park, providing world-class advanced manufacturing technology solutions. The AMP has a National and International recognition and is home to world-class research and manufacturing organisations, such as: the University of Sheffield's Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) with Boeing; Rolls Royce, which includes Project Power (civil nuclear manufacturing); Castings Technology International (Cti); Dormer Tools, TWI's Yorkshire Technology Centre and the Nuclear AMRC.

Furthermore, HS2 will also enhance and stimulate housing growth in Rotherham in the period up to 2028, when over 14,500 new households are planned to be delivered. The majority of these new households are proposed in the Rotherham Urban area, of which approximately 2,500 are proposed at the Basingthorpe site close to the Town Centre. Significant housing growth is also proposed at Waverley New Community.

Meadowhall Interchange is well located within SCR and already functions as an important multi-modal transport hub. There are currently approximately 300 heavy rail movements at Meadowhall per day providing links north towards Barnsley, Wakefield, Huddersfield, Doncaster, Hull and Cleethorpes and south towards Sheffield, Manchester (City and Airport) and Nottingham. The Interchange is served by frequent tram and bus services and is located near to Junction 34 of the M1 motorway, with connections to the local highway network from the A6109 and A6178. HS2 will further enhance the role of Meadowhall as a transport hub.

We are supportive of Meadowhall Station because it has the potential to maximise the number of HS2 stopping services in the City Region thereby enhancing economic output. In addition, to ensure that these economic benefits are realised, a comprehensive package of connectivity improvements is required to ensure that Meadowhall is accessible by all modes across SCR.

The full range of these connectivity improvements are set out in detail as part of the SYITA and SCR response. In successfully planning to achieve the full potential of the Meadowhall HS2 station, the early delivery of the connectivity improvements will be essential. The required improvements to enhance connectivity from Rotherham include:

Dual track on Holmes Chord

Holmes Chord is currently a section of single track that trains travelling between Meadowhall Station and Rotherham Central Station must use. This restricts rail capacity and the number of services that can access Rotherham Centre which is currently only between a 5 and 8 minute journey to Meadowhall. Dualling this chord would mean that Rotherham could be served on a more frequent basis and the timetable, where 3 of the 4 trains per hour to Meadowhall leave within a 23 minute period, would not be constrained. This will also provide additional capacity on the Meadowhall to Doncaster heavy rail corridor which is also currently constrained. The dualling of this chord is not included within a defined Control Period programme. We would request that this improvement is introduced at the earliest opportunity.

Tram-Train connectivity

RMBC is keen to see the benefits of the proposed Tram-Train link between Rotherham and Sheffield maximised well into the future with route and network expansion. This would include extensions through the Dearne Valley towards Doncaster, with a station at Magna in the Lower Don Valley. The current Tram-Train route between Rotherham and Sheffield does not access Meadowhall Interchange and connects to the current Supertram network at Meadowhall South. As part of the connectivity improvements, a new link from the heavy rail section of the tram-train network should be provided so that tram-trains from Rotherham can directly access the new HS2 station at Meadowhall.

Released Capacity – existing rail network

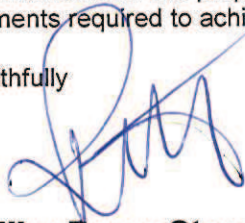
In terms of released capacity on the existing rail network, HS2 Ltd has made initial assumptions as to how services on the existing network could be modified following the introduction of HS2. These include reducing some service frequencies and re-routeing some services in ways that may worsen connectivity to and from locations in Sheffield and Leeds City Regions. Consideration should be given to making better use of the HS2 infrastructure.

SCR undertook a study to consider an alternative approach to modifying services on the existing network and we believe economic benefits are to be gained as a result of providing enhanced passenger and freight services on the existing network post-HS2. We would welcome engagement with HS2 Ltd/Network Rail to consider alternative options for use of the existing network to those currently included by HS2 Ltd in the economic case, based on proposals we have developed. Rotherham MBC also acknowledges the need for Doncaster to continue to maintain strong long distance, fast services along the East Coast Main Line corridor.

We strongly support calls for an 'existing network' investment fund to be established that would aim to ensure that maximum benefits can be derived from the rail network and be complementary to the funding required to deliver connectivity enhancements. The timescales associated with this funding should ensure that the required improvements are delivered in advance of HS2 opening and beyond.

We would welcome the opportunity to continue to work with HS2 Ltd and Government to achieve the maximum benefits for the proposed scheme and for Government to support and include the connectivity improvements required to achieve this.

Yours faithfully



Councillor Roger Stone OBE

Enc

APPENDIX A**Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council – HS2 Phase 2 Issues Log****Planning and Development**

The impact of the route on one of Rotherham's and the Sheffield City Region's key development sites, Waverley New Community, is acknowledged within the full body of the consultation response. Harworth Estates have considered the implications of the line of route as it passes through the eastern side of the WNC site and it is estimated that over 1000 proposed homes may be affected. As a result of the change in alignment of the line of route immediately north of the proposed station at Meadowhall, in order to avoid the Firth Rixon site, the line of route proposed in the consultation has a greater impact on WNC than the one announced in January's Initial Preference. Whilst the benefits associated with protecting Firth Rixon, particularly to the economy, are acknowledged and supported, we would urge Government to consider changes to the proposed alignment of the line of route to minimise the impact on the WNC development during the detailed engineering design process. Furthermore, Harworth Estates own review of the planned route of HS2 would indicate that the vertical alignment of the route across the former opencast site will be at current ground level and not require a viaduct or embankment.

Further business premises and proposed development sites within Rotherham are affected by the proposed line of route. Wherever possible the impact on these properties should be avoided or minimised. Where the demolition of property is unavoidable Government must ensure that the appropriate compensation arrangements are applied to provide for certainty and financial security of householders, businesses, and landowners at as early a stage as possible. Consideration should also be given to the support that can be provided for tenants having to move home and employees that have to find alternative employment. These sites include:

- The Home Décor offices on the Laycast Site, Innovation Way, Fence will require demolition. Further development was proposed across this site.
- 351 Sheffield Road (B6200), Fence which is the 'Hollows' Kennels and Cattery. The line of route will pass through the centre of the site and buildings are likely to be demolished and access to other buildings severed. There is also a residential aspect to this property.
- The Morrisons Supermarket and Boundary Mill Store in Catcliffe will require demolition
- The JTF Warehouse will require demolition
- Whilst not indicated on the HS2 drawings it is likely that Whitby's fish and chip restaurant will require demolition
- The access route to the Poplars Business Park which provides access to Foers (construction, shopfitting and joinery business) and also serves Whitby's may be affected.
- Hood Hill Farm, Hood Hill. Hood Hill Farm is part of the Barley Hall Stables equestrian centre. The Farm buildings are very close to the top of the cutting where the line of route passes underneath the M1 just south of J35(a). Subject to detailed design this may result in the demolition of part of the Farm, and the loss of land. There is also a residential aspect to this property.

However, it is acknowledged that the line of route (mainline) serving Meadowhall has a significantly lower impact on development sites at Waverley than HS2 Ltd's proposed line of route for a loop from the mainline to a Sheffield City Centre station location. That alignment would require the demolition of homes that have now been constructed and occupied at Waverley New Community and have a far greater adverse impact on the further planned development. Furthermore, proposed and existing factories on the AMP, would also be adversely affected by the alignment of the loop.

Public Rights of Way and Parks

The proposed route of HS2 will impact on a number of RMBC footpaths, bridleways and recreational routes. In many cases these routes have been subject to recent upgrading and enhancements, or are part of national trails (the Trans Pennine Trail, and National Cycle Network for example). Replacement for any routes must be at least to the existing standards.

In the case of rights of way or other non-traffic routes, HS2 should provide suitable crossing facilities at all locations in the same way that highways will continue to operate. A number of local routes have been designed specifically to be used by all, and where these routes are in place suitable access for all needs to be provided as a replacement.

HS2 could have a very positive impact upon the local non-vehicular transport network. A unique opportunity exists to dovetail the proposal into the access network, addressing historical gaps in the network at minimal cost and enhancing linkages to communities and facilities. We would recommend that this opportunity could utilise the members of existing Local Access Forums in providing a cohesive, user-led series of proposals to enhance the network alongside HS2. The Local Access Forum in Rotherham has a long tradition of working with developers realistically and proactively and we would urge the Government and HS2 to work with such users when specific recommendations are looked at in greater detail.

The current line of route through Rotherham passes close to the south western edge of Rother Valley Country Park. Along this section of the route the alignment proposed is predominantly on the line of the existing railway, which itself will require realignment. Views of HS2 from Rother Valley Country Park are likely to be obscured by the existing trees and vegetation that are present along this edge of the Country Park. Should this planting, which currently provides effective screening of the railway, be affected through the scheme further mitigation may be required.

Environment

Whilst it is accepted that the detail of the environmental assessment will increase as the engineering detail of the scheme is progressed, and that these will inform one another, culminating in the full Environmental Statement (ES), in terms of the environmental impact we would raise the following issues:

The Sustainability Statement identifies those internationally and nationally important sites that have influenced the proposed route so far and also note which publically available datasets have been considered. Rotherham's sites of substantive nature conservation need to be considered and this information is not publically available and it should be obtained from the Rotherham Biological Records Centre (within RMBC).

Attached at Table 1 is a preliminary identification of sites of biodiversity interest in Rotherham that will be adversely impacted by HS2. Priority habitat mapping, geological sites and protected species data also need to be considered by HS2 Ltd in the further work to inform the ES.

The proposed route runs through two ancient woodland sites that are on the Rotherham / Sheffield boundary. The avoidance of impact on ancient woodland sites would demonstrate a commitment to avoiding adverse impact on the natural environment (as stated in the HS2 Sustainability Policy). The South Yorkshire Green Infrastructure Strategy identifies opportunities for enhancement and restoration, including potential mitigation for lost habitat and other green assets. See <http://www.syforest.co.uk/projects.php?p=273>

The work to inform the ES needs to include identification of committed projects that aim to improve the environment and biodiversity so that future baselines can be used when assessing impact and the need for mitigation and compensation. In Rotherham these include ongoing work to enhance the biodiversity and water quality in Rotherham's Rivers.

Adequate time needs to be allowed for sufficient ecological data to be collected (desk and field study) in order to complete the impact assessment and scoping of the survey work needed should begin as soon as possible to provide confidence in the assessment process. Ecological surveys to assess the impact for a scheme of this significance should utilise the full extent of measures to obtain access to land likely to be affected. Liaison with SCR and Authorities would be welcomed.

Expected elements of the Ecological Impact Assessment include:

- Identification of all construction sites, haul roads, associated and enabling works and any permanent or temporary feature of HS2 development
- Agreement of adequate buffer areas within which desk and field study will be undertaken
- Identification of the presence of national and local designated sites of interest for nature conservation, of priority habitats and species (i.e. Natural Environment & Rural Communities listed), of locally prioritised habitats and species (i.e. from local Biodiversity Action Plans) and of protected species
- Adequate survey data collected over a sufficient period of time and in accordance with best practice methodologies
- Application of the avoidance and mitigation hierarchy for each receptor/impact identified

- A presumption that the route can be altered to accommodate sites or features considered irreplaceable or where an adverse impact would remain despite mitigation
- Survey and impact assessment should consider the development in the context of the landscape and/or ecosystem provision to help identify the best solutions for mitigation and compensation
- EclA should be specific to sites and features along the route with the significance of impact assessed for each and not just for, for example, a habitat type
- The draft results and proposals should be made available to the relevant local authorities in advance of the production of the Environment Statement in order to include local knowledge

When consulting on the draft Environmental Statement for Phase 2, it would be beneficial that the full ecological assessment be available.

As part of the further work to inform the ES, HS2Ltd should consult Rotherham Geological Record Centre for the relevant geological record data (sagt@geodiversity.org). HS2 may impact on an identified site of geo-diversity value at Waverley (cRIGS R137), and potentially may impact geo-conservation interests at one other site.

There is a positive opportunity to professionally record geological details in ground investigation, boreholes and rock exposures; these potentially useful records should be submitted to Rotherham Geological Records Centre. Consideration should also be given to the preservation and management of any geological assets where access to these remains possible after completion of the works.

The Sustainability Statement does confirm that EIA work will include the preparation of a package of mitigation and enhancement measures that will address direct impact and wider priorities, which is very welcome. It is hoped that the EIA process will be collaborative to enable discussions on identified impacts and proposals for avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement prior to the publication of the final document.

We consider that HS2 should not aim for 'no net loss' for the natural environment but that the aim should be more ambitious and provide an overall net gain. This should include the potential for the Government's proposal for a national biodiversity offsetting scheme to be tested, which would highlight the full environmental benefits of HS2 and set an exemplar standard.

Table 1: Preliminary identification of sites of biodiversity interest in Rotherham

Receptor Type	Receptor Name	Location
River corridors	River Rother	RMBC
	River Don	RMBC / SCC
Canal Networks	Sheffield & SY Navigation	RMBC / SCC
	Chesterfield Canal	RMBC
Landscape-scale Projects	Living Don: Rotherham Rivers project	RMBC / SCC
	Deane Valley Green Heart NIA	RMBC / BMBC
	Lower Don Valley Masterplan area	RMBC / SCC
SSSI		
LNRs	Woodhouse Washlands	RMBC / SCC
	Catcliffe Flash	RMBC
	Centenary Riverside	RMBC
Ancient Woodland	Smithy Wood	RMBC / SCC
	Hesley Wood	RMBC / SCC
Local Wildlife Sites (inc. candidates)	Rother Valley Country Park	RMBC
	Pithouse West	RMBC
	Woodhouse Washlands	RMBC / SCC
	Forgemasters Tip (Treeton Dyke)	RMBC
	Catcliffe Flash	RMBC
	S&SY Navigation	RMBC / SCC
	Grange Park	RMBC
	Smithy Wood	RMBC / SCC
	Hesley Wood	RMBC / SCC
Other Key Sites	Waverley Park	RMBC

Communities

At this stage it is difficult to determine the full implications of the proposed HS2 line of route on the local communities that the railway will pass through or adjacent to. The full implications will be known when the detailed design progresses, the construction path required is known, and the Environmental Statement is prepared. We would welcome the opportunity to continue close engagement and liaison with Government and HS2 Ltd as these issues progress.

However, the line of route subject to consultation does indicate that there are properties in Rotherham that will require demolition. Those businesses and properties that will require demolition are highlighted in the Planning and Development section above. It should be noted that many of these businesses are core parts of our local communities, providing employment and services to them. Furthermore, a number of properties in Rotherham may be affected by noise or visual impacts of the scheme, both during construction and operation of the railway. These impacts, particularly on residential communities close or adjacent to the line of route and station, need to be fully assessed and appraised within the environmental appraisal proposed. Adverse impacts will be subject to the location and proximity of properties to the line of route and should be mitigated against, including the potential for avoidance, and compensation where appropriate.

Those communities in Rotherham that are closest to the proposed line of route and may face the greatest impacts are:

Fence / Swallownest

Properties to the north east of the B6200 Aston Bypass, are likely to be affected due to the realignment required described in the highways section below. Details of the proposed realignment need to be provided by HS2 Ltd.

Properties on Falconer Lane, to which the rear gardens of certain houses, are close to the line of route.

Catcliffe

Properties in the Southern parts of Catcliffe will be close to the line of route, such as those on The Crofts, with other areas of Catcliffe having views of the railway. Those parts of Catcliffe to the North of the A630 Sheffield Parkway are likely to be affected when a cutting underneath the Parkway is constructed but as a result the impact upon completion may be reduced.

Treeton

Certain properties with views to the south or west across Waverley and Orgreave are likely to have views of the HS2, which is elevated on either viaduct or embankment across the Waverley New Community site.

Waverley (New Community)

The impact on WNC is highlighted in previous sections.

Brinsworth

Certain properties with views to the south or west may have views of HS2 although the M1 motorway will lie between these properties and the railway.

Blackburn

Blackburn is very close to the line of route as it passes on a viaduct across the Lower Don Valley serving the proposed Meadowhall Station, with the M1 motorway between these properties and the railway. However, it should be noted that significant visual impact is likely, with the potential for noise, as the railway will be on an elevated viaduct and at this point trains will be on the approach/ exit to the station.

From Blackburn to M1 J35(a)

The line of route of HS2 remains closely aligned to the M1 on the Sheffield side. The vertical alignment of the railway moves in a transition from viaduct at Blackburn to embankment then predominantly cutting as it moves north towards J35(a). Just south of M1 J35(a) the line of route crosses underneath the M1 in a cutting into Rotherham at Hood Hill. Here the line of route passes very close to Hood Hill Farm as stated above in the planning and development section. The level of noise and visual impact on properties in Rotherham will be subject to the vertical alignment of HS2 and their proximity to the M1 and line of route.

Tourism

Visions of China is a proposed new major themed tourist attraction to be built at the former Pithouse West colliery site, located to the north of Rother Valley Country Park and near Jct 31 of the M1 motorway.

The project will incorporate a 120 acre cultural theme park set in an authentically built and landscaped Chinese environment. It aims to combine the beauty and distinctiveness of Chinese architecture; the

charming originality of Chinese garden design; the mystique of Chinese culture and customs; and the originality of its entertainment, in a single spectacular parkland environment, offering a menu of entertainment which will appeal to both domestic and overseas visitors alike.

One and a half million visitors are expected to visit the park each year enjoying its spectacular mix of Oriental lakes and gardens; China Town retail street; Shaolin temple and cultural centre; theatre; children's fantasy land; restaurants; Oriental spa; pavilions; pagoda; and hotel.

The project, costing in excess of £100 million, is envisaged to create 200 jobs during its two year construction and more than 380 permanent jobs once the theme park is in operation. The site is approximately 20-25 minutes' drive to the proposed HS2 station at Meadowhall and would present an attractive way of accessing the proposed attraction, particularly from London.

Magna Science Adventure Centre is an educational visitor attraction, appealing primarily to children. It is located in a disused steel mill in the Lower Don Valley and would be approximately 3 minutes from the proposed HS2 station at Meadowhall. The principal exhibits are divided into five *pavilions*: Earth, Air, Fire, Water and Power. The site, often used for staging events, conferences and gigs, won the Enjoy England Gold Award for Business Tourism in 2006 as well as many other awards for the high quality of product.

Highways and Transport

The impacts on public highways within Rotherham are as follows:

- **B6200 Aston Bypass, Fence/Swallownest** – The line of route of HS2 will require the realignment of part of the B6200. Details are not provided of how this will be achieved or the impact this may have on the adjacent houses on Haigh Moor Way.
- **B6200 Sheffield Road, Fence** – will the level of the existing carriageway be altered to accommodate HS2 travelling underneath it – new overbridge
- **B6066 Poplar Way, Catcliffe/Waverley** - The consultation plans indicate that the proposed alignment of HS2 will be at the same level as the B6066 Poplar Way. It is unclear what the proposed accommodation works to the B6066 at this location will be.

As outlined in the economic development section above, improved connectivity to the HS2 Meadowhall station from the SCR Urban Centres is essential to its success and the economic growth of SCR. The connectivity improvements required between Rotherham and Meadowhall include:

- **Holmes Chord Heavy Rail track dualling** – The capacity on the Meadowhall to Doncaster heavy rail corridor is constrained by a section of single track known as Holmes Chord. All services serving Rotherham Central Station have to use this single track either coming from or going towards Meadowhall. This limits the number of stopping services at Rotherham Central and capacity more widely on this important corridor. Currently the dualling of this chord is not included within a defined Control Period programme. We would request that this improvement is introduced at the earliest opportunity.
- **Further enhancements to the planned Rotherham-Sheffield Tram-Train network** will be required to maximise the benefits of HS2. These include new track alignments to serve the HS2 station from Rotherham and also include extensions through the Dearne Valley towards Doncaster, with a station at Magna in the Lower Don Valley.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	5th February 2014
3.	Title:	Former Council Offices, Doncaster Gate, Rotherham Ward – Boston Castle
4.	Directorate:	Economic & Development Services

5. Summary

To provide and update on the demolition of the former Council Offices on Doncaster Gate

6. Recommendations

That:

- 1) Cabinet notes the lack of re-development proposals that retain a significant part of the existing buildings.**
- 2) That demolition continues in line with the cabinet decision dated 16th October 2013.**

7. Proposals and Details

Background

Cabinet resolved to demolish of the freehold owned buildings contained within Doncaster Gate site on the 16th October 2013:-

- C103** (2) That the demolition of the property be approved.
(3) That the use of capital receipts to fund the demolition be approved

On 18th December 2013 cabinet further resolved:-

- C148** (2) That any interested parties be allowed until 24th January, 2014 to bring forward to the Council any re-development proposals which retain all or a significant part of the building.

The Council was approached by a third party who visited site and attended two meetings with the Council. This third party, employed an architect and surveyors to advise them on the possibility of making the site work whilst maintaining some of the original buildings. Unfortunately, this third party informed the Council on Friday 31st January 2014 that they have decided not to make a bid for the site.

The Strategic Director for Environment and Development Services has held a number of meetings with the Civic Society in order to both keep them informed and to identify any opportunities to retain any part of the existing structure.

To date, the Council has not received any proposals to retain any significant part of the building.

It is proposed that a number of key stones will be recovered from the Doncaster Gate façade of the original hospital building and retained to create a memorial to the building, when the site is redeveloped.

The site has remained on the market and open to potential offers. All those whom expressed an interest during the previous marketing period have been given advance warning that the cleared site will be offered back to the market early spring 2014.

This has generated considerable interest in the site with developers re-registering their interest and requesting Tender Pack's when they become available. It is thought that this, along a full marketing campaign should generate sufficient interest to result in a redevelopment that will add to the regeneration of this edge of Town Centre site.

The substantial asbestos and soft strip works are now close to complete. Demolition is due to commence within 2 weeks and be completed in April 2014.

8. Finance

The opportunity provided by a cleared site has generated considerable interest. It is thought that this, along a full marketing campaign should generate sufficient interest to result in a market rate capital receipt.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Previously interested parties whom had rejected the site due to the existing configuration have renewed their interest following notification of the demolition.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Development of the site will contribute towards the corporate and cross cutting policy agenda related to regeneration, in particular the priority for improving and promoting the image of Rotherham through developing under-used assets and creating balanced housing markets.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	Wednesday 5th February 2014
3.	Title:	2014/15 Budget – Review of the Provision of Household Waste Recycling Centres – All Wards Affected
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report reviews the current provision of the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) in Rotherham and recommends reducing the days of operation to achieve the budgetary savings required for Financial Year 2014/15.

6. Recommendations**6.1 It is recommended that Cabinet approves:**

- 1. The closure of Warren Vale HWRC on Tuesday and Wednesday each week**
- 2. The closure of Lidget Lane HWRC on Thursday and Friday each week**

7. Proposals and Details

- 7.1 The Council as a Waste Disposal Authority has a statutory obligation under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 for “places to be provided at which persons resident in its area may deposit their household waste and for the disposal of waste so deposited”.
- 7.2 It is up to the Council to decide how it fulfils its duty in 7.1 above. In respect of how many Centres are provided, where they are situated and their opening days and hours.
- 7.3 The management of Rotherham’s HWRCs is arranged through a joint BDR (Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham) contract with FCC Environment Limited.
- 7.4 The contract with FCC Environment Limited sets out their duties in relation to the Council’s network of HWRCs, including the opening days and hours of each Centre.
- 7.5 In order to change any contractual obligation, a variation to contract will need to be agreed with the service provider. Within the existing contract is a schedule of rates which makes provision for and quantifies the financial adjustment to the weekly contract management fee, resultant from any changes in the opening hours and/or whole day Centre closures.
- 7.6 All our Centres are currently open daily at the following times:

April 1 st to September 30 th	10:00 am to 6:30 pm
October 1 st to March 31 st	10:00 am to 4:00 pm

In previous financial years the required budgetary savings have been achieved by cutting back on the daily opening times. It is now considered that normal opening times stand at a minimal level. Further narrowing of the daily opening times would leave insufficient hours in the day for it to be worthwhile opening a Centre.

- 7.7 Closing selected Centres on specific days would best address the key issue of achieving the required budgetary saving. Still avoiding the need to permanently close a Centre and minimising the impact on the majority of Rotherham’s service users.
- 7.8 In order to achieve the required level of savings we need to close the equivalent of one Centre for four days per week (the level of contractual savings do not differ between Centres). However, to avoid disadvantaging one population area unfairly, it should not be the same Centre which is closed on each day.
- 7.9 In determining which Centres to close on which day we have taken account of: location, travel distance to alternative Centres, facility size, tonnage throughput (customer usage), previous recycling performance, provision for permitted vehicles. In discussion with the service provider, FCC Environment Limited, account has also been taken of their existing staffing rotas to limit, as far as possible, any requirement for compulsory redundancies.

7.10 It is proposed that:

- **Warren Vale HWRC closes on Tuesday and Wednesday each week**
- **Lidget Lane HWRC closes on Thursday and Friday each week**
- **Car Hill and Magilla HWRCs operating hours remain unchanged**

8. Finance

- 8.1** Savings have been calculated on the basis of a contractual Schedule of Rates and agreed with FCC Environment Limited.
- 8.2** Reducing the number of operational days impacts upon the number of FCC staff required to manage our HWRC service. The proposal to close two Centres for two days each per week provides the best fit with FCC Environment Limited staffing rotas. This helps minimise the number of compulsory redundancies required. It has been identified that two posts will be lost through this proposal.
- 8.3** FCC Environment Limited have indicated that any costs incurred through redundancy payments resulting from the Council action will be passed back to the Council. These potential costs could be £10,000 per redundancy.
- 8.4** FCC Environment Limited have acknowledged that they currently have two vacant posts on the Rotherham Centres. It has been agreed that an immediate freeze be placed on filling these posts to avoid the need for any compulsory redundancies.
- 8.5** The freeze on filling the vacant posts will mean that casual labour will need to be employed to cover the service until the reduced days of operation commence. There is an additional differential cost to FCC in employing casuals as opposed to permanent employees. FCC have indicated that they may raise a claim against the Council to cover any additional costs they incur in restructuring their staffing levels as a result of our changes.
- 8.6** The estimated saving from this proposal in Financial Year 2014/15 is £26,000 per annum (less a "one-off" contingency sum should FCC claim for the reimbursement of any staff restructuring costs - see 8.5 above). The detailed calculation is provided in APPENDIX 5

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- 9.1** Reducing the number of operational days will generate some customer dissatisfaction. This may be minimised by the careful selection of which Centre closes on which day. Ensuring that the travel time to the nearest open Centre is kept to a minimum and no specific population area is unfairly affected.
- 9.2** There is a risk that incidents of fly tipping may increase. Fly Tipping is often linked to businesses illegally avoiding the payment of waste disposal costs. It is

considered this situation will not be exacerbated by the limited closure of our Centres, where the deposit of trade waste is already prohibited. Alternative HWRC provision will remain for Rotherham householders to use and it is thought the majority of the general public will not resort to illegal behaviour. If required, on days when a Centre is closed, there will be increased surveillance of the local vicinity by Enforcement Teams.

- 9.3** The financial savings have been calculated on the assumption that when a Centre is closed, the waste that would have gone to that Centre will be delivered to another HWRC.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

- 10.1** The provision of HWRCs contribute towards achieving the Corporate priority “All areas of Rotherham are safe, clean and well maintained”.
- 10.2** Reducing the days of operation should have no impact upon equalities and diversity. Days of operation will be proportionately reduced across the whole service dependant upon site usage and tonnage throughput. The HWRC network will be left intact and able to continue to provide a high quality service to residents with no particular group or area adversely affected.
- 10.3** The impact on the Council’s recycling rate should be minimal as there are other opportunities for householders to recycle their waste. Including kerbside collections and the bring bank network.

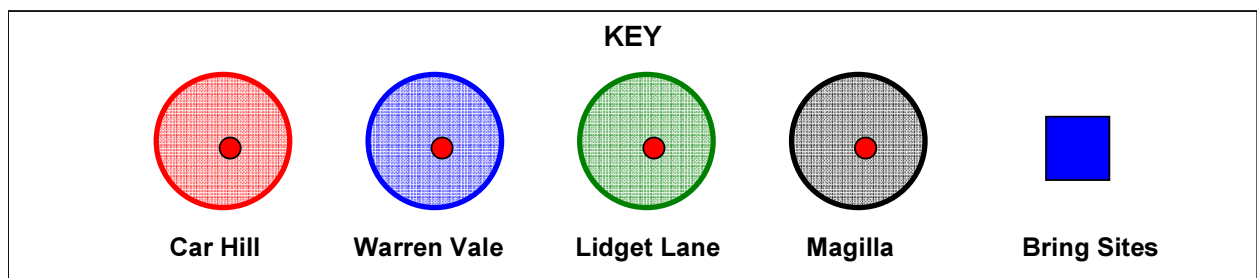
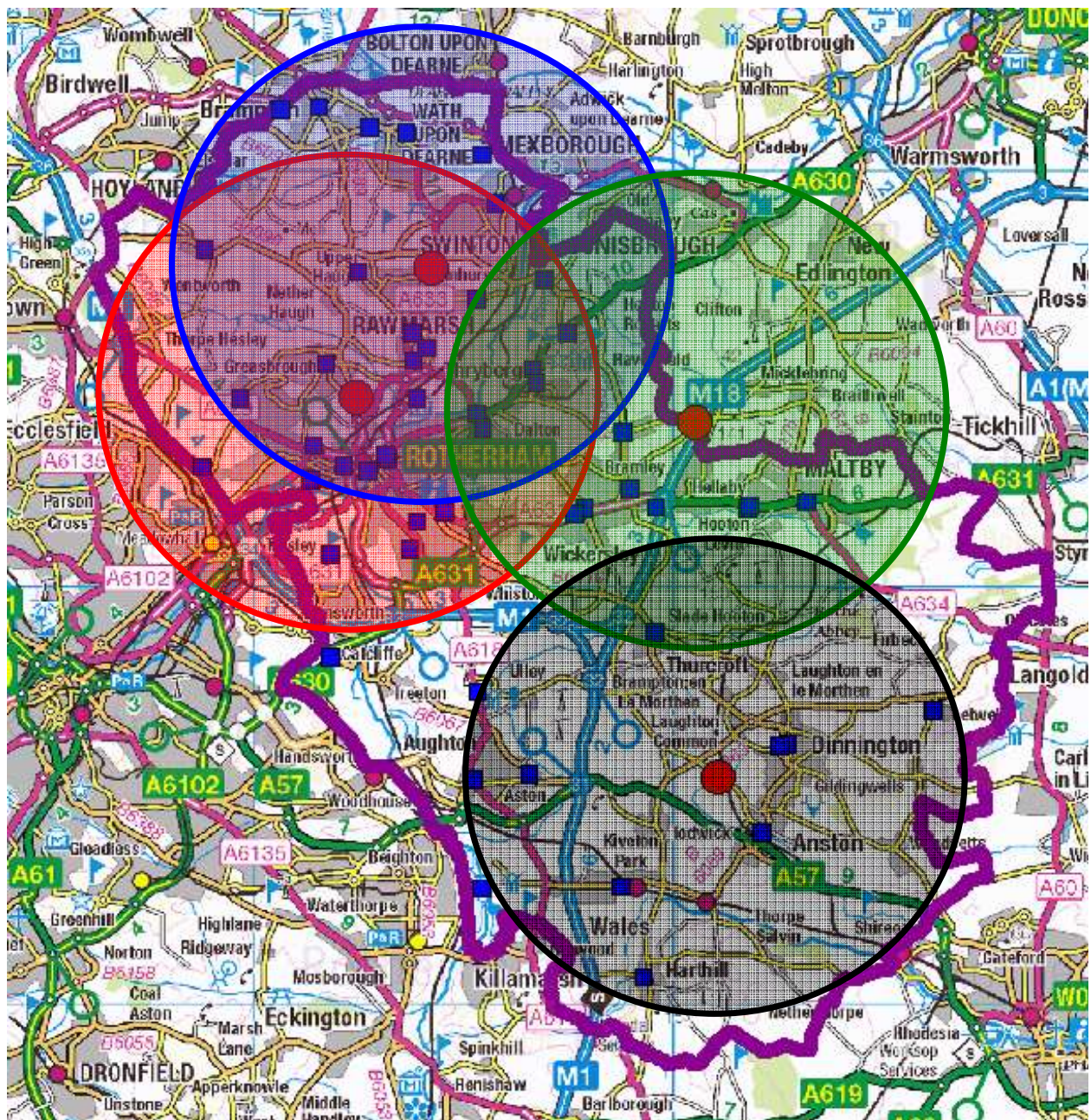
11. Background Papers and Consultation

- 11.1** The National Assessment of Civic Amenity Sites Report 2004 and the WRAP Guidance on the Management of Household Waste Recycling Centres 2012 identify the average catchment radius per HWRC in England to be 4.3 miles. Applying the average catchment radius to each of Rotherham’s HWRCs shows that over 90% of the Borough receives at least average HWRC provision. **APPENDIX 1** refers.
- 11.2** The same WRAP Guidance recommends that at least one HWRC is provided per 143,750 residents. Provision in Rotherham is much more favourable, with one HWRC being provided for every 64,320 residents.
- 11.3 APPENDIX 2** – Shows the level of HWRC provision made by neighbouring Local Authorities. Some of these Local Authorities have previously taken the decision to close selected sites on specific days. Where applicable, the Rotherham HWRC(s) most likely to receive cross border traffic from neighbouring Local Authorities is identified.
- 11.4 APPENDIX 3** – Provides performance data for each of our HWRCs.
- 11.5 APPENDIX 4** – Journey distances to alternative Centres in Rotherham.

11.6 APPENDIX 5 – Detailed calculation of the anticipated savings resulting from this proposal.

Contact Name : *David Hill, Waste Management Officer, Ext. 22147, david-eds.hill@rotherham.gov.uk*

APPENDIX 1 – Catchment Radius for each Rotherham HWRC (based upon average for England (4.3 miles) in 2010/11)



HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES
Neighbouring Local Authority Provision

APPENDIX 2

LA Area	HWRC Location	Post Code	Summer Hours		Winter Hours		Days Open							Potential for Cross Border Inputs at:
			Apr	Sept	Oct	Mar	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	
Barnsley	Goldthorpe	S63 9AT	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Car Hill & Warren Vale
	Smithies Lane	S71 1NL	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Penistone	S36 6HH	09:00	17:00	09:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	West St. Worsbrough	S70 5DJ	08:00	19:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Car Hill & Warren Vale
Doncaster	Armthorpe	DN2 5QB	08:30	19:00	08:30	19:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
	Balby	DN4 9AJ	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Lidget Lane
	Carcroft	DN6 7BD	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	
	Conisbrough	DN12 2AE	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	Lidget Lane & Warren Vale
	Hatfield	DN7 4JT	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y	Y	Y			Y	
	Rossington	DN11 0PS	09:30	19:00	09:30	17:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	Lidget Lane
Sheffield	Beighton	S13 7PS	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Magilla
	Blackstock Road	S14 1FY	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	
	Deepcar	S36 2DT	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y			Y	Y	Y	
	High Green	S35 4GR	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y			Y	Y	Car Hill
	Shirecliffe	S5 8WA	10:00	18:00	10:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Bassetlaw (NCC)	Worksop	S80 3HA	08:00	20:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Magilla
	Retford	DN22 7LE	08:00	20:00	08:00	16:00	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL
Household Waste Recycling Centres
Performance Data

APPENDIX 3

	Site Area (sq. metre)	Annual Throughput (tonnes)	Congestion Measure (tonnes per sq. metre)	Recycling Rate (incl. Inert)	Recycling Rate (excl. Inert)
Car Hill	5,700	6,214	1.09	69%	48%
Warren Vale	2,200	4,711	2.14	71%	48%
Lidget Lane	3,300	4,300	1.30	76%	54%
Magilla	3,800	4,779	1.26	75%	53%
<i>Note: a traffic count is not taken routinely at any of our HWRCs</i>					

JOURNEY DISTANCES TO ALTERNATIVE CENTRES

APPENDIX 4

Miles	Car Hill	Warren Vale	Lidget Lane	Magilla
Car Hill		3.2	6.7	10.9
Warren Vale	3.2		6.1	11.8
Lidget Lane	6.7	6.1		5.4
Magilla	10.9	11.8	5.4	

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
Waste Management
HWRC Estimated Savings 2014/15

APPENDIX 5

Month	Opening Hours per day	Potential Working Days in Month	Car Hill		Warren Vale		Lidget Lane		Magilla		Total Revised Cost			Current Cost	Saving
			No Closures		Close Tues & Wed		Close Thurs & Fri		No Closures		£ 37.52	£ 15.36		£ 37.52	
			Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Open Day	Closed Day	Total	Total	
Apr-14	8.5	30	30		20	10	22	8	30		£ 32,530	£ 2,350	£ 34,880	£ 38,270	£ 3,390
May-14	8.5	31	31		23	8	21	10	31		£ 33,806	£ 2,350	£ 36,156	£ 39,546	£ 3,390
Jun-14	8.5	30	30		22	8	22	8	30		£ 33,168	£ 2,089	£ 35,257	£ 38,270	£ 3,014
Jul-14	8.5	31	31		21	10	22	9	31		£ 33,487	£ 2,481	£ 35,967	£ 39,546	£ 3,579
Aug-14	8.5	31	31		23	8	22	9	31		£ 34,124	£ 2,220	£ 36,344	£ 39,546	£ 3,202
Sep-14	8.5	30	30		21	9	22	8	30		£ 32,849	£ 2,220	£ 35,068	£ 38,270	£ 3,202
Oct-14	6.0	31	31		22	9	21	10	31		£ 23,638	£ 1,751	£ 25,389	£ 27,915	£ 2,526
Nov-14	6.0	30	30		22	8	22	8	30		£ 23,412	£ 1,475	£ 24,887	£ 27,014	£ 2,127
Dec-14	6.0	29	29		19	10	23	6	29		£ 22,512	£ 1,475	£ 23,987	£ 26,114	£ 2,127
Jan-15	6.0	30	30		22	8	21	9	30		£ 23,187	£ 1,567	£ 24,754	£ 27,014	£ 2,260
Feb-15	6.0	28	28		20	8	20	8	28		£ 21,612	£ 1,475	£ 23,086	£ 25,213	£ 2,127
Mar-15	6.0	31	31		22	9	23	8	31		£ 24,088	£ 1,567	£ 25,655	£ 27,915	£ 2,260
TOTAL											£ 338,412	£ 23,017	£ 361,429	£ 394,635	£ 33,207
<i>Contract Rates used are at 2013/14 level</i>											Less contingency for FCC restructuring costs			-£ 7,000	
											TOTAL SAVING - FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/15			£ 26,207	