

CABINET

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

Date: Wednesday, 18 June 2014

Time: 10.30 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To consider questions from Members of the Public.
2. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
3. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st May, 2014 (copy supplied separately)
6. Minutes of a meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group held on 5th June, 2014 (herewith) (Pages 1 - 6)
7. Revenue Account Outturn 2013/14 (report herewith) (Pages 7 - 21)
 - Director of Finance to report.
8. Capital Programme Outturn 2013/14 and Updated Estimates 2014/15 to 2016/17 (report herewith) (Pages 22 - 46)
 - Strategic Director of Finance to report.
9. Transformation Challenge Award (report herewith) (Pages 47 - 51)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
10. Children's Centre Consultation (report herewith) (Pages 52 - 170)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.
11. Scrutiny Review - Improving access for young people seeking help and support around self harm (report herewith) (Pages 171 - 178)
 - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services to report.

12. Local Flood Management Risk Strategy (report herewith) (Pages 179 - 267)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
13. Firsby Reservoir (report herewith) (Pages 268 - 274)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.
14. Exclusion of 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).
15. Capital Programme - Capital Receipts Update (report herewith) (advance notice given) (Pages 275 - 285)
 - Strategic Director of Environment and Development Services to report.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	CABINET
2.	Date:	18th JUNE, 2014
3.	Title:	MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN MEMBERS' STEERING GROUP HELD ON 5TH JUNE, 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 5th June, 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 5th June, 2014.

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

ROTHERHAM LOCAL PLAN STEERING GROUP
Thursday, 5th June, 2014

Present:- Councillor Smith (in the Chair); and Councillor Clark.

together with:- Bronwen Knight, Helen Sleight, Andrew Duncan, Rachel Overfield and Jon Bell (Planning Service), Carolyn Jones (Ecology Development Officer) and Ann Todd (Corporate Communications)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Dodson, Lakin, G. A. Russell, McNeely, and Whelbourn.

41. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL, 2014

Consideration was given to the minutes of the previous meeting of the Rotherham Local Plan Steering Group, held on 25th April, 2014.

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

42. ROTHERHAM LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE FRAMEWORK - UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 139 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 17th December, 2008, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Ecology Development Officer, stating that the supporting documentation for the Rotherham Local Wildlife Site system has been refreshed to update all references to planning legislation and policy in advance of the Local Plan Sites and Policies consultation process taking place during 2014. Members noted the proposal that the Local Wildlife Site Framework will be a non-statutory designation in the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document. Therefore, it is important that the supporting information is up to date.

The Rotherham Local Wildlife Site system consists of a framework document containing information which supports the purpose of the system, a selection criteria document that identifies how site value will be established and mapping of identified site boundaries. A copy of the Rotherham Local Wildlife Site Framework document was appended to the submitted report.

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

(2) That Local Plan Steering Group acknowledges the updated Rotherham Local Wildlife Site Framework document as being appropriate to support the inclusion of the Local Wildlife Site designation in the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document.

43. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCOPING STUDIES

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Planning Officer, providing information about the archaeological evidence base work carried out to inform the final draft Sites and Policies Document and accompanying Policies Map 2014, in terms of heritage constraints. The work will be of use to prospective developers and planners in respect of the archaeological requirements needed to support the submission of planning applications, should these sites eventually come forward in the Local Plan.

The report stated that, during 2012 and 2013, Wessex Archaeology had undertaken scoping studies of 211 preferred sites for inclusion in the Rotherham Local Plan. A third archaeological study is nearing completion for approximately 39 additional potential allocation sites, necessitated by the Local Plan Inspector's higher housing target for the Core Strategy. These additional sites have been assessed to the same standards and methodology as the previous studies. The specific aims for all the studies were detailed in the submitted report.

Each site has been allocated a significance level of International, National, Regional, high Local, medium Local, low Local, Negligible or Unknown depending upon the factors described in the report. The recommendations of the reports were used in the Local Plan site selection methodology to inform allocation site selection in the final draft Sites and Policies Document 2014 and Policies Map. Any of the allocation sites identified, which would significantly affect nationally important archaeological sites, were automatically discounted from the local plan site selection process.

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

(2) That the Local Plan Steering Group supports the Archaeological Scoping Studies as Local Plan evidence base documents used in the preparation of the final draft Sites and Policies Document and Policies Map 2014 and for informing possible future planning application submission requirements.

44. GREEN BELT - DETAILED REVIEW

Further to Minute No. 38 of the meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group held on 25th April, 2014, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Planning Officer, stating that the Strategic Green Belt Review was completed in June 2012 and informed the production of the Publication Core Strategy. The subsequent, detailed review of Rotherham's Green Belt allows consideration of impact on the Green Belt to be taken into account when determining allocations and detailed site boundaries for the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document.

During discussion, Members made reference was made to specific sites throughout the Borough area, including land at Thorpe Hesley (which had formerly been allocated for housing in previous years) and the site of the

Maltby Colliery. Both of these two and several other key sites had been examined in terms of the best options for alterations to the Green Belt.

Altogether, the review of the Green Belt had examined more than one hundred sites and, as expected, the results had varied widely. There are some sites being considered for allocation which the review identifies as having significant impact on the openness of the green belt, at a local level. There were many others where only moderate or low level impacts were assessed. In all cases, the systematic assessment allowed decisions to be made as to whether potential harm to the wider Green Belt outweighed the reasons for proposing any given allocation and whether the most appropriate boundaries have been drawn.

Members were informed that the Strategic Green Belt Review applied a set of criteria, derived from the purposes for including land within the Green Belt, to parcels of Green Belt Land; the findings of which were taken into consideration in the production of the Core Strategy and the sites selection process for the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document.

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

(2) That the Detailed Green Belt Review be supported as a Local Plan evidence base document used in the preparation of the final draft Sites and Policies Document and Policies Map.

45. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Further to Minute No. 39 of the meeting of the Local Plan Steering Group held on 25th April, 2014, consideration was given to a report presented by the Assistant Conservation Officer, stating that as part of the consultation process on the final draft Sites and Policies Document, English Heritage had identified a number of potential preferred sites where there may possibly be a negative impact on the setting of Conservation Areas. In view of the duty on local authorities to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of their Conservation Areas, the recommendation of English Heritage was to carry out an assessment of the contribution these sites make to the character of their respective Conservation Areas.

This report provided information about the Heritage Impact Assessment and subsequent site visits with representatives of English Heritage, carried out in order to comply with the recommendation. The Heritage Impact Assessment report will contribute to the finalisation of Rotherham's final draft Sites and Policies Document and accompanying Policies Map prior to consultation during the Summer 2014.

In addition, the Heritage Impact Assessment will be made available as a supporting document to the public consultation on the final draft Sites and Policies document.

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

(2) That the Local Plan Steering Group supports the contribution of the Heritage Impact Assessment as a Local Plan evidence base document to be used in the preparation of the final draft Sites and Policies Document and Policies Map.

46. LANDSCAPE SENSITIVITY AND CAPACITY STUDY

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Planning Officer, providing an update about the work undertaken to assess the landscape sensitivity and development capacity of potential site allocations for the emerging Sites and Policies Document. The Study develops further the work undertaken by the Landscape Partnership at the Borough-wide scale and uses the same methodology to assess the potential allocations. This is an evidence base document that will also advise and guide decision-making on future planning applications.

Members noted that a total of 165 sites have been assessed over the last two years, as an Evidence Base Study to advise and guide decision-making on future planning applications. The publication of this Study will provide useful advice and guidance to developers to aid their understanding of the Council's approach to emerging applications for planning permission. The Council has also prepared planning policies to guide its approach to landscaping in considering applications for future development sites and the thorough assessment of sites and their setting within the wider landscape, prior to proposals being finalised.

Reference was made to specific sites throughout the Borough area.

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

(2) That Steering Group notes the preparation of a robust evidence base which supports the emerging Sites and Policies Document and which will guide the preparation of future applications for planning permission, setting out clear requirements for applicants.

47. 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, 4th July, 2014, commencing at 10.00 a.m.

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18 th June 2014
3.	Title:	Revenue Account Outturn 2013/14
4.	Directorate:	Resources

5. Summary

- In 2013/14 the Council **budgeted** to spend **£221.474m** on its **General Fund Revenue Account**. **Actual spending for the year** was **£220.440m**, a **saving** against budget of **-£1.034m (or -0.47%)**. Of this, £0.747m is accounted for by surpluses on trading accounts, leaving a **net underspend of £0.287m. (-0.13%)**

Requests to carry-forward £251k of unspent 2013/14 budgets for specific projects/purposes are also included in this report. **If approved the remaining balance available to support the future years' budget is £36k.**

- In addition, the **Delegated Schools' Budget was £154.271m**. Actual spend against this was **£155.155m**, an **overspend of £0.884m** for the year. This has drawn down from Schools' Reserves which at 31st March 2014 stood at £6.456m.
- The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) in 2013/14 was **budgeted** to draw down funding from the HRA General Reserve of **£2.599m**. However, use of the reserve was not required and there has been a **contribution to this Reserve of £1.570m**.
- This is a very positive outturn, especially given the challenges faced in-year which necessitated the implementation of a moratorium on all but essential spend from October. It is the result of the hard work of both elected Members and staff in managing reducing levels of funding at a time of increasing service need, and also the generally good and responsible financial management on the part of budget holders.
- Reflecting the above outturn position, and assuming the recommendations in this report are approved, the Council's Revenue Reserves as at 31 March 2014 were: **General Fund Reserves** available and uncommitted to support the Budget **£10.222m** and Earmarked Reserves **£57.031m** of which **£43.540m** is ringfenced for HRA, Schools and to meet future PFI contractual obligations.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet:

- Note the Council's General Fund, Schools' and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Revenue Outturn Position Statements for 2013/2014.
- Note the level of the Council's Revenue Reserves as at 31 March 2014.

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3. Approve the carrying forward of underspends on Trading Services (£747,055) and requests for carrying forward of specific items (£251,467) in accordance with the Council's approved policy; and
 4. Approve the waiving of the Council's policy of carrying forward 20% of Directorate underspends from 2013/14.

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Revenue Outturn 2013/14

Rotherham's Net Revenue Budget (excluding Delegated Schools' Budget of £154.271m) for the 2013/14 financial year was £221.474m. Actual spending was £220.440m, resulting in an underspend of -£1.034m (or -0.47%). In addition to this, the Delegated Schools' Budget was exceeded and balances drawn from Schools' reserves to the value of £0.884m.

The Revenue Outturn position is analysed by Directorate at **Appendix 1** with the principal reasons for the variations set out in **Appendix 2**. More detailed Directorate Outturn reports have been presented to individual Cabinet Members for their portfolio areas of responsibility.

In spite of significant pressures and commitments, the Council has managed to achieve, through taking a proactive series of management actions and careful financial management, a positive financial outturn. Excluding the position on Schools, there is a net underspend of -£1.034m (-0.47%) on the Council's Net Revenue Budget. This reflects the Council's continued prudent and sustainable approach to financial management.

During 2013/14 the Council has continued the process of reconfiguring and rationalising its services in order to meet the financial challenges it is facing. As part of the process the Council offered the option of a voluntary severance scheme during the financial year. By the 31st March 2014, 126 employees had left or had been given approval to leave the Council under the terms of its Voluntary Severance arrangements (that is Voluntary Early Retirement, Voluntary Redundancy, Phased Retirement and Redeployment).

7.2 Schools' Budgets

Schools' budgets totalled £154.271m last year. Spending against these budgets came to £155.155m, requiring a use of schools balances of £0.884m. Schools' Reserves (including declared savings of £0.151m) stood at £6.456m as at 31st March 2014. The Department for Education (DfE) makes it clear, that schools are autonomous and self-managing and as such, within set guidelines the use of balances is under their control.

7.3 Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The outturn position for the HRA showed a surplus for the year of £1.570m, which increased the HRA General Reserve to £16.698m as at 31st March 2014. The Service was budgeted to use reserves in 2013/14 of £2.599m. This resulted in an outturn variation of £4.168m. The principal reasons for the budget underspend are summarised within **Appendix 2**.

The HRA's 30 year Business Plan (under the Government's Self Financing Regime) has been updated to reflect the Outturn position and its contribution towards providing additional future investment in the Council's housing stock.

HRA Reserves (including the Major Repairs Reserve) stood at £21.922m at 31st March 2014.

The following treatment of year end balances is proposed:

- **Trading services**

The Council's existing practice of carrying forward 100% of surpluses and deficits will continue and these will be taken into account in future year's business plans.

- **One-off or specific project budgets**

In cases where there are exceptional items of expenditure e.g. earmarked funding for special projects or developments, an application and supporting case has to be made to SLT to recommend to Cabinet the carry forward of up to 100% of any unspent balance at the end of the financial year if the project remains to be completed.

The outturn position for 2013/14 now reported reflects the position before the approval of the carry forward of trading services and specific balances. **Appendix 3** shows the position under each of the above categories and the supporting case for their application to carry forward specific project budgets.

SLT has considered the requests for carry forward and recommends to Cabinet that all requests are approved. These total £0.998m composed of: £0.747m in respect of traded services and £0.251m relating to one-off or exceptional items.

7.5 Reserves

Reserves to Support the General Fund Revenue Budget:

General Fund Reserves are held in order to protect the Council against unforeseen costs and contingencies to mitigate financial risks. In order to ensure that a prudent level of balances is held, the value of balances is risk assessed annually as part of the budget setting process. Reflecting the outturn position and after assuming that the carry forward requests are approved, **£10.222m of the General Fund Reserve is available to support future years' budgets**. This figure is equivalent to about 4% of the Council's Net Revenue Budget which is in line with the Council's Financial Plan and is deemed to be at a prudent level..

Earmarked Reserves

At the end of the 2013/14 financial year the Council's earmarked reserves stood at **£57.031m** comprising:

- Schools' Balances of £6.456m;
- HRA Reserves of £21.922m comprising a General Reserve of £16.698m and a Major Repairs Reserve balance of £5.224m ;
- PFI Reserve (£15.162m) to meet future contractual obligations over the life of the Schools and Leisure schemes;
- Commutation Adjustment Reserve (£8.394m) to meet future debt repayment costs;
- Furnished Homes Reserve of £3.186m;
- Culture and Leisure Insurance Reserve (£0.251m) and;
- Other Earmarked Reserves (£1.660m).

Cabinet is asked to note the Council's level of Revenue Reserves at 31 March 2014.

8. Finance

In total, the Council **budgeted to spend £375.745m on its General Fund Revenue Account in 2013/14**, (excluding Schools' Budgets the total was £221.474m). **The actual spend was £375.595m**; an underspend of -£0.150m or -0.04% less than budget. This is made up of the following:

	£m	%
General Fund (excl. Schools Delegated Budgets)	- 1.034	- 0.47
Schools Delegated Budgets	+0.884	+0.57
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	-0.150	- 0.04
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The summarised effect of this outturn position on the Council's Reserves has been set out above in the Reserves section of this report.

Cabinet is asked to support the following proposed treatment of the non-schools unspent 2013/14 General Fund balance:

General Fund (Non-Schools) Outturn Balance	
- transferred to General Fund Reserves	£1.034m

Less:

Carry forward of Traded Services	£0.747m
Carry forward requests for specific projects/purposes	<u>£0.251m</u>

<u>Balance available to support a future year's budget</u>	<u>£0.036m</u>
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9. Risks and Uncertainties

Decisions about the level of resources (including reserves) that are deployed to deliver the Council's priorities involve risk and uncertainty. However, the impact of unforeseen circumstances and adverse variances against budget can be minimised by continuing improvements in financial management, including the more effective management of financial risks.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Approval with regard to the carry forward requests for Traded Services and for specific projects/purposes should be given as soon as possible so as to give certainty to the final level of approved budget for the current (2014/15) financial year.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Cabinet Reports:

- Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2013/14, 6th March, 2013
- Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring reports to SLT and Cabinet.

Other Documents

- Statement of Accounts 2012/13 and draft Statement of Accounts 2013/14

Contact Name: *Stuart Booth, Director of Financial Services, ext:22034,*
stuart.booth@rotherham.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1 – 2013/14 General Fund Outturn Summary by Directorate

<u>Directorate</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Outturn</u>	<u>Surplus (-) Deficit (+)</u>	<u>Trading</u>	<u>Non- Trading</u>
<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
CYPS	46,773,276	47,121,009	+8,782	-303,623	+312,405
Schools – Impact of Academy transfers			+338,951		+338,951
CYPS Total	46,773,276	47,121,009	+347,733	-303,623	+651,356
EDS*	47,499,105	46,753,588	-745,517		-745,517
Adult Social Services*	77,836,998	77,566,123	-270,875		-270,875
Neighbourhoods	2,460,701	2,049,508	-411,193	-77,218	-333,975
NAS Total	80,297,699	79,615,631	-682,068	-77,218	-604,850
Resources**	14,442,325	14,413,062	-29,263	-366,214	+336,951
Central and Other Services	32,461,595	32,536,579	+74,984		+74,984
TOTAL (Excl Schools)	221,474,000	220,439,868	-1,034,132	-747,055	-287,077
Schools' Budgets	154,271,416	155,155,531	+884,115		+884,115
TOTAL	375,745,416	375,595,399	-150,017	-747,055	+597,038

* Includes matrix-managed services (except ICT)

** Includes ICT – matrix-managed by EDS

Children & Young People's Services Directorate

The Directorate overspent by £348k before allowing for the carry forward of trading surplus balances. After taking these into consideration the overspend was £651k.

Academy Conversions (+£339k)

When a school with a Sponsor has a deficit balance and converts to an Academy the deficits under DfE Regulations must be borne by the Local Authority. Swinton Brookfield Primary's deficit of £38,951 and an estimated deficit for Rawmarsh School, a Sports College, of £300K have therefore contributed an additional cost to the Directorate of £339k in 2013/14.

School Effectiveness (-£94K)

This underspend is due to the School Effectiveness Service maximising use of grant income (-£50K) & slight delays in staff recruitment (-£28K). There was also additional income generation at Rockingham Professional Development Centre making (-£9K) over & above the £35K income target & an underspend (-£7K) in the Youth Enterprise team on supplies & services.

Special Education Provision (-£129K)

This underspend is partly due to voluntary early retirements & redundancies in the Parent Partnership service (-£10K), the SEN & Admissions Team (-£4K) & the Education Psychology Service (-£40K). There were also underspends on the Complex Needs placements budget due to the re-negotiation of lower placement fees (-£22K) and delays in staff recruitment in the Children in Public Care Team (-£14K), the Learning Support & Autism Communication Team (-£39K).

Early Years Services (-£479K)

This underspend consists of (-£72K) within central Early Years services & (-£407K) within the Children Centres due to voluntary early retirements & redundancies, maximising the use of grants & a strict moratorium on non-essential spend.

Integrated Youth Support Services (-£396K)

This consists of an overspend on the Outdoor Education service due to not achieving the income targets at Crowden (+£18K) & Habershon (+£38K) offset by an underspend on the wider youth service (-£452K) due to voluntary early retirements & redundancies, delays in staff recruitment, maximising use of grants & a moratorium on spend.

Safeguarding, Children and Families Service Wide (+£173K)

The main reason for this overspend is legal fees (+£157k) due, largely, to an increase in court fees notified to us in July 2013, agency & advertising costs for the Director of Safeguarding post (+£17K) & inspection consultancy costs (+£38K). This overspend is partially offset by savings due to delays in staff recruitment (-£39K) in Business Support.

Child Protection Teams (+£26K)

This overspend is due to confirmation in year of a reduction in the DSG contribution from schools as agreed by Schools Forum (+£49K) partially offset by underspends on supplies in the Safeguarding Unit due to the non-essential spend moratorium (-£5K). In addition, savings on the Advocacy contract within the Children's Rights Team due to delays in staff recruitment (-£18K).

Children in Need Social Work Teams (+£147K)

This overspend is due to Agency staff costs & additional staff appointments within the Children in Need North team & the Borough Wide team (+£138K). Additional tribunal, premises & mileage costs in the Children in Need South team (+£24K). Confirmation in year of a charge for call handling for the Out of Hours Team (+£32K) & the cost of dilapidations for the Greasbrough Centre (+£42K), all partially offset with savings from staff vacancies from the Early Intervention teams (-£49K).

Looked After Children (+£985K)

The overspend is mainly due to out of authority residential placements (+£1.617m), remand placements (+£187K) and independent fostering placements (+£36K). This overspend is net of a provision for additional Continuing Care income from Rotherham Clinical Care Group (CCG) of £401K which is £193K above the projected income after allowing for professional, expert advice in support of the submission.

These pressures are partially offset by underspends in the Contact Worker Team (-£27K) & LAC Team (-£4K) due to delays in staff recruitment, and in Children's Homes (-£121k) mainly due to not staffing the Silverwood annexe. Fostering Services have underspent (-£313k) on fostering allowances/equipment, and Residence Orders & Families Together placements have underspent due to a lower demand than what was expected at the start of the year. Adoption placements have underspent (-£213k) due to the re-profiling of adoption placements and the impact of this on inter-agency adoption costs & due to maximising the use of grants. Savings have also been achieved through reduced use of transport for LAC (-£86k) & (-£119k) within Leaving Care services on accommodation costs & a reduction in the number of weekly payments required.

Disability Services (+£79K)

This overspend is mainly due to overtime & agency costs at Cherry Tree & Liberty residential homes due to cover for sickness & vacancies (+£75K), an overspend on direct payments (+£49K) and on the Disability short-breaks contracts (+£5K) offset by savings on delays in recruiting to staff vacancies in both the Disability Team (-£19K) & Outreach Team (-£27K). There is also a slight underspend on the Liberty/Cherry Tree kitchen (-£4K). The overspend on direct payments is due to providing carers to support families with children with extremely complex needs which would otherwise require Out of Authority residential placements, and at a much higher cost.

Remaining CYPS Services (-£39k)

There is a slight overspend on the Director of Schools & Lifelong Learning (+£1K) due to room bookings offset by a contribution of (-£8K) from the Catering Traded Service and an underspend on Pensions of (-£32K) due to a reduction in payments required.

Impact of Management Actions

Considerable, concerted proactive management actions to contain, and where possible, reduce the financial pressures faced by the Directorate have continued throughout 2013/14. In total these actions have helped the service avoid £721K of costs that would otherwise have been incurred including; a reduction in client placement costs (£553k) through renegotiating contracts with external providers, the Fostering Framework (-£91K) reductions on standard fostering placements & the Block contract (-77K) savings on Complex fostering placements.

Environment and Development Services Directorate

The overall service outturn position **was -£0.746m below budget**. The main variations against budget were:

Asset Management, Insurance and Internal Audit (-£242k).

This Department is reporting a number of underspends within Building Cleaning (-£191k) due to reduced expenditure following a review and rationalisation of service overheads and additional income generation through increased contracts with some expanding schools and neighbourhood services, Caretaking (-£67k) due to additional income generation, and the Corporate Environmental Team (-£128k) due to the Carbon Reduction Commitment Scheme costing less than forecast. In addition, further combined savings across the services total (-£154k) which have arisen due to the imposed moratorium on non-essential spend and some additional one-off income being generated.

The above savings have exceeded the overspending areas of the service; Facilities Management (+£232k) due to additional costs of Community buildings and Land & Property Bank pressures, and other combined service-wide pressures which show an overspend of (+£66k) relating to staff costs and income under-recovery.

Directorate's Business Unit (-£71k)

This underspend is due to effective management of vacancies, the moratorium on non-essential spend and a tightly controlled training programme.

Communications (-£11k)

Due to the moratorium on non-essential spend and a small amount of additional income generation.

Regeneration, Planning and Cultural Services (-£136k).

A number of areas have reported underspends totalling -£634k, these include: Business Centres (Managed Workspace) -£169k due to reduced expenditure due to the moratorium on non-essential spend and increased rental income through improved occupancy rates; Markets -£49k due to renegotiated security contracts at lower rates and higher than anticipated occupancy of town centre pitches; Cultural Services -£198k resulting from increased Theatre income and reduced usage of the Book Fund, plus vacating premises earlier than anticipated; Partnerships -£100k, with other smaller savings across the following services (Building Control, Rotherham Economic Regeneration Fund (RERF), Management and Rotherham Investment Development Office (RIDO), collectively contributing a further -£118k underspend, mainly resulting from the moratorium. These combined savings have helped mitigate pressures across the Service, +£180k as Customer Access were not able to fully deliver its savings target; a one-off payment to HMRC for over-recovery of VAT, and a reduced level of income recovery have meant an overspend of +£170k within Land Charges; and a shortfall on planning application fees shows an under recovery of income of +£90k. Other numerous smaller reported overspends total +£58k.

Streetpride (-£286k)

Network Management (+£177k).

The key pressures are Parking Services +£196k mainly due to a shortfall on income recovery, and Winter Service +£135k as this budget is insufficient for a reasonable level of salting and gritting activity. Drainage overspent +£20k due to responding to increased service demands. These pressures have been partially mitigated by underspends within Streetworks and Enforcements -£59k, Street Lighting -£50k, Highways Maintenance -£62k, Public Rights of Way -£3k, which are the result of additional income generation and reduced expenditure due to the moratorium.

Waste Management (-£10k)

Commercial Waste have shown an overspend, +£162k mainly due to a shortfall on income recovery, this has been offset by savings on Waste Disposal -£135k due to renegotiated contracts and a further -£37k on the Waste PFI account from reduced

external consultancy costs and the delay in planned recruitment to a Project Support post.

Leisure and Community Services (+£180k)

Leisure and Green Spaces have reported an overspend +£100k, predominantly due to a one-off retrospective VAT payment for Country Parks income. Community Services overspent +£80k, mainly due to increased demand on cleansing services for fly tipping, weed-killing, and increased works around bungalow sites have caused further financial pressure on grounds maintenance.

The Corporate Transport Unit and associated services (-£320k)

The underspend is mainly due to revised transport requirements commissioned by the Home to School Transport service. There has also been an additional benefit from the change in the charging for operator licences.

Further underspends are shown against Streetpride's Corporate Accounts **-£173k** and Stores and Depots **-£111k** due to the moratorium on non-essential spend, and Transportation have reported an underspend of **-£29k** mainly due to increased income from external grants.

Neighbourhoods and Adult Services Directorate

Adult Services

Adult Services outturn **delivered an underspend of -£0.033m against budget**. The key variations within each service area can be summarised as follows:

Adults General (-£140k)

Mainly due to restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year, managed savings on training budgets plus additional grant funding for HIV support.

Older People's Services (+£298k)

The main overspends were a recurrent budget pressure on Direct Payments (+£757k), delays in implementing a budget savings target in In-House Residential Care due to the extended consultation period (+£126k), an overspend on independent residential and nursing care (+£812k) due to the budget savings target for additional Continuing Health Care (CHC) income not being achieved plus an increase in demand for domiciliary care (additional 58 clients) particularly during final quarter of 2013/14 (+£975k).

These budget pressures were significantly reduced by: additional Winter Pressures funding received in last quarter (-£220k); vacancies due to service reviews and increased staff turnover within Assessment & Care Management and Social Work Teams (-£654k); the impact of restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year within Day Care services (-£130k); delays to developing services for Dementia clients (-£309k) and carers breaks (-£196k); additional funding from health to support hospital discharges (-£500k); and revenue savings due to delays in the replacement programme for Community Alarms and funding through capital resources (-£363k).

Learning Disability Services (+£132k)

Due to an overspend on SYHA residential and nursing care contracts (+£95k), increase in care packages and reduction in CHC income in supported living schemes (+£64k), increase in demand and unachieved budget saving in Domiciliary Care (+£85k) and high cost placements in independent day care (+£66k). There were also recurrent pressures on Day Care transport including an under-recovery of income from charges and new high cost placements during the year (+£110k).

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These pressures were reduced by underspends in independent sector residential care budgets as a result of a review of all high cost placements (-£169k) plus efficiency savings on a number of independent and voluntary sector contracts (-£65k) and reduced care packages within Community Support services (-£54k).

Mental Health Services (-£446k)

Savings on Community Support Services (-£184k) as clients moved to a direct payment plus additional funding from public health to meet public health outcomes in respect of alcohol and substance misuse (-£262k).

Physical and Sensory Disabilities (+£383k)

A recurrent budget pressure and increase in demand for Direct Payments (+10 clients) resulted in an overspend (+£776k), plus additional demand for independent Domiciliary Care (+£152k). These pressures were reduced by a planned delay in developing specialist alternatives to residential and respite care provision (-£321k), efficiency savings on contracts with providers for day care, advocacy and Community support services (-£163k), equipment and minor adaptations (-£9k) and staff vacancies and non-pay budgets (-£52k).

Adults Safeguarding (-£148k)

Mainly due to additional Public Health funding to support Domestic Violence, plus higher than expected staff turnover.

Supporting People services (-£112k)

Due to additional savings relating to a reduction in actual activity on a number of subsidy contracts.

Neighbourhoods

The net outturn for Neighbourhood services shows an **underspend of -£0.411m before the carryforward of traded services balances and -£0.334m after taking traded service balances into account**. The key variations can be summarised as follows:

Safer Neighbourhoods (-£95k)

As a result of vacant posts, the impact of restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year, and some one-off grant funding that was used to partially fund expenditure within the Community Protection Team.

Business Regulation services (-£89k)

Food Safety, Health and Safety, Animal Health, Trading Standards, Licensing and Bereavement Services underspent mainly due to staff turnover greater than forecast plus delays in planned repairs. A request for £10k to complete this work has been requested for carry forward.

Housing and Communities services (-£94k)

This included an underspend as a result of Members Allocations not being fully spent in the year within the Community Leadership Fund. A request for Cabinet to support carry-forward of £19,232 was submitted on 24th February to Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion (Ref minute number 48). Further savings within this service were made due to tight controls on supplies and services within Area Assemblies due to restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year.

Strategic Housing and Investment services (+£19k)

Mainly due to staff cost pressures and a small shortfall on income.

The Housing Options service (-£145k)

Within this the Dispersed Units Trading Account generated a surplus of £77,218 and this report includes a proposal to carry forward this trading surplus. Additional income was also generated from fees within the Adaptations Service.

Central Neighbourhood services (-£7k)

Due to savings made on supplies and services budgets as a result of restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year.

Public Health

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, which for Rotherham was £13.790m for 2013/14. The final outturn position was an underspend of £585k which has been transferred to reserves to meet additional commitments by the service in 2014/15.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The Housing Revenue Account **budgeted** to make a contribution from reserves of **£2.599m**. Actual contribution to reserves was **£1.570m; £4.168m above budget**.

The principal reasons for the £4.168m variation from budget were:

- Underspend on repairs (-£857k) due to rebasing of contracts and shared savings agreed with contractors plus under-utilisation of the bad weather contingency and contractual risks budget
- Review of staffing structures, including vacancies, and restricting spend to essential items only throughout the year plus a review of Service Level Agreements (-£1.276m)
- Reduction in the cost of capital due to lower interest rates (-£290k)
- Revaluation and impairment of Fixed Assets (-£466k)
- Additional income from charges for services and facilities (-£831k) in respect of Furnished Homes, District Heating and an increase in Right to Buy sales
- Additional rent income (-£366k)
- Other fees and charges income (-£82k) from tenants contents insurance, sales of second hand furniture and recovery of court costs.

Resources

The overall service outturn position **was a -£29k underspend before the carryforward of traded services surpluses and +£0.337m above budget when these are taken into account**. The main variations against budget were:

ICT Services (+£748k)

This overspend is due to a loss of income on the Rotherham Grid for Learning (RGfL) contract with schools (+£305k) as a result of contract renegotiations, and a £443k income under-recovery as a result of the moratorium on non-essential ICT spend by internal Directorates and departments.

HR & Payroll and Legal Services (-£281k)

Due to additional income generation and reduced staff costs. Of the -£281k underspend, £30k is being requested for carry-forward for new additional licence costs to be incurred in 2014/15 to meet Ofsted recommendations.

Financial Services (-£374k)

This includes a net surplus (-£366k) on schools traded services which will be carried forward into 2014/15. (See Appendix 3). The balance (-£8k) is due to savings through the moratorium on non-essential spend.

Revenues and Benefits Service (-£38k)

Due to reduced staff costs, additional income and the moratorium on non-essential spend.

Resources Management (-£84k)

Due to reduced staff costs, below budget pension costs and the impact of the moratorium on non-essential spend.

Central and Other Services

Overall these services **slightly overspent (+£75k)**. This overspend consists of a number of over and under spends:

- Incomplete delivery of the budgeted 2013/14 Commissioning Savings Target **(+£391k)**.
- Non-delivery of the savings target in respect of renegotiating Staff Terms and Conditions. Options for progressing this saving were considered and rejected by the Unions during the year **(+£300k)**.

The above pressures were mitigated through use of the Council's Contingency budget **(-£600)**; and other minor savings **(-£16k)**.

The Council's Outturn position also reflects inclusion of a provision for the level of business rates income likely to be affected by rating appeals. The provision for this has been increased following timely and better information being made available from the Government's Valuation Office Agency and recent clarification from DCLG and CIPFA on how appeals should be determined for the purpose of completing the end of year, NNDR 3 return. The capital financing savings reported to Cabinet during 2013/14 in respect of refinancing of capital spend originally funded by prudential borrowing mitigate the need for this accounting provision.

APPENDIX 3 - CARRY FORWARD OF 2013/14 REVENUE BUDGET UNDERSPENDS

Carry Forward of Traded Balances (£747,055)

In accordance with the 9th April 2008 Cabinet decision to carry forward 100% of traded services surplus and deficits and be included in future years' business plans, the following trading service balances will be carried forward in to 2014/15 financial year.

C&YPS

- £210,778 Schools Catering Service (Trading surplus). The service will be using this surplus to meet service savings targets agreed when setting the 2014/15 budget.
- £92,845 Schools Music Service. The Authority has secured £1.4m in funding in respect of the Rotherham Music Hub from the Arts Council of England over a 3 year period with the funding reducing over that 3 year period. It is requested that, as in 2012/13, the surplus funds from operations in 2013/14, be carried forward into 2014/15 to partially offset the fall in government funding in future years.

NAS

- £77,218 This is the trading surplus on the Dispersed and Furnished Units service which provides emergency overnight accommodation. Income from the weekly charge from occupied units is used to contribute to replace fixtures, furniture and furnishings within the temporary units for the homeless and is ring-fenced to the service area. Due to the nature of what the properties are used for it is difficult to estimate the occupancy, thus the income levels that may be generated throughout the year are reinvested into the upkeep of the properties and to cover operational costs, any reserve that is generated at year end is used the following year to maintain property standards and to supplement any short fall in income due to under occupancy of the units in year. This service sits alongside the furnished accommodation scheme to help support the establishment of vulnerable tenancies.

Financial Services

- £284,200 This surplus relates to the Schools' Staff Sickness Insurance Scheme which provides financial compensation to schools which need to employ additional staff to cover their own staff's absence.
- £82,014 This surplus is for Schools' Finance Traded Service which provides financial management and professional support and advice to Head Teachers and Governing Bodies in managing their financial resources

Carry Forward of specific project budgets

As previously indicated, the existing policy requires that in the case of exceptional items of expenditure, an application and supporting case be made to SLT to recommend to Cabinet the carry forward of 100% of any unspent balance at the end of the financial year.

These requests are set out below by Directorate:

Neighbourhoods

- £19,232 Community Leadership Fund - the Members Community Leadership Fund had an under spend of £19k at the year end. It was agreed on 24th February at Cabinet Member meeting for Community Cohesion to request to Cabinet a carry forward of any unspent balance for use in 2014/15. (See Minute Ref 48)
- £10,000 Bereavement Services Partnership – To fund delayed essential cemetery repair works that will now be undertaken during 2014/15.
- £23,707 Required as Match Funding towards the Roma Matrix Grant.

Environment & Development Services

- £97,140 Joint Funding for the Rotherham Partnership is provided by organisations like the South Yorkshire Police, the Chamber of Commerce, NHS Rotherham, Rotherham Hospitals, Voluntary Action Rotherham and Thomas Rotherham and Dearne Valley Colleges.
- £12,171 Emergency Planning Joint Service with Sheffield City Council. This represents the 2013/14 underspend on this jointly funded service.
- £37,900 To fund new additional Carbon Reduction Commitment costs in 2014/15, following rule changes within the Scheme.

Resources

- £16,317 International Events (£11,057) and Town Twinning (£5,260 – to fund commitments for events in 2014/15)
- £5,000 Partial use of underspend on the Members Development budget to fund desk mounted amplification equipment in John Smith's Room and Committee Rooms 1&2.
- £30,000 HR & Payroll Service – funding to meet costs associated with electronic DBS checks needed to avoid vulnerabilities at future Ofsted Inspections.

TOTAL

- £998,522 **Of this, £747,055 relates to trading accounts and £251,467 to specific balances.**

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET
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1	Meeting:	Cabinet
2	Date:	18th June 2014
3	Title:	Capital Programme Outturn 2013/14 and Updated Estimates 2014/15 to 2016/17
4	Directorate:	Resources

5 Summary

The purpose of this report is to report the capital outturn position for the 2013/14 financial year and recommend for approval changes to the programme for the financial years 2014/15 to 2016/17. These changes have resulted from the 2013/14 outturn and scheme changes since the overall programme was agreed in March 2014, as part of the budget setting process.

6 Recommendations

CABINET IS ASKED TO:

NOTE THE 2013/14 CAPITAL OUTTURN POSITION; AND

RECOMMEND THE APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED 2014/15 TO 2016/17 CAPITAL PROGRAMME BY FULL COUNCIL.

7 Proposals and Details

7.1 Background - The Capital Programme

The finalisation of the 2013/14 capital expenditure and financing outlined in this report, provides an opportunity to reflect and update the future years' programme that was previously approved by Council in March, for the financial years 2014/15 to 2016/17.

The current economic climate and the on-going impact of the Government's austerity measures require that the capital programme is subject to continual oversight, and if necessary, revision, to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans are aligned with strategic priorities and maximise the value from the limited capital resources available.

The financial implications of the Programme are reflected in the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and Treasury Management and Investment Strategy.

For 2013/14 the Council's capital investment into the regeneration and enhanced infrastructure of the Borough was £71.769m. The profile of this investment and the updated future expenditure plans are reflected in the Directorate summary table presented below. A detailed copy of the programme for each Directorate is attached at Appendices 1 to 4.

	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance from Last Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance from Last Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance from Last Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance from Last Report
Directorate	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Children & Young People's Service	20.961	-1.340	13.899	+2.756	5.334	-0.800	2.694	-0.390
Environment & Development Services	18.446	-1.161	28.746	+6.727	8.159	0	1.200	0
Neighbourhoods & Adult Services	30.305	-2.712	37.330	+1.445	28.014	0	28.062	0
Resources	2.057	-0.802	2.142	+0.762	0.470	0	0.470	0
TOTAL	71.769	-6.015	82.117	+11.690	41.977	-0.800	32.426	-0.390

The updated programme has been prepared in light of the capital resources known to be available to the Council over these financial years, and estimated on a prudent basis.

The Council is continuing to undertake a comprehensive review of its assets and buildings portfolio, with the aim to rationalise both its operational and non-operational asset holdings, which may contribute both a future capital receipt and a revenue saving.

7.2 Children and Young People's Services Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17

The 2013/14 outturn was **£20.961m**, with total proposed expenditure over the period of the future programme of **£21.927m**, including new schemes at several schools across the Borough required to address the increase in pupil numbers, including the central Rotherham catchment areas where the problem is particularly acute.

For 2013/14 the major capital investments into the Council's educational and learning facilities across the borough were:

Primary Schools

- The extension and refurbishment at **Maltby Lilly Hall Primary** school is now complete (£1.992m in 2013/14). The work has created six new classrooms together with associated facilities and external play areas. Budget, previously expected to not be required, has had to be reinstated to enable the subsequent discovery of asbestos to be properly managed as well as delays to roofing works caused by the wet winter weather conditions. £54k of outstanding invoices will be settled in 2014/15.
- An extension at **Flanderwell Primary** to provide 5 additional classrooms was completed in October 2013 (£1.117m in 2013/14). The extension was necessary in order to accommodate an increase in pupil numbers. In addition, work has commenced on the **Autism Resource at Flanderwell Primary School** (£0.338m in 2013/14). This was completed in April 2014. This resource will cater for 10 pupils who will benefit from a purpose built facility.
- Work to build five new classrooms was completed in December 2013 at **Herringthorpe Infant and Junior Schools** (£1.898m in 2013/14). However, external problems with a wall, drainage and paths during the build, together with a requirement for extra landscaping and furniture, has resulted in additional investment being necessary. £98k of outstanding invoices will be settled in 2014/15.
- The new 4 classroom block at **Aston Hall Junior and Infant School** (£0.787m in 2013/14) was completed in September 2013. Additional, unforeseen, landscaping was required to deal with the changes in the level of the buildings. £98k of outstanding invoices will be settled in 2014/15.
- The extension to facilitate the expansion of **Wath CE Primary School** (£0.330m in 2013/14) has been able to progress quicker than previously expected, resulting in the schedule of works being brought forward. The project, which will also see the renovation of existing classroom and toilet areas is due to complete in August 2014.

- Work has commenced at **Dalton Listerdale Junior & Infant School** (£0.126m in 2013/14). This project will see a permanent expansion of the school, creating a further four classrooms, to be completed for September 2014.
- Design development has begun of the **New Central Primary School** to be located on Eldon Road Allotment site (£0.027m in 2013/14). Surveys and investigations are continuing, with building on site to begin in the Summer of 2014, subject to necessary approvals from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government and satisfactory planning permission.
- Work has commenced on an additional one classroom block at **Brampton Ellis Infant and Junior School** at a cost of £150k. This is due to complete in September 2014.

Secondary Schools

- **Maltby Academy** (£6.589m in 2013/14). The Council continues to have an interest in the buildings until finalisation of the proposed long term lease of the assets to the Academy and is providing professional and technical support for the project. The work will now complete in 2014/15 as a result of additional investment required to address asbestos related issues in the ground, which were not covered by the contract agreement, and to facilitate additional works requested by the Academy, which they are self-funding.
- Work has commenced on the 18 block classroom extension at **Wickersley School and Sports College** (£0.212m in 2013/14). This has been delayed owing to the need to obtain approval from the PFI funders. The work, which is required in order to address an increase in pupil numbers, is due to commence in July 2014, to be completed for April 2015.

Other Projects

The other major investments to note are:

- Using Government funding minor enhancement works are carried out at schools. The spend on the **Capitalised Minor Enhancements** programme in 2013/14 was £2.150m, those works included:
 - New kitchen lighting, ventilation and the replacement of a ceiling containing asbestos at **Bramley Grange Primary School**.
 - Partial re-roofing work, toilet refurbishment and work to address damp issues at **Harthill Primary**.
 - The replacement of windows at **Roughwood** and **Kelford Schools**.

A further £5.517m is due to be spent on similar schemes in the remaining years of this programme.

- **Devolved Formula Capital Grant (DFCG)** is paid annually to schools for them to use on small capital projects. In 2013/14 £1.860m was spent with a further £2.223m to be allocated in subsequent years.
- Due to delays with the commencement of several schemes under the **Property Adaptations** programme (£0.647m in 2013/14), which delivers greater capacity in terms of fostering placement, some of the investment has had to be slipped into 2014/15.
- Similarly, part of the investment in the Entitlement for Early Years Provision project (£0.184m in 2013/14), which will allow 2 year olds to take up free early education entitlement, has been moved into 2014/15 to reflect current scheme approvals and works.

Environment and Development Services (EDS) Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17

The 2013/14 outturn was **£18.446m**, with total planned expenditure over the remaining period of the programme of **£38.105m**. A copy of the full programme is attached to this report at Appendix 2.

For 2013/14, the major capital investments that contributed to the regeneration of the borough and enhancement of its infrastructure were:

Culture and Leisure (£0.637m in 2013/14)

The major capital investment in the year was at **Barkers Park** (£0.315m in 2013/14) delivering 8 team and 1 official's changing rooms, a disabled facilities unit and renewal of the drainage system.

Other projects to have completed this year include: the Albany Road Play Area (£0.037m in 2013/14); the Civic Theatre Renovation (£0.045m) phase two, including works to improve the entrance to the theatre foyer; the Roughwood Road Fencing project (£0.033m), securing the boundaries of the site preventing motorcycle disturbance; the Conservation Laboratory at Clifton Park Museum (£0.024m), new furniture and equipment has been provided for the setup of a fully functioning museum laboratory funded through the Arts Council England. In addition, a capital loan facility was provided for the Dinnington Resource Centre to install solar roof panels (£0.066m in 2013/14).

Several schemes have now slipped into 2014/15:

- Catcliffe Glass Cone (£0.002m in 2013/14). Due to adverse weather conditions, the emergency work on the tower will now be completed in 2014/15 (£0.045m).

- In view of the asbestos and re-wiring issues encountered during initial investigations at **Wath Library**, the building has been included in a full review of Wath town centre properties that are of similar construction. This review will determine whether the project should proceed in 2014/15. £0.155m has been assumed in the 2014/15 capital programme at this stage.
- Brinsworth Parish Council is still seeking funding that will allow the **Brinsworth Library** project to commence in 2014/15. Works to the building will see it extended to form a combined library and arts centre. £0.499m has been assumed in the 2014/15 capital programme at this stage.
- With regard to the Borough's **Library facilities** (£0.081m in 2013/14), the refit work to the ground floor at Dinnington Library is now complete, including the service centre relocation. Similarly, work facilitating the movement of the customer service centre into Swinton Library is nearing completion. The remaining works will be completed pending a review of library facilities (£0.078m in 2014/15).
- A delay in obtaining preliminary approvals for the **Rother Valley Country Park** project (£0.001m in 2013/14) means that the works did not commence until April 2014. This project will deliver a new classroom and cycle centre in the park (£0.241m in 2014/15).

Highways (£16.914m in 2013/14)

The Council's highways continue to be a priority for investment with £16.914m spent in 2013/14 and a further £23.622m planned to be invested over the next three years. The current Government funding programme comes to an end in 2014/15, with the next round of funding expected to be announced at the end of 2014. As a result, the Council has not included any proposed grant funded spend to the programme beyond 2014/15 at this time. The main areas of investment made in 2013/14 were:

- The **A57 Improvement Scheme** (£5.957m in 2013/14). A slowing of contractor's progress towards year end meant that expected payments were not submitted, this is to be addressed early in 2014/15. The scheme provides a dual carriageway and new roundabout, together with associated shared use footways/cycleways including a new pedestrian, cyclist and horse signalised crossing. Residual works included applying the final tarmac layers, and installing lighting and signals, with completion certified on the 12th May 2014. It is anticipated that compensation for land acquisition will be agreed and paid in 2014/15 and planting mitigation works are to be delayed until such time as weather conditions permit.

- The **LTP Integrated Transport Block** (£1.970m in 2013/14). This funding stream delivered a programme of schemes designed to address problems at identified accident black spots and investment in works that will promote walking, cycling and bus usage across the Borough. It has also been used to co-contribute towards the costs of the major A57 scheme and the Oldgate Lane/Whinney Hill bus lane. This project was delivered in partnership with SYPT. Delays in the acquisition of equipment and to statutory undertakings, have meant aspects slipping into the early part of 2014/15.
- The **Highway Maintenance** programme (£2.606m in 2013/14) delivered many improvements to the Borough's road infrastructure, including carriageway resurfacing on Worksop Road, Lindrick; Bawtry Road at Bramley; and Chapelfield Road, Thorpe Hesley. The under spend incurred was due in the main to two projects, Morthen Road and Meadow Bank Road. Once on site it was discovered that there was damage to the structural layers on the former, which meant that the design had to be amended and the works plan altered to accommodate. These works were completed by the end of May 2014. The latter was delayed due to M1 works and a Highway Agency embargo resulting in the works on the site slipping from March to June 2014.
- The **LSTF Main Bid** (£0.987m in 2013/14) delivered a number of schemes including:
 - An off-road cycle route from Queens Street, Swinton to Manvers.
 - Surfacing of the canal towpath between Rotherham town centre and Sheffield city centre, in conjunction with Sheffield City Council.
 - Investment in identified bus hotspots on the A633 Dearne corridor.

Anticipated spend on **Other Highways Projects** (£4.764m in 2013/14) has increased mainly due to the addition of the DfT winter flood repair allowance (£0.144m) and LSTF grant (£0.363m). Additional funds were made available to the Council to assist in the repair of the Borough's roads after the winter flooding. LSTF grant has funded extensive infrastructure to deliver a method of linking the traffic signals in the town centre through an 'Urban Traffic Control' system (UTC), to ensure the traffic signals work at their optimum. The same funding source has also provided a network of Variable Message Signs to assist drivers in route selection when there are delays on the network.

Other EDS investments

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

- **Rotherham Townscape Heritage Initiative** (£0.209m in 2013/14) continues to deliver improvements to the town centre, investing in the renovation of shop frontages, structural works and roof replacements. The main construction works on the George Wright building are almost complete. 14a High Street has been slower than anticipated due to a dispute with the original builder, however, this work is now being completed by a different contractor, with an expected August completion. The Three Cranes and 29-29a High Street are expected to be completed by October 2014. Work on these two projects will involve significant structural repair to the building fabric along with the reinstatement of architectural details. It is intended that 29-29a will become apartments with a shop at ground level and the Three Cranes has had interest from a real ale pub for the property. The public realm improvements to the street itself will also take place in 2014/15. Spend in 2014/15 is estimated to be £1.352m.

Flood alleviation works are planned in the following areas in 2014/15.

- Protracted negotiations over the **Drainage Works on Don Street** are on-going and works will now commence in 2014/15 (£0.627m).
- Flood alleviation schemes are planned for **Wath upon Dearne** (£0.345m in 2014/15), which will replace defective trash screens at the head of the culverted watercourses with more appropriately designed and maintained screens. The critical operation affecting the programme for this scheme is the fabrication of the trash screens and the chosen manufacturer has a long lead in time. To minimise the total time on site and cost, the start has been delayed to ensure that the screens will be ready for installation as soon as the other works have been completed.
- **Aston, Aughton and Swallownest Phase 1** scheme (£0.204m in 2014/15) which will provide individual flood protection to thirty properties and replace defective screens at the head of the culverted water course.
- The **Ancillary Services Building** project (£0.067m in 2013/14) is continuing, with the focus in 2013/14 being the relocation of the York and Lancaster Regimental Museum. Work to improve customer access and the overall visitor experience is ongoing. The scheme will not now be completed until 2014/15 as problems with the original cabinet supplier mean they now have to be purchased from another source.
- Work on the **Bailey House Renovation** project (£0.022m in 2013/14) continues. Work is to be carried out to address issues which include the leaking plant room roof, the heating of offices and the replacement of fire doors. The intention is to then move services from both Station Road and Canklow Depots allowing those facilities

to be closed. Due to preliminary delays the development will now be completed in 2014/15.

- The **Demolition of Former Council Offices** (£0.235m in 2013/14) on Doncaster Gate will help enhance the value of the site for future disposal and mitigate ongoing maintenance and security costs.
- A deposit of £0.217m in 2013/14 has been paid in respect of two new business investment units at R-Evolution on the Advanced Manufacturing Park site. The full purchase will be completed in 2014/15 on completion of the development by Harworth Estates, which will result in a further £4m investment. The Council working with Harworth Estates is actively seeking tenants for the properties, and is in discussion with a number of interested parties.

Neighbourhoods and Adults Services Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17

The outturn spend for 2013/14 is £30.305m, with a further £93.406m planned in the remainder of the programme. A copy of the full revised programme is attached to this report at Appendix 3.

Adult Services

The Service spent £0.722m in 2013/14, the main projects being:

- The **Assistive Technology** scheme (£0.340m in 2013/14) will enable people requiring care support services to live independently within their own homes through the purchase of telecare equipment. This equipment includes fall detectors and monitoring alarms. £0.460m is estimated to be spent in 2014/15 to complete this programme.
- **REWS (Rotherham Equipment and Wheelchair Service) Equipment** (0.190m in 2013/14) – the purchase of equipment, after Occupational Therapist assessment, to support people within their own homes. Equipment will include a range of specialist bath and shower aids and mattresses and will be managed by Rotherham Foundation Hospital Trust. £0.190m is estimated to be spent in 2014/15 to complete this programme.
- **Rothercare Alarms** (£0.085m in 2013/14) – The replacement of 700 existing alarms, with approval having been given to upgrade the existing community alarm units (purchase 4,500 units at a cost of £0.526m) in 2014/15.

Neighbourhoods Services

For 2013/14 the Service spent £29.583m with a further £92.228m to be invested during the remaining period of the current programme.

A copy of the existing programme is attached to this report at Appendix 3 and the most notable items are detailed below.

Improving Council Housing & Housing Services - The programme for 2013/14 outturned at £24.004m which has reduced since the last report as several schemes have not progressed as anticipated and will now be carried out in 2014/15. Further information on those changes is included in the areas of the programme detailed below.

Notable investments in this area were:

Refurbishment Works (£11.455m in 2013/14) comprised of Internal Works (Decent Homes) and External Works (Roofing, pointing, cladding). The programme focused on external works to dwellings such as replacement roofs, external works to blocks of flats and replacement of fascia's, soffits and rainwater goods. The programmes have taken longer than anticipated to tender and mobilise, this has resulted in reduced spend. This financial year we have completed improvements to 1,376 properties through this programme.

Environmental Works (£1.079m in 2013/14) – schemes included improvements to parking, fencing and footpaths and the introduction of purpose built communal bin stores. Most notably, work was undertaken in the Pike Road area, Brinsworth. In addition, work was undertaken at Briery Walk, Munsbrough where the removal of trees and bushes and the installation of new fencing will aid police surveillance and deter opportunities for crime.

Decent Homes Void Programme (£2.709m in 2013/14). There has been an over spend of £0.889m, the primary reason for this additional spend is an increased number of voids being identified as requiring major works at survey stage. 212 major voids were completed to the end of March 2014. Major voids occur when the cost of bringing a property up to the lettable standard exceeds £4,000. This often occurs where a previous tenant has refused decent homes works and so properties now require new kitchens, bathrooms or central heating systems.

The **Replacement of Central Heating** programme (£3.110m in 2013/14) aims to alleviate the revenue burden of the increasing number of repairs being carried out, by replacing the Ideal and Buderus boilers currently installed. A total of 1,135 new boilers have been fitted through the planned work programme.

The **New Integrated Housing Management IT System** (£0.051m in 2013/14) has experienced significant delays in implementation and will now be fully implemented in 2014/15.

Non-traditional Investment (£1.760m in 2013/14). This is used to carry out the external refurbishment and insulation render works to non-traditional properties. Investment has been made in 370 non-traditional dwellings in Wath, Rawmarsh, East Dene and Whiston in 2013/14. The programme of improvements will continue into 2014/15 and include works at Manor Farm and Kimberworth Park.

Fair Access To All: Disabled Adaptations (£3.912m in 2013/14) – A series of service improvements and efficiencies have led to the delivery of backlog works resulting in an overspend on Private Sector adaptations, which has been funded through increased Right To Buy receipts. Disabled aids and adaptations (major) were undertaken in 426 public sector homes, and 357 private sector homes.

Investment into **Neighbourhood Regeneration & Renewal** (£1.239m in 2013/14) has continued with the most notable projects being:

Canklow Phase 1 & 2 (£0.179m in 2013/14) is a programme of activity to regenerate the Warden Street/Canklow Road area of Canklow. The project has focused on demolition, buyback and refurbishment of public and private sector properties in the area. Some slippage of the scheme has occurred due to protracted negotiations with private homeowners over the purchase of their properties.

Bellows Road, Rawmarsh, Service Centre Clearance (£0.143m in 2013/14) aims to construct both new shops and housing units in the area. The underspend will be slipped into 2014/15 to assist in the completion of the scheme.

Garage Site Investment (£0.798m in 2013/14) - Investment has been made to 4 Garage Sites at Haugh Road, Rawmarsh; Langley Close, East Herringthorpe; Gray Avenue, Aston and Scott Close, Thurcroft. Works have included re-surfacing to the highway, re-roofing, doors and general environmental improvements.

Neighbourhoods Improvements Non-HIP Programme (£0.428 in 2013/14) – the majority of the spend in this area was on the **Landfill Sites** (£0.424m in 2013/14) where work is continuing to improve the gas/leachate systems and restore the land in order to make the sites safe. Work at Maltby, Droppingwell, Kiveton Park and Rawmarsh has been completed, whilst others, in Greasbrough and Wath, will be completed in 2014/15.

Resources Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17

The Council continues to invest in its **ICT infrastructure** as part of its ICT Strategy, with £2.217m spent in 2013/14 and a further £3.082m estimated to be spent in the following 3 years. The Strategy is focussed on ensuring the Council is able to support effectively the services it delivers and promote new, innovative, ways of working that will result in greater efficiencies and effectiveness. The most notable projects are:

- **Developing Customer Access and On-line Self Service.** Making customers' data available on-line in a secure way to improve customer service and realise efficiencies by moving transactions from more expensive contact channels.
- **Upgrading Key Financial Management Systems** to support on-going improvements to the Council's financial management capability.
- The **Electronic Document Records Management** project, designed to enable staff to access the information they need to do their jobs from any location and to reduce the amount of paper document storage.
- The **Migration of the Council's Data Network** to new providers and the deployment of new networking equipment, enabling continued delivery of faster broadband services.

Other Resources expenditure included a further £140,000 capital loan facility which was advanced in furtherance of the re-development of the Town's High Street.

7.3 Funding of the Programme

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

Funding	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance from Last Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance from Last Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance from Last Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance from Last Report
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Grants & Contributions	35.425	-2.332	32.552	+4.655	4.253	-0.810	1.623	-2.390
Supported Borrowing	0.186	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Unsupported Borrowing	7.124	-1.766	17.420	+6.057	10.679	0.000	3.720	+2.000
Usable Capital Receipts	2.332	+0.209	1.693	+0.447	0.332	0.000	0.332	0.000
Major Repairs Allowance (HRA)	16.942	-2.838	21.761	+0.388	20.664	0.000	20.664	0.000
Revenue Contributions	9.760	+0.712	8.691	+0.143	6.049	0.010	6.087	0.000
Total	71.769	-6.015	82.117	+11.690	41.977	-0.800	32.426	-0.390

7.3 Amount of Capital Expenditure on a Ward Basis

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

	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Revised Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Revised Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Revised Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	0.102	-0.073	0.088	0	0.036	0	0.036	0
BOSTON CASTLE	1.607	-0.116	7.518	-0.179	0.379	0	0.009	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	0.925	-0.088	3.267	0.007	0.035	0	0.035	0
DINNINGTON	0.366	0.018	0.037	0	0.036	0	0.036	0
HELLABY	2.367	0.160	0.054	0.040	0.014	0	0.014	0
HOLDERNESS	4.023	-0.378	1.197	0.429	0.031	0	0.031	0
HOOBER	0.454	0.006	0.164	0.150	0.014	0	0.014	-0.400
KEPPEL	0.111	-0.042	0.035	0	0.035	0	0.035	0
MALTBY	6.648	-0.756	1.054	0.986	0.020	0	0.020	0
RAWMARSH	0.824	-0.215	1.512	0.312	0.033	0	0.160	0.127
ROTHER VALE	0.111	-0.020	0.430	0.179	0.019	0	0.019	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0.458	-0.095	2.955	0.088	2.651	0	0.051	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	0.271	-0.029	0.042	0	0.042	0	0.042	0
SILVERWOOD	0.344	-0.059	0.018	0	0.018	0	0.018	0
SITWELL	0.149	0.053	0.017	0	0.017	0	0.017	0
SWINTON	0.238	0.026	0.289	0	0.039	0	0.039	0
VALLEY	3.805	0.068	3.501	0.102	0.032	0	0.032	0
WALES	4.286	-0.383	0.936	0.404	0.150	-0.677	0.027	0
WATH	1.397	0.776	1.704	0.274	0.052	0	0.052	0
WICKERSLEY	2.128	-0.241	3.168	0.307	0.034	0	0.034	0
WINGFIELD	0.160	-0.010	0.061	0.002	0.014	0	0.014	0
ALL WARDS	40.995	-4.617	54.070	8.589	38.276	-0.123	31.691	-0.117
TOTAL	71.769	-6.015	82.117	11.690	41.977	-0.800	32.426	-0.390

8. Financial Implications

These are contained within the body of this report. Any revenue implications from the revised programme have been fully reflected in the Council's latest 2014/15 revenue forecast and its updated Medium Term Financial Strategy.

9. Risks & Uncertainties

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

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

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

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Capital Programme Monitoring 2013/14 to 2015/16 Report.
- Project / Scheme monitoring reports
- Monitoring returns and budget setting details from Directorates.

Contact Name: Stuart Booth, Director of Finance, ext. 22034,
stuart.booth@rotherham.gov.uk

APPENDIX 1

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT												
	2013/14	2013/14	2013/14	2014/15	2014/15	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16	2015/16	2016/17	2016/17	2016/17
	Previous	Outturn	Variance to	Estimate	Revised	Variance to	Estimate	Revised	Variance to	Estimate	Revised	Variance to
	Report	£'000s	Previous	£'000s	£'000s	Previous	£'000s	£'000s	Previous	£'000s	£'000s	Previous
	£'000s		Report			Report			Report			Report
			£'000s			£'000s			£'000s			£'000s
PRIMARY												
MALTBY LILLY HALL	2,070	1,992	-78		54	54			0			0
KILNHURST ST THOMAS EXTRA CLASSROOM	276	243	-33		10	10			0			0
FLANDERWELL PRIMARY EXTENSION	1,117	1,117	0						0			0
HERRINGTHORPE INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS EXPANSION	1,979	1,898	-81		98	98			0			0
ASTON HALL INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOL EXPANSION	899	787	-112		98	98			0			0
FLANDERWELL PRIMARY AUTISM RESOURCE	543	338	-205		205	205			0			0
WEST MELTON PRIMARY SCHOOL EXTENSION	391	391	0						0			0
BROOM VALLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	243	205	-38		29	29			0			0
BRINSWORTH HOWARTH PRIMARY SCHOOL - MODULAR CLASSROOMS	363	360	-3		3	3			0			0
BRAMLEY SUNNYSIDE INFANT SCHOOL RENOVATION	60	0	-60		60	60			0			0
BRAMLEY SUNNYSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL RENOVATION	120	121	1						0			0
WATH C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	309	330	21	1,091	1,070	-21			0			0
DALTON LISTERDALE JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL EXPANSION	120	126	6	1,240	1,266	26			0			0
KIVETON PARK MEADOWS JUNIOR SCHOOL EXPANSION	470	443	-27		52	52			0			0
TREETON C of E NEW SPORTS PITCH	38	38	0						0			0
WALES PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION	382	377	-5	18	58	40	800	150	-650			0
BADSLEY MOOR INFANTS RECEPTION ALTERATIONS	12	20	8	78	189	111			0			0
AUTHORITY NEW SCHOOL (ELDON ROAD)	35	27	-8	2,738	2,739	1	2,600	2,600	0			0
MODULAR UNITS - TREETON, FLANDERWELL & CATCLIFFE	3	14	11						0			0
FLANDERWELL DINING ROOM	2	2	0						0			0
FERHAM PRIMARY	0	1	1						0			0
THORNHILL PRIMARY EXTENSION	0	26	26						0			0
RAWMARSH MONKWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL EXPANSION			0	159	0	-159			0	0	160	160
BRAMPTON ELLIS INFANTS and JUNIOR					150	150						
BRAMPTON ELLIS INFANTS and JUNIOR or CORTONWOOD SCHOOL			0						0	400	0	-400
THURCROFT INFANTS				0	120	120						
SECONDARY												
SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS	150	71	-79	150	100	-50	150	100	-50	0	50	50
MALTBY ACADEMY	7,404	6,589	-815	0	1,006	1,006						
CLIFTON SCHOOL CARETAKERS CONVERSION	182	162	-20	0	27	27						
WICKERSLEY SSC NEW BLOCK	200	212	12	2,827	2,903	76						
SWINTON COMP	0	6	6									
WATH COMP	0	4	4									
ST BERNARDS	0	7	7									
SWINTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS			0	250	250	0						
SPECIALS												
NEWMAN SCHOOL	0	5	5									
CITY LEARNING CENTRES												
CLC RAWMARSH	28	2	-26	0	6	6						
CAPITALISED MINOR ENHANCEMENTS	2,400	2,150	-250	1,500	1,917	417	1900	1,800	-100	2000	1,800	-200
OTHER SCHEMES												
DFCG	1,572	1,860	288	634	955	321	634	634	0	634	634	0
KIMBERWORTH CO-LOCATION	17	13	-4		1	1						

PROPERTY ADAPTATIONS	659	647	-12	250	262	12	50	50	0	50	50	0
ORCHARD CENTRE - SOFT PLAY AREA/INTERNAL FLOOR COVERING	15	2	-13									
ENTITLEMENT FOR EARLY YEARS PROVISION (TWO YEAR OLDS)	242	184	-58	208	266	58						
ORCHARD CENTRE - CONSERVATORY		26	26		1	1						
KILNHURST PRIMARY SCULLERY				0	4	4						
BROOM VALLEY PRIMARY - SCHOOL PHOTOCOPIERS - FINANCE LEASE		165	165									
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	22,301	20,961	-1,340	11,143	13,899	2,756	6,134	5,334	-800	3,084	2,694	-390

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Revised	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Revised	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Revised	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)	186	186	0									
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	21,456	19,228	-2,228	10,893	13,627	2,734	4,084	3,274	-810	3,034	644	-2,390
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION		735	735		10	10		10	10			
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS												
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	659	812	153	250	262	12	2,050	2,050	0	50	2,050	2,000
EARMARKED RESERVES												
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
			0									
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	22,301	20,961	-1,340	11,143	13,899	2,756	6,134	5,334	-800	3,084	2,694	-390

CYPS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2012/13 - 2016/17

CYPS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Revised	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Revised	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Revised	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	160	87	-73	36	36	0	36	36	0	36	36	0
BOSTON CASTLE	307	420	113	9	29	20	9	9	0	9	9	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	521	440	-81	35	35	0	35	35	0	35	35	0
DINNINGTON	243	196	-47	36	36	0	36	36	0	36	36	0
HELLABY	2,070	2,250	180	14	54	40	14	14	0	14	14	0
HOLDERNESS	1,133	1,036	-97	31	98	67	31	31	0	31	31	0
HOOBER	448	454	6	14	164	150	14	14	0	414	14	-400
KEPPEL	153	111	-42	35	35	0	35	35	0	35	35	0
MALTBY	7,404	6,648	-756	20	1,006	986	20	20	0	20	20	0
RAWMARSH	584	681	97	192	192	0	33	33	0	33	160	127
ROTHER VALE	117	99	-18	19	120	101	19	19	0	19	19	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	553	458	-95	2,867	2,955	88	2,651	2,651	0	51	51	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	233	204	-29	42	42	0	42	42	0	42	42	0
SILVERWOOD	329	292	-37	18	18	0	18	18	0	18	18	0
SITWELL	96	149	53	17	17	0	17	17	0	17	17	0
SWINTON	202	229	27	289	289	0	39	39	0	39	39	0
VALLEY	2,099	2,168	69	1,272	1,364	92	32	32	0	32	32	0
WALES	1,353	1,225	-128	48	110	62	827	150	-677	27	27	0
WATH	309	630	321	1,143	1,143	0	52	52	0	52	52	0
WICKERSLEY	2,369	2,128	-241	2,861	3,168	307	34	34	0	34	34	0
WINGFIELD	131	137	6	14	14	0	14	14	0	14	14	0
ALL WARDS	1,487	919	-568	2,131	2,974	843	2,126	2,003	-123	2,076	1,959	-117
CYPS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	22,301	20,961	-1,340	11,143	13,899	2,756	6,134	5,334	-800	3,084	2,694	-390

EDS CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT											
	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
ALBANY ROAD PLAY AREA	39	37	-2									
WATH LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT	0	0	0	155	155	0						
CATCLIFFE GLASS CONE	47	2	-45		45	45						
BRINSWORTH LIBRARY	0	0	0	499	499	0						
STRATEGIC REVIEW OF LIBRARIES	81	81	0	78	78	0						
CIVIC THEATRE RENOVATION	47	45	-2									
BARKERS PARK CHANGING FACILITIES	322	315	-7									
MUSEUM RENOVATIONS	14	8	-6									
ROUGHWOOD ROAD FENCING PROJECT	35	33	-2									
BRAMLEY FLASH LANE PLAY	11	11	0									
MALTBY LIBRARY LIFT	0	0	0	48	48	0						
CONSERVATION LAB AT CLIFTON PARK MUSEUM	20	24	4									
ROTHER VALLEY COUNTRY PARK FACILITIES	3	1	-2	163	241	78						
ALEXANDRA PARK	1	1	0	69	69	0						
GORDON BENNETT PLAY	11	11	0	69	69	0						
SANCTUARY FIELDS	15	15	0	52	52	0						
DINNINGTON LOAN RC SOLAR PANELS (NEW)		66	66									
Boston Castle		1	1									
Firsby Reservoir (credit)		-14	-14									
CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME	646	637	-9	1,133	1,256	123	0	0	0	0	0	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	236	226	-10	210	210	0						
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	123	121	-2	28	28	0						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	47	2	-45	38	83	45						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	240	288	48	857	935	78						
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
CULTURE AND LEISURE CAPITAL PROGRAMME	646	637	-9	1,133	1,256	123	0	0	0	0	0	0

EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 to 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT											
	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
A57 IMPROVEMENTS	6,480	5,957	-523	968	1,652	684						
LTP INTEGRATED TRANSPORT BLOCK	2,028	1,970	-58	1,978	2,578	600						
LTP HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE	3,510	2,606	-904	2,478	3,382	904						
LSTF MAIN BID	996	987	-9	2,127	2,136	9						
REPLACEMENT/UPGRADE STREET LIGHT	650	630	-20	650	670	20	650	650	0	650	650	0
OTHER HIGHWAYS PROJECTS	4,096	4,764	668	10,039	9,609	-430	1,745	1,745	0	550	550	0
EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	17,760	16,914	-846	18,240	20,027	1,787	2,395	2,395	0	1,200	1,200	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	13,753	13,301	-452	13,742	14,817	1,075						
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	283	387	104									
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS												
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	3,724	3,226	-498	4,498	5,210	712	2,395	2,395	0	1200	1200	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
EDS HIGHWAYS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	17,760	16,914	-846	18,240	20,027	1,787	2,395	2,395	0	1,200	1,200	0

EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT											
	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
MASTERPLAN												
ROTHERHAM TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVES	286	209	-77	1,275	1,352	77						
FLOOD ALLEVIATION												
DRAINAGE WORKS DON STREET	0	0	0	627	627	0						
WATH UPON DEARNE FLOOD ALLEVIATION SCHEME	240	0	-240	105	345	240						
ASTON, AUGHTON & SWALLOWNEST PHASE 1	27	7	-20	184	204	20						
EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	553	216	-337	2,191	2,528	337	0	0	0	0	0	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	300	134	-166	1,113	1,279	166						
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	55	22	-33	7	40	33						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS												
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	198	60	-138	1,071	1,209	138						
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
EDS ECONOMIC REGENERATION CAPITAL PROGRAMME	553	216	-337	2,191	2,528	337	0	0	0	0	0	0

EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES 2013/14 - 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT											
	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
ASSET MANAGEMENT												
TOWN CENTRE DESIGN WORK	58	63	5									
ANCILLARY SERVICES BUILDING	177	67	-110	85	195	110						
BAILEY HOUSE RENOVATION	50	22	-28	227	255	28						
DEMOLITION OF FORMER COUNCIL OFFICES	294	235	-59	56	115	59						
DEMOLITION OF KIRK HOUSE	50	58	8									
DEMOLITION OF INTERNATIONAL CENTRE					1	1						
McALLOY - ASTON CSC				0	280	280						
R-EVOLUTION	0	217	217	0	4,000	4,000						
WASTE MANAGEMENT												
PFI RESIDUAL WASTE FACILITY							5,764	5,764	0	0		
ROTHERHAM ECONOMIC REGENERATION FUND												
TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS VITALITY SCHEME-PRIVATE PROPERTIES	2	10	8	82	74	-8						
TOWN CENTRE BUSINESS VITALITY SCHEME-RMBC PROPERTIES	17	7	-10	5	15	10						
EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES	648	679	31	455	4,935	4,480	5,764	5,764	0	0	0	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report £'000s	2013/14 Outturn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 Estimate £'000s	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report £'000s
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS												
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	50	58	8									
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	294	235	-59	56	115	59						
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	304	386	82	399	4,820	4,421	5,764	5,764	0	0		
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
EDS - OTHER CAPITAL PROGRAMMES	648	679	31	455	4,935	4,480	5,764	5,764	0	0	0	0

SUMMARY EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2016/17

	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
TOTAL EDS INVESTMENT	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
	19,607	18,446	-1,161	22,019	28,746	6,727	8,159	8,159	0	1,200	1,200	0
SOURCES OF FUNDING												
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	14,289	13,661	-628	15,065	16,306	1,241						0
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	511	588	77	35	68	33		0	0	0	0	0
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	341	237	-104	94	198	104				0	0	0
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	4,466	3,960	-506	6,825	12,174	5,349	8,159	8,159	0	1,200	1,200	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	19,607	18,446	-1,161	22,019	28,746	6,727	8,159	8,159	0	1,200	1,200	0

EDS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2016/17

EDS CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	15	15	0	52	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	1,206	1,006	-200	6,998	6,768	-230	370	370	0	0	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	492	485	-7	3,225	3,232	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
DINNINGTON	72	138	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	3,268	2,987	-281	737	1,099	362	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEPPEL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	0	0	0	48	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHER VALE	14	12	-2	232	310	78	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	0	-14	-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	10	9	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	1,638	1,637	-1	2,127	2,137	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALES	3,240	2,979	-261	484	826	342	0	0	0	0	0	0
WATH	240	0	-240	260	500	240	0	0	0	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	9,412	9,192	-220	7,856	13,774	5,918	7,789	7,789	-	1,200	1,200	0
EDS CAPITAL PROGRAMME	19,607	18,446	-1,161	22,019	28,746	6,727	8,159	8,159	0	1,200	1,200	0

APPENDIX 3
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2015/16
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT										
	2013/14 Revised £'000s	2013/14 OUTTURN £'000s	2013/14 Variance Feb Revised Budget to Out turn £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Revised £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Revised £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 revised £'000s
ADULT SERVICES										
ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY	400	340	-60	400	460	60			0	
REWS EQUIPMENT	190	190	0	190	190	0			0	
DAVIES COURT GARDEN STRUCTURES	11	9	-2						0	
PARKHILL LODGE EQUIPMENT	7	7	0							
ROTHERCARE ALARMS	0	85	85		526	526				
68 WELLGATE - MENTAL HEALTH PREMISES	0	2	2							
ADULT SOCIAL CARE NEW IT EQUIPMENT	89	89	0						0	
TREEFIELDS LEARNING CENTRE - FENCING					2	2			0	
IMPROVING COUNCIL HOUSING & HOUSING SERVICES									0	
REFURBISHMENT	13,500	11,274	-2,226	11,595	12,427	832	12,112	12,112	0	12,148
REPLACEMENT WINDOWS	610	181	-429	400	200	-200	0	0	0	0
ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS	1,373	1,079	-294	1,612	1,612	0	1,500	1,500	0	1,500
DECENT HOMES VOID PROGRAMME	1,819	2,709	890	2,900	2,900	0	2,950	2,950	0	3,000
REPLACEMENT OF CENTRAL HEATING	3,010	3,110	100	3,761	3,761	0	3,261	3,261	0	3,261
ELECTRICAL BOARD & BOND	200	134	-66	200	200	0	205	205	0	210
REPLACEMENT OF COMMUNAL DOORS (HIGH SECURITY)	930	879	-51	840	891	51	500	500	0	500
ASBESTOS TESTING	370	374	4	380	380	0	400	400	0	410
LIFT REPLACEMENTS	75	54	-21	0	0	0			0	
FLAT DOOR REPLACEMENT	620	856	236	0	76	76			0	
DISTRICT HEATING CONVERSIONS	218	123	-95	2,000	2,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000
BOUNDARY WALL TREATMENTS	0		0	825	425	-400	625	625	0	625
GENERAL STRUCTURES	650	635	-15	650	650	0	650	650	0	650
EXTERNAL INSULATION	475	94	-381	50	50	0	50	50	0	50
NEW IT SYSTEMS	80	51	-29	245	274	29			0	
NON-TRADITIONAL INVESTMENT	1,841	1,760	-81	1,400	1,400	0	1,400	1,400	0	1,400
STARTEGIC ACQUISITIONS	725	691	-34	2,836	2,836	0			0	
NEW BUILD DPU BUNGALOWS				500	500	0				
ENABLING WORKS HRA LAND				100	100	0	100	100		100
SHELTERED HOUSING COMMUNAL AREA				100	100	0			0	
FAIR ACCESS TO ALL									0	
DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT (PRIVATE SECTOR)	2,002	2,121	119	1,311	1,311	0	1,311	1,311	0	1,311
DISABLED ADAPTATIONS (PUBLIC SECTOR)	1,945	1,791	-154	2,078	2,078	0	1,950	1,950	0	1,897
NEIGHBOURHOOD REGENERATION & RENEWAL									0	
DINNINGTON TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE	0		0			0			0	
GALLERY TOWN - DINNINGTON IMPROVEMENTS	22	23	1	1	1	0			0	
CANKLOW PHASE 1 & 2	210	179	-31	690	721	31			0	
BELLOWS ROAD SERVICE CENTRE CLEARANCE	455	143	-312	280	592	312			0	
OCCUPATION ROAD CLEARANCE PROJECT	0		0	0		0			0	
GARAGE SITE INVESTMENT	500	798	298	250	250	0	0	0	0	0
FUEL POVERTY - VULNERABLE PEOPLE	220	96	-124	204	303	99			0	
NEIGHBOURHOODS IMPROVEMENTS NON-HIP PROGRAMME									0	
AIR QUALITY GRANT	2	2	0	8	8	0			0	
AIR QUALITY EQUIPMENT/SOFTWARE	10	2	-8	7	0	-7			0	

LANDFILL SITES	458	424	-34	72	106	34 0			0 0	
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROG	33,017	30,305	-2,712	35,885	37,330	1,445	28,014	28,014	0	28,062
	-58									
	33,075									

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Revised £'000s	2013/14 Out turn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Revised £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Revised £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 revised £'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)										
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	1,967	2,406	439	1,939	2,619	680	979	979	0	979
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	8,437	8,437	0	8,513	8,513	0	6,039	6,039	0	6,087
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	1,782	2,095	313	1,152	1,495	343	332	332	0	332
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	1,051	425	-626	2,908	2,942	34	0	0	0	0
EARMARKED RESERVES			0			0	0	0	0	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE	19,780	16,942	-2,838	21,373	21,761	388	20,664	20,664	0	20,664
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROG	33,017	30,305	-2,712	35,885	37,330	1,445	28,014	28,014	0	28,062

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

NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD										
	2013/14 Revised £'000s	2013/14 Out turn £'000s	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2014/15 Estimate £'000s	2014/15 Revised £'000s	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2015/16 Estimate £'000s	2015/16 Revised £'000s	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report £'000s	2016/17 revised £'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS				0		0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	210	181	-29	690	721	240	0	0	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
DINNINGTON	33	32	-1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	137	117	-20	0		0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
HOOBER	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
KEPPEL	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	455	143	-312	1,008	1,320	130	0	0	0	0
ROTHER VALE	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	67	67	0	0		0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	74	66	-8	0		0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
WALES	76	82	6	0		0	0	0	0	0
WATH	72	767	695	27	61	0	0	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0		0	0		0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	39	23	-16	45	47	0	0	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	31,854	28,827	-3,027	34,114	35,180	2,311	28,014	28,014	0	28,062
NEIGHBOURHOODS & ADULT SERVICES CAPITAL PROG	33,017	30,305	-2,712	35,885	37,330	2,681	28,014	28,014	0	28,062

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RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2013/14 - 2016/17
FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY PROJECT	SPEND AND FUNDING STATEMENT											
	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ICT												
ICT STRATEGY	190	119	-71	80	151	71						
ICT STRATEGY (2)	2,199	1,623	-576	830	1,526	696						
ICT REFRESH	470	475	5	470	465	-5	470	470	0	470	470	0
RESOURCES												
EQUAL PAY CLAIM - CAPITALISATION DIRECTION		-300	-300									
HIGH STREET DEVELOPMENT LOAN		140	140									
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,859	2,057	-802	1,380	2,142	762	470	470	0	470	470	0

SOURCES OF FUNDING	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)												
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	45	130	85									
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	100		-100		100	100						
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS												
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	2,714	1,927	-787	1,380	2,042	662	470	470	0	470	470	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE												
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,859	2,057	-802	1,380	2,142	762	470	470	0	470	470	0

RESOURCES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD 2013/14 - 2016/17

RESOURCES CAPITAL INVESTMENT BY WARD												
	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Previous Report	2014/15 Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Previous Report	2015/16 Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Previous Report	2016/17 Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BOSTON CASTLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DINNINGTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HELLABY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOLDERNESS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HOOBER	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KEPPEL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MALTBY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RAWMARSH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHER VALE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM EAST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ROTHERHAM WEST	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SILVERWOOD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SITWELL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWINTON	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VALLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WALES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WATH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WICKERSLEY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WINGFIELD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALL WARDS	2,859	2,057	-802	1,380	2,142	762	470	470	0	470	470	0
RESOURCES CAPITAL PROGRAMME	2,859	2,057	-802	1,380	2,142	762	470	470	0	470	470	0

	2013/14			2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		TOTAL
	2013/14 Previous Report	2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Revised Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Revised Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Revised Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report	
CYPS	22,301	20,961	-1,340	13,899	2,756	5,334	-800	2,694	-390	42,888
EDS	19,607	18,446	-1,161	28,746	6,727	8,159	0	1,200	0	56,551
NAS	33,017	30,305	-2,712	37,330	1,445	28,014	0	28,062	0	123,711
RES	2,859	2,057	-802	2,142	762	470	0	470	0	5,139
	77,784	71,769	-6,015	82,117	11,690	41,977	-800	32,426	-390	228,289
SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (REVENUE)	186	186	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	186
GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS	37,757	35,425	-2,332	32,552	4,655	4,253	-810	1,623	-2,390	73,853
REVENUE CONTRIBUTION	9,048	9,760	712	8,691	143	6,049	10	6,087	0	30,587
USABLE CAPITAL RECEIPTS	2,123	2,332	209	1,693	447	332	0	332	0	4,689
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	8,890	7,124	-1,766	17,420	6,057	10,679	0	3,720	2,000	38,943
EARMARKED RESERVES	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAJOR REPAIRS ALLOWANCE	19,780	16,942	-2,838	21,761	388	20,664	0	20,664	0	80,031
	77,784	71,769	-6,015	82,117	11,690	41,977	-800	32,426	-390	228,289

		2013/14 Outturn	2013/14 Variance to Previous Report	2014/15 Revised Estimate	2014/15 Variance to Previous Report	2015/16 Revised Estimate	2015/16 Variance to Previous Report	2016/17 Revised Estimate	2016/17 Variance to Previous Report	
ANSTON & WOODSETTS	175	102	-73	88	0	36	0	36	0	262
BOSTON CASTLE	1,723	1,607	-116	7,518	-179	379	0	9	0	9,513
BRINSWORTH & CATCLIFFE	1,013	925	-88	3,267	7	35	0	35	0	4,262
DINNINGTON	348	366	18	37	0	36	0	36	0	475
HELLABY	2,207	2,367	160	54	40	14	0	14	0	2,449
HOLDERNESS	4,401	4,023	-378	1,197	429	31	0	31	0	5,282
HOOBER	448	454	6	164	150	14	0	14	-400	646
KEPPEL	153	111	-42	35	0	35	0	35	0	216
MALTBY	7,404	6,648	-756	1,054	986	20	0	20	0	7,742
RAWMARSH	1,039	824	-215	1,512	312	33	0	160	127	2,529
ROTHER VALE	131	111	-20	430	179	19	0	19	0	579
ROTHERHAM EAST	553	458	-95	2,955	88	2,651	0	51	0	6,115
ROTHERHAM WEST	300	271	-29	42	0	42	0	42	0	397
SILVERWOOD	403	344	-59	18	0	18	0	18	0	398
SITWELL	96	149	53	17	0	17	0	17	0	200
SWINTON	212	238	26	289	0	39	0	39	0	605
VALLEY	3,737	3,805	68	3,501	102	32	0	32	0	7,370
WALES	4,669	4,286	-383	936	404	150	-677	27	0	5,399
WATH	621	1,397	776	1,704	274	52	0	52	0	3,205
WICKERSLEY	2,369	2,128	-241	3,168	307	34	0	34	0	5,364
WINGFIELD	170	160	-10	61	2	14	0	14	0	249
ALL WARDS	45,612	40,995	-4,617	54,070	8,589	38,276	-123	31,691	-117	165,032
	77,784	71,769	-6,015	82,117	11,690	41,977	-800	32,426	-390	228,289

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18th June 2014
3.	Title:	Transformation Challenge Award
4.	Directorate:	All

5. Summary

In late April the Government announced the availability of £105m Transformation Challenge Award grant and a further £200m capital receipts flexibility.

The purpose of this report is to provide a briefing to Cabinet on the Transformation Challenge Award and to provide detail around the bid proposal for Rotherham.

Each local authority is limited to one project submission, which has to be made by 1st July 2014.

It is proposed that a bid from Rotherham is submitted to fund the development of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) underpinned by the development of a Single view of a Child information dashboard

6. Recommendations

- i) **Cabinet are asked to sign up to the principle of Rotherham submitting a Transformation Challenge Award bid and for this to be developed further for submission on the 1st July 2014.**

7. Proposals and Details

It is recognised that **local authorities face challenges** in delivering high quality services from a combination of demographic pressures, increasing user expectations, and fiscal consolidation.

To meet these local authorities **need to re-engineer their business and redesign** their services to make them sustainable over the long term. Key to achieving this is the coming together of different authorities and parts of the public sector to share staff, other resources including IT, and core services; joining with major partners in their area; and making the most of their assets. These kinds of **radical changes can require upfront funding**. The Transformation Challenge Award is available to provide this kind of funding, targeted at the best proposals which are likely to make the biggest difference across the country.

Source: CLG guidance on Transformation Challenge Award

The Transformation Challenge Award is a challenge fund which makes £120 million grant (£15 million in 2014 to 2015 and £105 million in 2015 to 2016) and a £200 million facility to use the capital receipts from asset sales flexibly to support transformation. The 2014/15 is predominantly (if not exclusively) for district councils to share chief executives and / or management teams.

The Government press release relating to the scheme stated the funding:

“is to be made available ... to areas with ambitious plans for improving services that could include integrating health and social care; getting the unemployed back to work; or early intervention to get children ready for school. At the heart of all these plans will be a renewed drive to redesign public services in a way that works for users, as well as efforts to reduce long-term costs to the taxpayer by making public bodies both more efficient and more effective”.

The critical criteria to be met for the scheme are:

- Savings must exceed the amount of grant / capital receipt flexibility sought.
- The bid must have a positive impact on service users.
- As a minimum, bids must be in partnership with at least one other partner. This could be another local authority, public authority, the Voluntary and Community Sector or a private sector partner.
- **For capital flexibility only**. That the value of the asset sale is genuinely additional to those disposals that would have happened anyway.

Background:

Various discussions have taken place with Strategic Directors at SLT and Directors to identify and explore a number of high level projects and agree a final submission. Areas explored include; channel shift, volunteering and pathways, joined up approach to telecare and telehealth, enhanced local nursing and residential care

provision, Rotherham Markets redevelopments, Interchange developments, a public sector hub and a Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) underpinned by a 'Single View of a Child' integrated information system

On Monday 02nd June SLT agreed the MASH and 'Single View of Child' project as the preferred bid proposal for further development. The decision was made on the basis that the project was sufficiently developed, met the Transformation Challenge Award critical criteria and required high value investment.

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

RMBC and its partners have committed to the development of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

The MASH will help to bring about positive outcomes for children and young people, their families and carers through a multi-agency approach to referral, decision making, assessment and the provision of services at the right time, in the right place and by the right person.

It will focus on safeguarding children and dealing with domestic abuse. The co-location will enable agencies working with children, young people, their families and carers to work collaboratively to offer a co-ordinated response to families. This will be carried out by agencies collectively assessing need and identifying services from the point of contact, through referral and decision making to the provision of services to safeguard children and support their families. The objective is to provide an improved 'journey' for the child or parent/carer with a greater emphasis on early intervention.

Single View of a Child

To underpin this work a "single view of a child" integrated data dashboard is proposed. The dashboard will provide an holistic view of performance across partners, underpinned by a single view of the child/family. This will provide the following benefits:

- Improve the accuracy of information shared.
- Enable partners to share information more effectively and timely.
- Provide one holistic view of the child created by the information held by partner agencies.
- Provide the most up to date information about the child and family.
- Enable visible identification of the child's and families journey and where they are in the process.
- Provide a tool for the collation of partner data and the ability to monitor and manage performance against this data

As part of the contract for the social care system with Northgate an infrastructure was purchased in 2013 which will be the basis for further developments around a single view of a child

It is envisaged however that this will be rolled out wider to include our Foundation Years Service and to support our Families for Change work (troubled families), it would be hoped that the IT development could then be shared (sold on) to other Local Authorities for use in their multi-agency teams.

Next steps:

The next steps and timescales providing the recommendation is approved by Cabinet are as follows:

- RMBC External Funding Team to attend the Transformation Challenge Award Cost Benefits Analysis Workshop – 17th June
- Formal signature from Partners – 24th June
- Expression of interest deadline - 01st July
- Feedback on expression of interest – end July
- Bidding deadline – 01st October
- Winning bids announced – November

Partnership Commitment to this is critical and the project was discussed at the Children Young People and Families Partnership on the 21st May and partners gave their verbal commitment to supporting the bid.

The bid documentation is restricted to 500 words description of the project and at this stage does not allow for more detailed submissions such as the inclusion of case studies as appendices which would describe the benefits in more detail, however it is envisaged that if the bid is successful to the next stage of the process more detailed documentation would be included.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications associated with the bid process, however if successful there could be a significant amount of investment in Rotherham to implement the MASH development which is underpinned by an IT solution for sharing information with partners. It is anticipated that the total value of the bid will be in the region of £700k, a large amount of this is related to the IT platform to support the single view of the child work.

However, it is recognised that working in a more multi-agency way and intervening earlier where there are concerns about a child would reduce duplication and bureaucracy, increase productivity, result in a reduction in the number of inappropriate referrals and reduce the number of people accessing high cost services.

The Troubled Families Unit, based within DCLG, has recently launched the Troubled Families Cost Savings Calculator. This tool has the potential to identify the savings, on a multi-agency basis, of delivering coordinated multi-agency interventions. The tool will provide a robust cost benefit analysis to identify and put a monetary value (approved by the Treasury and endorsed by the chief analysts in each Government Department) on the extra costs and extra benefits that result from a change in the way services are delivered. Thus it will deliver on the objective that DCLG identifies for the transformation bid, by providing the evidence that savings much exceed the amount of grant / capital receipt flexibly sought. In order to realise the potential of this tool locally will require actual information about Rotherham families to whom an intervention is provided. The proposed integrated data dashboard will make a significant contribution to achieving this.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There is no risk associated with the bid process. Failure to bid leaves the Council with a missed opportunity to obtain potentially significant funding to support the selected transformation project. Project risks are in relation to Partner commitment, realisation of savings, ability to deliver IT solution, total costs exceeding grant investment, There may be ongoing revenue costs from 2016/17 not funded through the TCA, (for example £85k per year for ICT licences and maintenance), although these ought to be able to be offset by savings through reducing the costs of care and administration.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposed project makes an important contribution to corporate priorities in relation to “protecting our most vulnerable people and families, enabling them to maximise their independence”.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Transformation Challenge Award documentation

12. Contact Names:

Colin Earl, Director of Audit & Asset Management, ext 22033,
Tanya Palmowski, Performance Officer, ext 22764
Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager, ext 22511

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18th June 2014
3.	Title:	Early Years and Child Care Services including Children Centres – Consultation Feedback report
4.	Directorate:	CYPS

5. Summary

Cabinet on the 15th January 2014 approved a request to complete a statutory public consultation in relation to proposed changes to Rotherham's 22 designated Children's Centres. The proposals were to:

- Close 13 designated Children's Centre buildings with a reduction to 9 Children's Centre buildings across the Borough.
- The remaining 9 Children's Centre buildings to be clustered to form 7 designated registered Children Centres across the Borough with an increased size of reach areas.
- The creation of a Foundation Years service across health, social care and education services.

The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the outcomes from the statutory public consultation, which took place between 3rd Feb and 30th April 2014. The proposal would enable the Council to realise savings of £2.2 million in order to achieve the required Early Years and Child Care services revenue reductions (including Children Centres). The original budget for the Children's Centres in 2011/12 was £5.045m. The removal of the Early Intervention Grant in June 2010 followed by a series of reductions in Central Government funding, has resulted in the Children's Centre budget being reduced. The budget for Children's Centre from April 2015/16 will be £2,025,474. This led to the proposals submitted to Cabinet on January 15th 2014 and detailed in this Cabinet paper.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to consider the following options in light of the recent public consultations and identify which option should be taken forward:-

Option 1

Accept the original proposal of retaining the 9 identified Children Centre buildings, and closing the remaining 13 identified Children Centre buildings.

This would be within the budget of 2.025m

OR

Option 2

To retain 3 additional Children Centre buildings in addition to the original proposal. These are Wath Victoria Children's Centre (Wentworth North); Dinnington Children's Centre (Rother Valley South) and Park View Children's Centre (Rotherham North)

The cost of retaining these 3 additional centre buildings and services will be £350K.

Children and families will receive an outreach service, which will continue to be delivered in their local communities, whichever option is agreed

7. Proposals and Details

Background

The Local Authority has a statutory duty (Childcare Act 2006) to ensure that sufficient Children's Centres are readily accessible to those most in need. Rotherham has 22 designated Sure Start Children Centres across the Borough. On 15th January 2014 Rotherham Borough Council gave approval for a public consultation to be undertaken on future proposals for Children's Centres in order to achieve a required budget reduction of £2.2m for the period 2014-16.

The proposals were:

- Closure of 13 registered Children's Centre buildings with a reduction to 9 Children's Centre buildings across the borough.
- These 9 Children's Centre buildings are then clustered to form 7 registered Children's Centres across the borough with an increased size of reach areas.
- The creation of a foundation years service across health, social care and education services.

Rationale used to underpin proposals

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that sufficient children's centres are readily accessible to those most in need. The GP data (as of 31st March 2013*) showing the number of children under five living in the most disadvantaged 30% super output areas (SOAs), (index of multiple deprivation 2010**), which was used to determine which Children's Centre buildings would be proposed to stay open and which would be proposed to close or given an alternative early years usage.

It is proposed to keep open the Children Centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age living in the most disadvantaged areas. When evaluated, this equates to having 7 Children Centre areas (incorporating 9 buildings) across the Borough. It is proposed to extend the reach area of the Centres remaining open and to provide outreach services in those areas that do not have ready access to a main children's centre building. Outreach Services are delivered in other buildings within the local communities.

Children's Centre Buildings Proposed to Stay Open

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Arnold Children's Centre	597
Aughton Early Years Centre	411
Coleridge Children's Centre	970
Maltby Stepping Stones	727
Rawmarsh Children's Centre	888
Rotherham Central	725
Swinton Brookfield Children's Centre	636
Thrybergh Dalton Children's Centre	610
Valley Children's Centre	524

Children's Centre Buildings proposed to Close/Alternative Usage Options

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Cortonwood Children's Centre	211
Dinnington Children's Centre	352
Kimberworth Children's Centre	308
Marcliff Children's Centre	0
Meadows Children's Centre	206
Park View Children's Centre	345
Rockingham Children's Centre	261
Ryton Brook Children's Centre	67
Silver Birch Children's Centre	138
Sue Walker Children's Centre	0
Thorpe Hesley Children's Centre	0
Thurcroft Children's Centre	189
Wath Victoria Children's Centre	374

*Number of children under 5 years of age based on GP data as of the 31st March 2013

** Most disadvantaged 30% SOA areas as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010(IMD)

Please note in the table above, Marcliffe, Thorpe Hesley and Sue Walker Children's Centres show zero children living in the 30% SOA. Please note that in these areas children under 5 accessing the centre are from outside of the 30% SOA areas.

Creation of a Foundation Years Service

It is proposed to create a Foundation Years Service with Children Centres working together with health partners, social care, voluntary sector, parents, schools and early education and child care providers, to continue to deliver services in local communities, which improves outcomes for all children under 5 and their families, particularly those in need of support. All partners will continue to deliver services for children aged 0-5 and their families within local communities. For example:

- Ante natal and post natal services
- Healthy Child Programme
- Free Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds
- Free early education for the vulnerable 2 year old

Outreach workers will continue to deliver services in those communities where buildings are proposed to close by using alternative venues and working in partnership with other service providers.

Consultation

Following Cabinet approval to consult on the proposals for Children's Centres, a Borough-wide public consultation exercise with parents, carers, the community and stakeholders was undertaken. The consultation was launched on the 3rd February 2014 and concluded on the 30th April 2014. Fourteen formal public consultation meetings were completed across the Borough, within this period of time. Views and comments at these meetings were received from a range of attendees. These included parents and children, members of the public and local community, staff, child care providers, unions, Headteachers, councillors; and other organisations.

In addition to the 14 public consultation meetings, people could access and complete the online questionnaire survey on the RMBC website. Completed hard copies of the questionnaire survey were also received, as well as comments via email and formal letters, reports and a powerpoint presentation. Three petitions against the closures of Children's Centres were received from 3 Children's Centres. People made their views known in person at a Children's Centre of their own choice. Press releases were issued and media interviews also took place. Articles were also published in a range of stakeholder newsletters in order to maximise publicity of the consultation and the proposals

As well as the 14 public consultation meetings, meetings were held with union representatives; Children Centre leaders; Children Centre executive Headteachers; chairs and vice chairs of school governing bodies; Children Centre lead teachers; Learning Community representatives; Health partners; Parish Councillors; RMBC Deprived Communities Team and school Effectiveness service.

A total of 1746 people responded to the on line consultation survey questionnaire. The majority of responses were from parents or carers (81.6%) and 82% are using a Children's Centre at least once a week. In addition 23 emails were also received and 5 letters.

One hundred and eighty six respondents said they would be willing to take on a centre building proposed to close, and deliver either childcare provision and/or Foundation Years services. One hundred and forty two respondents said they would be willing to take on childcare provision in a centre building proposed to close. However, it is important to note that only 101 of all respondents left contact details. In addition we received 31 emails/letters also expressing an interest in taking on a Children's Centre building and/or day care provision. Expressions of interest were made by a range of individuals, staff; schools and organisations expressing an initial interest in taking on a Children Centre buildings. A formal application process will be followed from the 1st July 2014.

Next steps – Expression of interest received to take over a Children's Centre building proposed to close

Depending on which option is agreed to go forward, the Council will directly provide funding for either 9 to 12 Centre buildings. The opportunity for other providers to take on the remaining 13 or 10 Children's Centre buildings will be explored as a

priority. **(Please refer to pages 10, 11 and 12 – Appendix 2 Interpretation of the analysis of the Children’s Centre public consultation.)**

For Children’s Centre buildings no longer directly provided by the Council we are offering an opportunity for other providers to operate these at no cost to the local authority.

The buildings proposals process agreed by Cabinet on the 19th May 2014 will be implemented. Formal applications will be considered from schools with a Children’s Centre building on site in the first instance. If an application from a school is not successful or no schools apply, applications will then be accepted from existing childcare staff for the continuation of the childcare delivery and potential organisations / individuals for the childcare / community services areas. It is anticipated that this process should be successful in identifying sufficient providers to take on the buildings/childcare provision where Centres are identified to close. However, if we are not successful the DfE will claw back the capital investment which has been spent on the Centre buildings which are proposed to close. The potential claw-back estimated cost to the Council is between £3.8 and £5.5 million, depending on the number of Centre buildings that close.

A full analysis and interpretation of the outcomes from the Children’s Centre public Consultation can be found in **Appendix 1 (Report on the data and themes from the Children’s Centre Closure public consultation)** and **Appendix 2 Interpretation of the analysis of the Children’s Centre public consultation**.

An interpretation of the analysis of the outcomes from the public consultation shows the following main recurring themes of concern from respondents:

Travel

- The most recurring theme is the additional travel required as a result of closing Centre buildings, and travel costs required to access services at the remaining Children Centre buildings. This could result in those in need not accessing Children Centre services in the future. Clearly concern has been expressed by respondents regarding travel.
- The Local Authority is not required to provide a Centre building in walking distance. However, they are required to provide access to services locally. The impact of this concern raised may be lessened by ensuring the continuation of early years outreach service delivery is maintained in each locality area.

Community/Social implications

- People want to keep a local Children’s Centre in order to maintain a central place to meet others in the local area, bring the community together, and support each other. Without a centre people will become isolated which could lead to increased levels of depression, isolation and loneliness for parents, families and children. Therefore this could lead longer term, to increased pressures on Health and Social Care services.

- The impact of the concerns raised will be minimised by ensuring communication is provided to children and families in each locality ensuring they are aware of the range of Foundation Years services that are continuing to be offered and how to access these at a local level

Impact on children

- Respondents stated that the future of their children will be affected if they do not have a local centre, including their child's long term attainment, attendance and education. There is a potential of an increase in 'missed' safeguarding issues for children, if there wasn't a local Children's Centre. People were also concerned about what might happen to the childcare service if the Children's Centre building closed. If the childcare was not available there would be a direct impact on the child and the employment of parents who depend on childcare.
- The impact of these concerns will be minimised by the Council ensuring that in a Centre building proposed to close, interests of expression to run the day care are secured as a priority, resulting in day care provision in these buildings remaining to be offered. That the day care provision being offered, including early education places for 2, 3 and 4 year old children is of good quality. In relation to concerns regarding 'missed safeguarding issues for children. Through the continuation of outreach support and delivery in the locality, including Health, referrals of any child at risk will continued to be made.

Children Centre buildings

- Respondents commented that Children Centre buildings are built for purpose, safe and secure, provide everything under one roof; and provide stability and familiarity for both children and families. The use of community buildings in local areas where Children Centre buildings are to close, may not be 'fit for purpose', could be unsafe; not secure and result in people not attending services at these buildings. Respondents stated that some areas of the Borough may not have suitable community buildings available.
- To minimise this risk of impact, expressions of interest received will be fully explored in order to secure other providers, individuals or organisations in running daycare provision/and or Foundation years services in any Centre proposed to close.

Summary of findings from the public consultation

- Respondents really value the quality of services, the support they and their children receive from experienced staff across Rotherham's Children Centres, especially the baby clinic service; stay and play and childcare.
- Respondents value that the Children Centre buildings are 'fit for purpose' and provide a welcoming community hub.
- Respondents consider that organisations/services work well in partnership to deliver services.
- The majority of respondents do not agree to the proposal to close Children's Centre buildings.

- Respondents are concerned about the impact of the proposed reduction in the number of Children's Centre buildings will have on their own and their children's ability to access the remaining centres proposed to stay open, including the most vulnerable children and families, fairness of geographical distribution; and communities feeling isolated.
- Respondents questioned the rationale used and felt that other criteria should also be considered to decide which centres are proposed to remain open and those proposed to close.
- The majority of respondents agree to the proposed outreach service, but have concerns about the effectiveness and quality of the service if delivered from other buildings in a local community.

Conclusion and recommendations

Consideration from information and views received from respondents as an outcome of the Children's Centre public consultation, appears to suggest further consideration should be given to the initial proposal. This is in terms of the number of centre buildings proposed to close, in order that a more even geographical distribution is achieved, enabling more children and families, including the most vulnerable, to more readily access a children's centre building.

On the basis of the rationale used throughout this public consultation; where Centre buildings are proposed to remain open (if they have more than 400 children living in the 30% most deprived SOA), the proposal should be reconsidered to include enabling a further 3 Children Centre buildings to remain open. This would support respondents' concerns regarding travel and equity of geographical spread of proposed centre buildings in some areas across the Borough

The additional proposed Centres to remain open are Wath Victoria Children's Centre building (374 children living in the most 30% SOA); Dinnington Children's Centre building (352 children living in the most 30% SOA) and Park View Children's Centre building (345 children living in the most 30% SOA. These three Children's Centres are the next Centres which have the highest number of children living in the 30% most deprived SOA.

This second option would cost an additional £350K. To address this shortfall a further report would be brought to Cabinet assessing the following options:-

Budget adjustment

Service re-configuration

Exploration of possible income generation

If **option 2** was chosen, this would result in one or more Children's Centre building being located in each of the individual 7 Health locality team areas, and 7 Area Assembly boundaries. This addresses some respondents' views regarding the need to align Children's Centre buildings to both Health and Area Assemblies. If Dinnington Children's Centre building remained open, this would mean that each of the 11 deprived neighbourhood communities would have a

Children Centre building. If Wath Children's Centre building remained open this would take into consideration the particularly high prevalence of disabled parents in the Wath area.

If Cabinet decide to increase the number of Centre buildings from 9 to 12, it would raise the number of families and children able to access a Children's Centre building in their locality, including the most vulnerable, as follows:-

In the period 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014:

- 10,571 Rotherham children aged under 5 years accessed Children's Centre services in at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 59% of those children seen accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 75% if the 3 additional centres were to remain open
- 6,278 Rotherham children aged under 5 years living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 74% of those children seen living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%
- 3,002 Rotherham children aged under 5 years and living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre.
 - 71% of those children seen living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

The rationale is to keep Children Centre buildings open in the most disadvantaged areas

As of 1st April, 2013

- 80% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%, if the 3 additional centres were to remain open.
- 61% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 73%.
- 71% of all children living in a SOA within a 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%.
- 61% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 74%.
- 61% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 72%.

- 58% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 71%.

A full analysis and interpretation of outcomes from the public consultation, has led to the proposed options being recommended below:-

Option 1

1. Accept the original proposals, of retaining the 9 identified Children's Centre buildings, and closing the remaining 13 identified Children Centre buildings.

OR

Option 2

In response to the outcomes from the recent public consultation.

2. To retain 3 additional Children Centre buildings in addition to the original proposal. These are Wath Victoria Children's Centre (Wentworth North); Dinnington Children's Centre (Rother Valley South) and Park View Children's Centre (Rotherham North)

8. Finance

Option 1 will cost £2,025,474 and will realise the Children's Centre budget savings of £2.2m. Option 2, on the basis of the current model of service provision, will cost an additional £350,000. If Members wish to follow Option 2 a further report will be brought to determine how the additional required funding of £350,000 would be met.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risks to both options

1. Cabinet will be aware of its statutory duty to ensure that sufficient children's centres are readily accessible to those most in need. Whilst Cabinet is assured that under both delivery models, the Council will continue to fulfil its statutory duty, it is clear that under Option 2 there will be a greater accessibility to early childhood services
2. It is likely that fewer children and families will have as ready access to a Children Centre building compared to the current provision.
3. Any potential Children's Centre building that closes, as a result of no suitable expression of interest, could result in a clawback of the capital funding for the building.
4. If the timescale of 31st March 2015 is not met for identified building closures, funding would need to be identified to cover the cost of slippage.

5. Those families who will not be able to easily access the remaining Children's Centre buildings will be offered targeted and universal services through the proposed Foundation Years outreach services.
6. Challenges in maintaining well established partnership relationships.
7. Possible increase in economic activity in the voluntary and independent child care provision (PVI) as parents access alternatives to council provision. This could lead a reduction in income for the Children's Centre

Risks to option 1

1. Fewer children and families will have as ready access to a Children Centre building than in Option 2.

Risks to option 2

1. The funding of the additional £350,000 required is, as at the date of the report, unidentified.

Legal Considerations

The steps to be taken regarding re-alignment of provision, support by way of an outreach service and the encouragement of provision by the private and voluntary services will ensure that the Council continues to meet its statutory duties.

The Childcare Act (2006) Section 5A places a duty on Local Authority “to make arrangements so that there are sufficient Children's Centres, so far as is reasonably practicable, to meet local need”

The Act (Section 5C) also places a “duty on local authorities to ensure there is consultation before any significant changes are made to children's centre provision in their area”

The Sure Start Children's Centre statutory guidance states that local authorities “should not close an existing children's centre site in any reorganisation of provision unless they can demonstrate that, where they decide to close a children's centre site, the outcomes for children, particularly the most disadvantaged, would not be adversely affected and will not compromise the duty to have sufficient children's centres to meet local need. The starting point should therefore be a presumption against the closure of children's centres”

The Council must, in accordance with the Equality Act 2010, pay due regard to the public sector equality duty. The Council must take account of the outcomes of the consultation, consider how any adverse impact may be ameliorated, and consider these factors against the need for the Council to make the required savings. In this regard an Equality Analysis has been completed and is at **Appendix 3. Members should consider the Equality analysis when determining which option to pursue.**

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Children's Centres contribute to the priority outcomes identified in the following Council and Health strategy plans:

Rotherham Community Strategy 2012-15

The Rotherham Partnership set out a vision that "Everyone in Rotherham will have the opportunity to fulfil their potential." The vision was underpinned by three high level priorities for agencies working in the Borough. The Community Strategy also references the Partnership's intention to target the most deprived neighbourhoods. Priority 2 has very specific relevance for children's centres and Priority 3 has a more general relevance:

Priority 2: Ensuring the best start in life for children and families

Priority 3: Supporting those that are vulnerable in our communities

Priority 2 references the "Rotherham Babies" research in highlighting the need to improve the life chances of children from our most deprived areas. Children's centres are named as one of the services delivering support to vulnerable 0-3 year olds. The importance of early years is evident and the strategy states that the correct support will unlock children's potential to be successful in education and work, and to live healthy and happy lives

Rotherham MBC's Corporate Plan 2013-16

The Council's Corporate Plan prioritises early support for vulnerable people and families and giving children the best start in life to benefit from opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing. Two of the four priorities have particular relevance for children's centres:

Priority 2: Protecting our most vulnerable people and families, enabling them to maximise their independence: We will identify need and support children, young people and families at the earliest possible stage.

Priority 4: Helping people from all communities to have opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing: We will enable children to access opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing by having the best start in life.

Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2012-15

Rotherham's first Health and Wellbeing Strategy is the key partnership document setting out priorities for health, social care and wider wellbeing. The strategy covers early years as "starting well", one of four key lifestages identified in the Marmot Review "Fair Society, Health Lives" in 2010. Three of the six priorities have particular relevance to children's centres:

Priority 1 - Prevention and early intervention

Outcome: Rotherham people will get help early to stay healthy and increase their independence.

Priority 2 - Expectations and aspirations

Outcome: All Rotherham people will have high aspirations for their health and wellbeing and expect good quality services in their community, tailored to their personal circumstances.

Priority 6 - Poverty

Outcome: Reduce poverty in disadvantaged areas through policies that enable people to fully participate in everyday social activities and the creation of more opportunities to gain skills and employment.

The focus on addressing deprivation from Sure Start is reflected in Priority 6 which supports the continued emphasis on children from deprived areas in the provision of children's centres.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- **Appendix 1 (Report on the data and themes from the Children's Centre Closure public consultation)**
- **Appendix 2 Interpretation of the analysis of the Children's Centre public consultation**
- Rewiring Public Services, Children's Services, LGA, 2013
- Evidence for the Frontline, Alliance for Useful Evidence, Dr. Jonathan Sharples, 2013
- Integrated Commissioning Strategy for Early Years services for children with additional needs 2008-2011, Devon County Council, 2008
- The Tail, How our schools fail one child in five: what can be done, Marshall, 2013
- Strategic toolkit for planning integrated working, 4 Children, 2010
- Bright Futures: local children local approaches, LGA, 2013
- Report of the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum, The CYP Forum, 2012
- The State of the State 2013, In Search of Affordable Government, Deloitte and Reform, 2013
- Children and Families Bill, DfE, February 2013
- The Foundation Year: Preventing poor children becoming poor adults, Frank Field, Dec 2010
- Supporting Families in the Foundation Years, Frank Field, 2010
- Best Practice for Sure Start: The Way Forward for Children's Centres, Report from the all party parliamentary sure start group, July 2013
- Birth and Beyond, Department of Health, 2011
- Sure Start Children's Centres Statutory Guidance, Department for education, April 2013.

Contact Names: Joyce Thacker

Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Service

01709 822677

Joyce.thacker@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Report on the Data and Themes from the Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation

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1 Introduction

The public consultation for the children's centre proposed closures began on Monday 3rd February and ended on the 30th April 2014. The survey was available online on the council website and at children's centres in paper form. We had a mailbox specifically for the children's centre consultation for people to email us their views. We also held 14 public events for people to come to see us face to face raising their views and asking questions.

1.1 Objectives and Scope

The objective of this document is to provide a report on the data collected during this public consultation. It is presented to the Early Years management team to draw up a conclusion of the consultation results and to put forward their final proposals to cabinet.

2 Highlights from the Consultation Responses

Highlights from all responses

1746 people responded to the consultation survey. 81.6% were parents or carers and 82% are using the centres at least once a week.

44% of the respondents said that their **nearest centre** is one of the ones proposed to stay open and 48% of the respondents said that their **nearest centre** is one of the ones proposed to close. The remainder were centres not recognised or out of area.

41.5% of respondents said that they **use** one of the centres proposed to stay open, 50.3% said that they use one of the centres proposed to close. Note that some people selected more than one centre. The remaining 8.3% were centres not recognised or out of area.

43% of respondents agree with the chosen centres (57% disagree) and 58% of respondents agree with outreach proposals (42% disagree).

The top 3 services listed when asked what a children's centre should provide were all child specific services: baby clinics/groups; stay and play sessions; early education and childcare. The remainder were adult focused groups such as parenting groups; breastfeeding groups and dads' groups.

When asked about impact, 34.3% of respondents said that they will not use a children's centre at all if they close and 17.7% said that they will use them less often.

The top 3 themes coming out of the consultation comments sections were: travel and location; the community and social impact; and the direct impact on children.

186 respondents said that they would be willing to take on a centre proposed to close, 173 of which would be interested in working with the remaining centres to continue children's centre activities. 142 respondents said that they would be willing to take on the day care provision in a centre proposed to close. However, only 101 of all respondents left contact details. No proposals were given at this stage.

Highlights from respondents living in an area of 30% or less IMD score

On the survey, we asked respondents for their post codes. This has allowed us to see whether respondents live in the areas of most deprivation, ultimately, where we have proposed to keep a children's centre open; or whether they lived outside of these areas, where ultimately, we have proposed to close the children's centres.

Of the 1746 respondents, 796 of them (45.6%) live in the most deprived areas (30% or less IMD score), 857 (49%) live in other areas of the borough and 93 (5.3%) did not supply their postcode or were out of area. This shows that 4% less people from deprived areas responded to the survey.

Of those 796 respondents in the most deprived areas, 51.7% agreed with the proposed centres and 62.3% agreed with the outreach proposals. This shows that not everyone in the most deprived areas agreed with the proposals.

3 Survey Questions and Responses

Question 1 What is your status?

This question had 5 options and respondents were able to tick more than one.

Number of responses	%	Status description
1273	72.91%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5
149	8.53%	None of these
135	7.73%	You are a professional working with children under 5
88	5.04%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5, You are a professional working with children under 5
41	2.35%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5, You will be a parent soon
16	0.92%	You will be a parent soon
15	0.86%	You are a childminder of children aged under 5
11	0.63%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5; You are a childminder of children aged under 5
6	0.34%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5; You are a childminder of children aged under 5; You are a professional working with children under 5
4	0.23%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5; None of these
3	0.17%	You will be a parent soon; You are a professional working with children under 5
2	0.11%	You are a childminder of children aged under 5; You are a professional working with children under 5
2	0.11%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5; You will be a parent soon; You are a professional working with children under 5
1	0.06%	You are a professional working with children under 5; None of these
1746	100.00%	

Including those where respondents ticked more than one option, 81.6% of them were a parent/carer of children under age 5. This shows that a majority of respondents are current users or potential users of our children's centres, who will be directly affected by the proposed closures.

Duplicates – this table demonstrates how many times each response was ticked when it was in a multiple response answer.

1425	81.6%	You are a parent/carer of children aged under 5
237	13.6%	You are a professional working with children under 5
62	3.6%	You will be a parent soon
154	8.8%	You are a childminder of children aged under 5

Question 2 How often do you use children's centre services in Rotherham?

Number of responses	%	How often?
956	55%	Two or more times a week
478	27%	Once a week
107	6%	Once a month
85	5%	Less than once a month
120	7%	Never
1746	100%	

82% of respondents use the centre at least once per week. We therefore know that a majority of respondents were people that actually use the service regularly. These people have current, first-hand experience of using a children's centre and will directly be impacted by the proposed closures.

120 respondents said they never use a centre and in the previous question, 149 respondents said they are not a parent/carer/worker/childminder. These respondents could be local community members, a family member or a friend of those using the centre, someone from a local business, organisation or authority etc.

This demonstrates that people in local communities are interested in the proposed children's centre closures, even if they don't use the centre themselves.

Question 3 Which is the nearest children's centre to your home?

This was a mandatory free text field, resulting in many different name combinations and sometimes a list of centres rather than just one. Some names given were not children's centres or not within the Rotherham borough.

Here are the centres where one valid centre was selected (the remaining variations that are not listed here were less than 0.7% each).

A column has been added to show whether that centre is proposed to close. This demonstrates that not only the people living near a centre proposed to close have responded. In fact, some of the highest numbers were from people living near a centre proposed to stay open:

Number of responses	%	Nearest Centre	Is the centre proposed to close or remain open?
196	11.2%	Arnold Centre	Open
150	8.6%	Aughton	Open
123	7.0%	Silver Birch	Close
118	6.8%	Wath Victoria	Close
116	6.6%	Swinton (Brookfield)	Open
91	5.2%	Kimberworth	Close
90	5.2%	Stepping Stones	Open
89	5.1%	Park View	Close
82	4.7%	Dinnington	Close
73	4.2%	Cortonwood	Close
65	3.7%	Valley	Open
62	3.6%	Meadows	Close
58	3.3%	Sue Walker Centre	Close
56	3.2%	Thrybergh	Open
46	2.6%	Coleridge	Open
44	2.5%	Rockingham	Close
40	2.3%	Thorpe Hesley	Close
33	1.9%	Rawmarsh	Open
28	1.6%	Thurcroft	Close
25	1.4%	Marcliff	Close
17	1.0%	Central	Open
12	0.7%	Ryton Brook	Close

44% of respondents nearest centre are proposed to remain open, whilst 48% of respondents nearest centre are proposed to close. The remaining 8% of responses were not applicable or they listed multiple centres.

Please note that these are the centres that people *tell us* is their nearest centre. The information found by postcode will show a slight difference.

Question 4 Which children's centre do you use? Please list.

This was more difficult to analyse as it was a free text field enabling respondents to list 3 centres. This resulted in a very large number of variations.

Below is the number of times each centre was listed. Because people listed more than one centre, the total is more than 1746.

A column has been added to show whether that centre is proposed to close. This demonstrates that not only the people using a centre that is proposed to close have responded. In fact, some of the highest numbers were from people using a centre proposed to stay:

Number of times selected	%	Centre Used	Is the centre proposed to close or remain open?
227	10.6%	The Arnold Centre	Open
159	7.4%	Silver Birch	Close
147	6.9%	Aughton Early Years	Open
138	6.4%	Wath Victoria	Close
130	6.1%	Not stated	
128	6.0%	The Brookfield Centre	Open
115	5.4%	Kimberworth Community	Close
106	4.9%	Park View	Close
97	4.5%	Dinnington	Close
92	4.3%	Valley	Open
88	4.1%	Stepping Stones	Open
87	4.1%	Cortonwood	Close
80	3.7%	Marcliff	Close
73	3.4%	The Sue Walker	Close
70	3.3%	The Meadows	Close
66	3.1%	Coleridge	Open
58	2.7%	Rockingham	Close
48	2.2%	Rotherham Central	Open
48	2.2%	Thrybergh Rainbow Centre	Open
45	2.1%	Rawmarsh	Open
45	2.1%	Thorpe Hesley	Close
43	2.0%	Non RMBC	
33	1.5%	Thurcroft	Close
20	0.9%	Ryton Brook	Close
2143	100.0%		

41.5% of respondents use the centres proposed to stay open, 50.3% are using centres proposed to close. 6.1% did not state and 2% listed a non RMBC centre.

Note: that some respondents selected more than one centre.

130 respondents didn't state a centre, but there were 120 that said they never use a centre in a previous question.

These are close to the percentages of those who agree with the chosen centres against those who disagree:

- 41.5% of respondents use the centres proposed to stay open and 43% of people agree with the closures.
- 50.3% of respondents use the centres proposed to close and 57% of people disagree with the proposed centres.

Note: that around 8% didn't state a centre/say they do not use them etc.

Question 5 Do you agree with the chosen centres?

Number of responses	%	Agree?
745	43%	Yes
1001	57%	No
1746	100%	

Of those respondents in the most deprived areas, 51.7% agreed with the proposed centres. This shows that nearly half of the respondents living in a deprived area where the centres are proposed to remain open, still do not agree with the proposed closures. So the respondents that are answering yes to this question, do not necessarily live in an area where the centre is proposed to stay.

It must be noted that when saying they agree with the proposals, they are not necessarily saying that they agree with closing centres, they are agreeing that the centre in the list should remain open. Many comments were made in the free text field to say 'Yes, but I would like to see all centres remain open'.

For those who answered No to this question, we asked them to tell us why in a free text field. See the Themes section of this document for further details.

Further breakdown on those who agree with the chosen centres

The below tables break down the number of people that answered yes or no by which centre they say they use.

Note: 130 people didn't answer the question about centre used so their responses haven't been included in these tables.

Note: that some people said they use more than one centre. These people have been counted more than once as they have been counted as an individual user at each centre that they told us they use, making the total more than 1746.

Note: that these figures on the centre people say they use and the deprived figures were taken using the respondents post code.

Centres proposed to stay open:

Centre Used	Number who disagree (No)	Number who agree (Yes)	Grand Total	% who agree
The Arnold Centre	34	193	227	85.02%
Aughton Early Years	34	113	147	76.87%
The Brookfield Centre	29	99	128	77.34%
Valley	18	74	92	80.43%
Stepping Stones	20	68	88	77.27%
Coleridge	12	54	66	81.82%
Thrybergh Rainbow Centre	14	35	49	71.43%
Rotherham Central	21	27	48	56.25%
Rawmarsh	21	24	45	53.33%
Total	203	687	890	77.19%

Note: according to these responses, there are more people using a centre in the most deprived than there are living in the most deprived areas.

77.19% of respondents who say that they use one of the centres proposed to stay open, agree with the proposals. A quarter of people using those centres still disagree with the proposals. Some of the comments made said that people were pleased that the centre they used was proposed to stay, but they disagree with closing other centres. One of the reasons was because the closure of other centres will impact on the capacity and usage of the centre that they use.

Centres Proposed to Close:

Centre Used	Number who disagree (No)	Number who agree (Yes)	Grand Total	% who agree
Silver Birch	138	21	159	13.21%
Wath Victoria	124	14	138	10.14%
Kimberworth Community	103	12	115	10.43%
Park View	96	10	106	9.43%
Dinnington	95	2	97	2.06%
Cortonwood	83	4	87	4.60%
Marcliff	68	12	80	15.00%
The Sue Walker	68	5	73	6.85%
The Meadows	59	11	70	15.71%
Rockingham	56	2	58	3.45%
Thorpe Hesley	38	7	45	15.56%
Thurcroft	29	4	33	12.12%
Ryton Brook	20	0	20	0.00%
Total	977	104	1081	9.6%

Only 9.6% of respondents who say they use one of the centres proposed to close, agree with the proposals. So 90.4% of those people disagree with the proposals.

The difference in the 2 tables above suggests that the answer to this question is often governed by whether their centre is proposed to close. People may have answered yes to the question, 'do you agree with the chosen centres' but they may not necessarily agree with any closures, they are saying yes because they are pleased their centre is staying open.

Therefore, it needs to be considered that although the overall 43% of people who said Yes they agree with the proposed chosen centres, are not saying that they agree with the closure of any children's centres.

Question 6 Do you agree with the proposal for outreach services?

Number of responses	%	Agree?
1012	58%	Yes
734	42%	No
1746	100%	

Of the 796 respondents that live in the most deprived areas (30% or less IMD score), 62.3% of those respondents agreed with the outreach proposals.

For all of those who answered No to this question, we asked them to tell us why in a free text field. See the Themes section of this document for further details.

Question 7 Which services do you think a children's centre should provide?

There were 12 options in a tick list for this question. Respondents were able to tick more than one option, therefore the numbers total more than 1746.

Number of times selected	Service
1633	Baby Clinics/Groups
1615	Stay and play sessions
1549	Early Education and Childcare
1509	Parenting groups
1492	Breastfeeding support
1406	Dads groups
1404	Family learning sessions
1383	Healthy eating and cooking sessions
1320	Prenatal groups
1139	Managing on a budget
1078	Adult Learning Groups
227	Other

The top 3 selected services are services directly for children and babies. The 8 following are services delivered for parents. The high numbers selected for each service demonstrates that the services are all valued. This suggests that the priority should be on the actual children's services, followed by parenting/family services.

This data can be used and further analysed for shaping the future service once the outcome of the consultation is known.

Question 8 What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?

There were 7 options to tick in answer to this question. Respondents were able to tick more than one. Therefore, the number of variations coming through was very large.

This table shows the number of times each option was selected:

Number of times selected	%	Impact
713	34.34%	I will not use children's centres at all
368	17.72%	I will use children's centre services less often
307	14.78%	Don't know
274	13.19%	I will attend alternative (non- children's centre) activities(e.g. swimming
221	10.64%	No impact
109	5.25%	I will attend another children's centre instead
84	4.04%	Other
2076	100%	

This table displays the variations of multi options selected. You can see here when someone says they will not use a centre, if they also say that will use an alternative etc. (any variations with less than 10 have not been listed in this document as the list is very large):

Number of responses	%	Impact
560	32.2%	I will not use children's centres at all
270	15.5%	Don't know
216	12.4%	I will use children's centre services less often
215	12.3%	No impact
90	5.2%	I will attend alternative (non-children's centre) activities (e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)
71	4.1%	I will not use children's centres at all; I will attend alternative (non-children's centre) activities (e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)
66	3.8%	Other (please specify)
60	3.4%	I will use children's centre services less often; I will attend alternative (non- children's centre) activities (e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)

48	2.8%	I will attend another children's centre instead
35	2.0%	I will use childrens centre services less often; I will not use children's centres at all
13	0.7%	I will use children's centre services less often, I will attend another childrens centre instead, I will attend alternative (non-childrens centre) activities(e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)
11	0.6%	I will attend another childrens centre instead, I will attend alternative (non-childrens centre) activities(e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)
11	0.6%	I will not use childrens centres at all, Don't know
10	0.6%	I will not use childrens centres at all, Other (please specify)

Some of the people selecting 'no impact' will be from respondents that do not use the service at all. As mentioned before, these could be members of the community, family, friends etc.

Question 9 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on a children's centre building that is proposed to close?

There were 2 parts to this question. If the respondent answered no to the first part, they didn't need to answer the second part. However, some people still answered the other both parts.

Number of responses	%	Answer
186	11%	Yes
1560	89%	No
1746	100%	

Part 2 - If Yes, would you be interested in working with the remaining children's centres so that some children's centre activity could continue in the building you take on?

Number of responses	%	Answer
173	10%	Yes
1012	58%	No
561	32%	No answer
1746	100%	

Further details in Question 10 below.

Question 10 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on the day care provision in a CC building that is proposed to close?

Number of responses	%	Answer
142	8%	Yes
1604	92%	No
1746	100%	

Question 9 and 10 If you answered Yes, please leave contact details

101 people left contact details after answering yes to either question 9 or 10. A further 11 people who answered no to these questions still left contact details. Details of proposals have not been given.

It is to be noted that many of the people answering yes are parents/carers or members of the public who are volunteering to help as opposed to taking on the centre. Further work will be done on this section separately, following the results of the consultation.

4 Narrative Analysis

There were 2 questions and a final comments section that allowed people to make comments. In order to analyse the narrative part of the questions, we have read through all of these comments to pull out the recurring themes. This is a manual process so it has to be taken in to consideration that numbers are approximate as it is not possible to do a systematic count of particular comment types in free text fields.

Many of the themes are repeated in all 3 comments sections (question 5, question 6 and Any Other Comments). A summary of all themes is given at the end of this section.

Question 5 – Do you agree with the chosen centres?

43% of people answered Yes

57% of people answered No

We then asked '*If not, please tell us why*'.

Themes:

Here are the recurring themes. The list is in order of most recurring themes:

- Location, travel and travel costs
- The impact children's centres have on the community, social interaction and isolation
- The impact on the child, their development, their transition to school, their education and attainment levels
- The support, information and advice received at centres
- Staff skills and relationships built with children and parents
- Activities, sessions, groups, courses, classes that people attend at centres
- Day care/childcare requirements
- Capacity for the remaining centres, workloads on staff and the impact on the quality of service
- Buildings, facilities and environment, having everything in one place with consistency and familiarity
- The impact on the employment of parents from not having local centres, support and day care
- Familiarity of location, building, surroundings, staff, other parents and children
- People will not use them
- The children's centres have been a lifeline

Question 6 – We propose to deliver an outreach service to all areas. Do you agree with this proposal?

58% of people answered Yes

42% of people answered No

We then asked '*If not, please tell us why*'.

Themes:

Here are the recurring themes. The list is in order of most recurring themes:

- Buildings
 - Existing centres are purpose built
 - Existing buildings comfortable, happy and friendly
 - Community buildings are not fit for purpose or suitable and in some areas, no buildings are available
 - Facilities and standards of facilities in centres are good
 - Everything in one building works better
 - A safe, clean, secure, comfortable environment is needed
 - Cost/hire of other buildings
- The location of and travelling to outreach services
- Familiarity and consistency of service, location and staff; routine and stability; feeling safe, secure and comfortable
- Outreach will be inadequate/insufficient and the quality of service will drop
- Services available at centres such as support, activities, classes, groups etc. and the drop in service that will not be available via outreach
- The impact on the community and the social aspect of being in a local children's centre
- The impact on the child, their development, their transition to school, stability for children and safeguarding could be missed
- Childcare and day care requirements – this will impact on families, employment etc.
- Children's centre staff are good, people have built relationships and trust and are familiar with them
- People will not use outreach, attendance will drop
- Capacity and practicality of doing this via outreach. Remaining centres will be oversubscribed and workloads will increase for outreach workers
- The service works as it is, why change it?

Comments – Are there any further comments you would like to make about the proposals?

This is a free text field allowing for any further comments people would like to make about the proposals.

Themes:

Here are the recurring themes. The list is in order of most recurring themes:

- Direct impact on children, their development, socialising, their future, education and transition to school.
- The impact on the community having no central hub and socialising with other parents. Isolation loneliness and depression will increase with no central place to go.
- Staff bonds and relationships built. Lots of complements about staff skills, knowledge, experience, they are supportive, helpful, caring, friendly and approachable
- Support, advice, guidance and information received at centres
- Travel issues, cost of travel, travelling with young children or disability access. Location is a huge factor in usage and accessibility.
- Sessions, activities, groups, classes used at centres
- Employment will be effected due to day care reduction
- Buildings are welcoming, a caring environment, purpose built, everything is in one place including other services such as health. Facilities are good, people feel safe and secure there. There are insufficient buildings/facilities in the community. The 'Drop in' service will be lost.
- Vulnerable people will be at risk. Safeguarding and early intervention will be impacted increasing deprivation
- PND support is currently good. Without this there will be an increase in cases. The centres have been a lifeline for many.
- Capacity and oversubscription
- Health service impact - joined up working will be lost
- The quality of service will drop
- People will not use the services
- Long term effects

Summary of All Themes

Pulling all of the themes together, these are the most recurring themes throughout the whole consultation response:

Travel/Location: The most recurring theme throughout the consultation comments combined was travel and location. People like the convenience of having a centre local to them. For many it is vital to have one in walking distance. Having a centre within walking distance allows access to all.

Not everyone has transport. People cannot always afford to travel; have time to travel; have the ability to travel further. There are many reasons for this such as having children in prams; having several children to manage and carry things for; having children with special needs; being post operation or have just given birth/c section; having a child at a local school so having to manage the timings between locations; taking children to the centre for childcare around working times; having a disability or child with a disability making travelling or public transport difficult. Pushchairs, prams, wheelchairs and equipment can prove difficult on public transport. Public transport is not always available or reliable.

Not having a centre within reach of their home, work or childcare placement means that people will not be able to use a centre at all.

Community/Social: following travel/location, people want a local centre for the needs of the community too. Having a central place to meet others in the local area brings the community together. Parents/carers have the opportunity to meet other parents and other people going through the same issues as them. They share advice, experiences and knowledge with others. People become friends and find comfort in meeting others who understand what they are going through. Becoming a parent can be very difficult for some, even if they already have children. Having a community of other new parents helps them come together to support each other and to develop their parenting skills.

Without the centres people will become isolated. They will not have a place to go and to get them out of the house. This could increase levels of depression, isolation and loneliness affecting the health of both parents and children. This will further impact on the health service and on social services.

Child impact: Children's centres offer children a good start in life. They provide a starting point for nursery and school and help with that transition to school. Centres provide a place for children to socialise with other children, learn life skills, bond with others and begin their education. Many have developed in all aspects of their lives through the help and support of a children's centre.

For any centres that close, there will be an impact on children that have to change childcare/centres. Children like stability and familiarity. They are attached to staff, friends, other parents and the surroundings that they know. Changing those things will have an effect on the young children currently using the centres.

The future of children will be affected if they do not have a local centre with the opportunities currently provided. This will have an impact further down the line with attainment and attendance levels in schools and a child's education long term.

Safeguarding could also be missed by not having a local centre. Early intervention can start by things being picked up at centres. This will impact on social care and the future of those children that could slip through the net.

Buildings: People feel that the buildings are a very important part of the service. They provide a familiar, stable, permanent place for children to go. They are built for purpose, are clean, safe and secure. They have excellent facilities and the standards are all very good. Parents also need that stability and familiarity. Some parents are uncomfortable in new environments and people and may not have the confidence to try somewhere new.

People like that everything is under one roof. They know where to go for help and can drop in when they need to. They know which activities and groups etc. are on and when.

Community buildings will not be fit for purpose, they could be cold, unsafe, unhygienic, not secure, have other members of the public using them etc. Some areas of the borough don't even have any available buildings. The cost of getting these buildings up to standard, cost of hire etc. will need taking in to consideration.

If unsuitable buildings are used, people will not go.

Support: People really value the support that they receive from the centres. They can drop in when needed and seek advice, support, information and guidance. They have access to skilled staff members who are experienced and willing to help. Support is given to parents and children, impacting the whole family.

Without a centre, people will not have somewhere to go to for this advice and information when needed. They will not know where to go for support and many have said it would have had a detrimental effect if they had not had it when needed. This support is a lifeline to some.

Staff: Staff are very highly valued. Parents and children are familiar with the staff at the centres, they have built relationships with them and have bonded with them. Many people have commented that the staffing should not change as part of this review due to the attachments with children and parents already attending the centres. The staff work hard and the success of the centres is due to their hard work and dedication. Parents and children have built trust with the staff. They are caring, helpful, skilled, experienced, knowledgeable, dedicated, they go the extra mile, are approachable and are friendly.

If staff were to change, or be lost, the service would not be the same high standard. Children would be affected due to their attachment with the staff. Parents may not use the services due to losing those relationships and the trust they have built.

Activities/groups/sessions: people really value the groups, activities, classes, courses etc. run at centres for both children and adults. There is a need for all of these services to continue. They help children to develop and parents have gained parenting skills along with many other educational and life skills themselves.

Should these services cease, people will not learn the parenting skills required. Children will not develop as well and will be unprepared for school. This will impact on child development and the future of entire families.

Child care and employment: people are concerned about what will happen with child care/day care/after school care. Children are settled and have built relationships there. Childcare is an essential service for many particularly those who depend on it to be able to work.

There will be an impact on the employment of parents who depend on childcare. People cannot always afford private childcare and some parents have chosen children's centre childcare because of the high standards and believe that it is of better quality than private child care. Some areas of the borough do not have any other childcare available. This may lead to more people being out of work, impacting the economy of the area and family life for many families. Removing familiar childcare from those children currently placed there will have a direct impact on those children involved.

Familiarity: parents and children like familiarity. They are familiar with the environment and surroundings at the centre, the staff, other parents, other children. They feel safe/secure and comfortable at the centres.

Again, taking this away could impact on a child's development. Parents may not use the outreach services if they are in unfamiliar settings with unfamiliar and irregular staff that they don't know. Consistency is required for both parents and children.

Capacity: There is concern over the capacity of the centres that remain open. How will they cope with the larger reach areas?

Centres and groups will be oversubscribed. The quality of the service will drop because of this. Services will become more stretched. The workload on staff is concerning as this will impact on the quality of the service that they deliver.

Outreach: Outreach 'is better than nothing' and should be considered as an alternative only. If it is planned right, in principal, it could work. We would have to have a very good communication strategy in place to ensure that all parents are aware of what is happening, where and when. Services need to be regular, reliable and in suitable settings, of a good quality and run by professionals. It needs to be community focused and based locally to encourage people to use it. They should be run from children's centres to provide a familiar, stable and suitable environment.

Outreach services cannot provide the same level of service as children's centres. It will be inadequate and insufficient. Outreach doesn't cater for child care. If people don't know what services are available, where to access them and when they are, large pockets of the community will be missed. If the settings are not right, people will not go back. The location of the outreach service is very important in its success as people will not travel and they want a service that is within their local community. People do not want an outreach service, they want a children's centre.

Risks to vulnerable: Children's centres reach out to vulnerable people in all areas. They help to identify risks early on. PND support is currently very good. Children's centre staff have helped to identify problems in children, even helping parents to gain a diagnosis in some cases. Supporting parents through difficult times and helping to identify problems and provide the right advice, information and contacts has been a lifeline for some.

Without this support vulnerable people will be at further risk. PND and other problems will increase as people will not get the support that they need. Issues may go undetected in both parents and children.

Joined up working: The centres provide a central place for many services. Health advice is available, baby weigh in and services that people will otherwise have to travel to a GP surgery for.

Again, problems could go undetected because people don't have easy access to health professionals and advice. Not having services working together under one roof will not only impact on children and families, but will impact on services such as the Health service and Social services further down the line.

5 Suggestions and Proposals

Most comments made were around the impact that centres have had on people's lives and the predicted impact of closing centres.

There were also a number of comments around the rationale used for selecting which centres should close and suggestions for alternative rationales and the future of the service.

Comments and Suggestions made for the Rationale

Here are the most common themes coming through in the comments around the rationale in order of most commonly mentioned:

- Equality – it is unfair to only have a centre in an area that is classed as the most deprived. It is not only the deprived people of Rotherham that are vulnerable and that need access to a centre. Everyone needs the service and support no matter what area they live in, what their status is or what is defined as their level of deprivation. All parents and all children need and deserve support and access to a centre. Parents and children are vulnerable no matter where they live.
- The spread of centres and geography is not equal. Too many are closing leaving insufficient coverage. There are large parts of the borough left without anything in their area, whilst some have the option of more than one. Poor transport links mean that some areas don't have realistic access to a centre at all.
- There are vulnerable children and families in other areas, not just those identified as the most deprived. Those vulnerable families will be missed. All children in all areas need centres

Other less recurring themes for rationale suggestions were:

- 'Consider aligning our outreach boundaries, health ward and learning communities. Currently, when carrying some joint working with Health colleagues we have to exclude certain postcodes from attending as they do not fall into the Health teams ward regardless of being within our own reach areas.'
- The new model could be based on matching Health Locality teams to enable closer working. If two or more Health teams are within a Centre reach it is very difficult to plan and target set. A centre within each health area would seem a more pragmatic approach.
- We should consider performance data when selecting centres to stay open. The centres that are performing best should be considered.
- Close the centres with the least attendance
- Close those that cost the most
- Look at the areas individually as to what is available in terms of other provision and available community buildings. Some areas may be left with nothing at all whilst other areas have a centre as well as other provisions.

Ideas and suggestions for the future of the service

Some comments made were suggestions for keeping children's centres running or ways of saving money:

- Funding
 - Use other funding
 - Private providers could take them on board
 - Schools could run them
- Staff
 - Look at job roles and descriptions for duplication
 - Reduce high level managers/salaries
 - Reduce the number of councillors
 - Reduce wages of CE/Leaders/Members including allowances
 - Cut staff wages and bonus and reduce staff in centres
 - Consider small cuts to ALL centre staff hours particularly during quieter times of the days/year.
- Create revenue
 - Hire out rooms for parties, groups, meetings, exercise, community groups and craft
 - Charge for some services
 - Fundraise
 - Allow companies to advertise at centres
 - Create courses for adults and charge for them
 - Hold craft sessions and re-open the café
- Building usage - Use the centres as a pre-school option rather than close

There were also suggestions for running of the future service:

- Ensure these services are embedded into education and working more closely with schools (post year 7) offering a programme across all years from preventative, addressing the teenage pregnancy to personal and social education across all aspects of family life.
- Some centres are rarely used by the public 8-9am and 4-6 pm yet have to be manned and appropriately supplied by heating and lighting etc. Change the opening hours to reduce costs. You could consider alternative opening hours for day-care provision (as long as it meets the majority of service users and target group needs).
- Consider providing centres with more freedom to shop around for their supplies, maintenance and consumables rather than being tied into contracts with suppliers, as they often charge way over the odds for items and labour.

6 Public Events

We held 14 events and had approximately 619 attendees.

Date	Area of Event	Centres	Number Attended
06/02/14	Rockingham	Central, Kimberworth, Park View, Rockingham, Thorpe Hesley	110
17/02/14	Clifton	Coleridge	24
12/03/14	Rawmarsh	Rawmarsh, Thrybergh/Dalton, Silver Birch, Marcliff	40
20/03/14	Wath	Brookfield, Wath Victoria, Cortonwood	122
25/03/14	Ferham	Central, Kimberworth, Park View, Rockingham, Thorpe Hesley	19
27/03/14	Clifton	Valley, Arnold	22
31/03/14	Thurcroft	Aughton Early Years, Meadows, Sue Walker, Ryton Brook, Thurcroft	45
02/04/14	Flanderwell	Rawmarsh, Thrybergh/Dalton, Silver Birch, Marcliff	20
03/04/14	Wales	Aughton Early Years, Meadows, Sue Walker, Ryton Brook, Thurcroft	62
07/04/14	Dinnington	Maltby, Dinnington	41
08/04/14	Aston	Aughton Early Years, Meadows, Sue Walker, Ryton Brook, Thurcroft	90
09/04/14	Maltby	Maltby, Dinnington	10
22/04/14	Catcliffe		8
28/04/14	Rockingham	Central, Kimberworth, Park View, Rockingham, Thorpe Hesley	6

Themes

The themes at the public events were the same as the ones being submitted via the consultation response form. A few additional areas that were questioned were:

- Expressions of interest – people were asking how to express an interest in the centres
- Staffing questions about the structure and applying for jobs etc.
- Privatisation – what will the LA responsibility be, how will we safeguard, what support will we put in place?
- How will the service work?
- Volunteers – the impact of having volunteers, training costs, availability etc.

Rationale Suggestions and Questions

Many of the questions asked, issues raised and suggestions made at the public events were around the rationale used for selecting children's centres to remain open.

These have been grouped in to themes. Each theme is then summarised in to one suggestion for looking at an alternative rationale.

Spread of centres / geography

- Why can't you make sure the 7 remaining CC's are spread evenly across the borough?
- Have you looked at distribution and geography?
- Within 5 km of Rotherham town centre, there are 6 staying open. In 10k of our area there is just 1. Baring in mind you are keeping 7 open, would it not be sensible to place a children's centre in each area assembly area?
- All of the centres in Rotherham town centre are staying open. Why is that?
- Can you explain the rationale around the cluster of 7 for those being left open?

Suggestion: to look at spreading the centres across the whole of the borough by area/geography rather than keeping several together in one area. This way, everyone will be in reach of a centre.

Numbers / changing numbers of people in an area

- Your rationale is based on 400 children under the age of 5 in an area. What happens over the next few years as those figures change? It could be a different area that has more children under the age of 5,
- The numbers will change as people have children all of the time.
- The figures that were quoted in the slides, how recent are these figures? There is new housing being built in Thurcroft, so these numbers may not be accurate.
- This may not be up-to-date. Not only families with young children are registered with a GP.
- What is the date when the figure was 352 for Dinnington? There have been lots of new houses built with new families moving in, 352 could now be miles out.
- The rationale chosen is flawed, this area needs a provision, housing developments are proposed which would increase numbers, therefore this centre is critical.
- In relation to Thurcroft, there are lots of developments, more than 500 homes, and we are cutting services, the number of facilities will not be enough.

Suggestion: to look at more up to date data on the population in each area as many have grown due to new housing developments. To also look at housing developments that are in progress and the potential numbers of families that will be living in each area.

What is vulnerable and why?

- Having read all the literature you will be targeting those in greatest need, what are the criteria? Who are these people?
- Not everyone in Wath is deprived but not everyone works. Why did you use this rationale and not others? Why is this area not considered a vulnerable area? The rationale you have used does not take all factors into consideration.
- What makes one person disadvantaged as opposed to another (linking to the index rationale on the slides)? I am registered blind and would not have been able to get out without help. I would feel isolated. I need a familiar easily accessible area to give me the confidence to get out (Silver Birch CC).
- You need to add disabled parents and children to the rationale used to define 'vulnerable'.
- Why is the rationale only around deprivation, we both work, however this is my lifeline
- It feels that some parts of the borough are getting more than others. Deprivation is not just the only factor. There are challenges for families living across the borough and not just deprivation.

Suggestion: to look at other criteria such as the needs and challenges for all families, not just those who are deemed as being deprived. Also to include parents with disabilities and children with disabilities in each area

Centre Usage

- Why not use the Children Centres numbers to see where there is a highest need? I am concerned that the deprivation index was from 2008 and 2001 census which was nearly 13 years old. It's got 38 indicators. Why have we not factored in the usage of centres? Information used is 13 years old
- In relation to the rationale used and those staying open, are these all well used? Has this been looked at? Is the list going to change?
- The rationale used has been around the vulnerable and deprived areas. Has there been any consideration at looking at actual attendance at children centres rather than reach figures?
- Have you looked at the current usage of the facilities at each CC?
- Have you done audits on the amount of usage at each centre and who is using them e.g. children with difficult needs or financially struggling parents and linking into social services? Workers are supporting families with these needs even if not in that 30% area. If I didn't have a link worker and get access, then maybe some of the issues I experienced wouldn't have been addressed. Workers have good connections with the families. Is there an audit on the needs of the community not just the level of deprivation?

Suggestion: to look at the usage at each centre to see which centres are used the most. Also, to look at those people using the centres, what are they made up of? E.g. disabled children, CIN, special needs, financially struggling parents, parents with needs?

People using centres not in their own area

- Is it correct that there will be vulnerable children who attend a children centre outside of their area? If this is the case then those vulnerable children would be affected by the closure of a children's centre that they access?

- What if 500+ 'vulnerable' children live in an area (rationale to keep the children centre open) but only a small number access the children centre? I.e. if parents are working, they may access another children centre.
- Do you take into consideration people who come to Thurcroft Children Centre but this is not their actual local centre?
- I live in Maltby but prefer to travel to Thurcroft to access their services, is this included in the figures?
- When determining the areas and children's centres to close, have you found out which CC people access, it may not be the one closest to them?

Suggestion: to look at usage in terms of how many people use a centre that is not in their area as this will affect the number of vulnerable people using each centre.

Performance

- Surely you want to provide the best quality service so why close Wath and Cortonwood? These are both the best centres, as proved by Ofsted Inspections, but you are closing them and keeping the lower performing centres open. Rationale should consider performance of centres when proposing to close
- Have you considered looking at the effectiveness of the indicators of the centres as a form of evaluation?

Suggestion: to look at performance levels at each centre and consider keeping open the best performing centres?

Cost of a Centre

- All you've done is draw up figures to get what centres the members want. The most expensive ones to run will be left over
- You would only need to close the 8 most expensive centres to save the money you have to save. Therefore, you are closing 5 unnecessarily.
- It is unclear where the savings are being made with regards to Thurcroft. It is a small building attached to the Infant school.
- Could we request that another rationale to be looked at is the costs of running the building? This could be another option.

Suggestion: to look at the running cost of each building with the possibility of keeping open the ones that cost the least to run, resulting in more centres remaining open. Look at the savings made by closing each one so that you know which centres will save the most money to meet the target.

Percentage of vulnerable in each area rather than number

- Therefore, Wath and Cortonwood have been penalised for being smaller areas. Percentage wise, ours are at 70% of children living in a disadvantaged area as a posed to 37% which is the percentage rate of others that may be kept open. Our children are disadvantaged.

Suggestion: to look at the percentage of vulnerable children in an area as opposed to the number. Some of the smaller areas have a majority of children vulnerable, but because they don't meet the 400 number, they are not meeting the criteria used in the current proposals.

Clustering of smaller areas

- Overall some of the reach areas are larger and based on numbers so would need to be clustered.
- If Anston and Dinnington are added together it takes the numbers over 400, surely there is an option to join centres in this area?
- Could Dinnington stay open to cover Anston and Thurcroft? If only Maltby was open the catchment would be more than 1000.
- If Thurcroft, Ryton and Dinnington all close, it feels as if you have forgotten about us. Just bring all 3 together as alternative

Suggestion: to cluster some of the smaller areas to make them in to one, this would meet the criteria and avoid large parts of the borough being without a centre at all.

Facilities in an area

- Have you been around and looked at the facilities throughout the borough when doing your rationale? You've picked inaccessible villages. Some of the closing CC's are the most deprived areas in the borough. They were put there for a reason and you are closing them.

Suggestion: Look at those areas with the most facilities available for closing centres. Keep centres open in the areas that do not have alternative provisions or buildings available as they will be left with no options.

Suggestions and Ideas

Other suggestions made at the public events were:

- Wath and Cortonwood are running on nil balance. They are actually making money by delivering childcare. This money could be used to support other centres.
- Why can't you reduce something at each centre instead of closing some?
- We have looked at the Town Centre CC's and the parents there are quite happy to move to other CC's. This (Wath) is a much smaller tighter nit community where people feel comfortable in their own area. People here will not go to other areas. Why not keep ours open and close central ones where people are happy to move?
- I used to work in the health service. Wath has one of the highest in the country for heart disease. We need the health education in this area. Closing CC's is closing the education from the start of those lives and the future of heart health in Wath. This impacts health too not just social care. This should be taken in to consideration.
- Could Thurcroft look at options such as 'Big Local' and 'Lottery Funding' to keep open their children centre?
- What if Thurcroft could raise ¾ of the money required to keep open their children centre, would the local authority consider putting in the further monies required to keep it open?
- What if all centres including the ones proposed to remain open, were asked to look for some private funding and partnership working – would this not leave funding to keep more centres open?

- Could half of the building be sold to help fund the remainder of the centres?
- Sheffield uses a community co-operative model, is this an option?
- How are we going to work with our partners in terms of boundaries as we reduce children's service provision? How do we work more effectively with health teams as health teams criteria for involvement is different to ours? A broad agreement needed.
- Could we pay for the children's centres, I would be prepared, how much could that bring in

7 Other Contacts

We have also had a number of other contacts via email and letter.

Email enquiries to the Children's Centre Consultation mailbox

We have had emails from:

- 17 Parents/grandparents/carers
- 1 resident
- 2 former workers
- 3 not stated

All emails are against the closure of the Centres, sharing views and experiences. The themes coming from these emails mirror the ones coming from the consultation response forms. The main themes are:

- **Staff** – current staff are knowledgeable, experienced, professional, welcoming, dedicated, friendly, and have built bonds and relationships with children and parents. All of this will be lost if we change staff or close centres.
- **Community and Social impact** – the centres are a base for the community, bringing people together, encouraging people to socialise with others in their area. They bring people out of isolation and allow them to meet other parents and children.
- **Support** – The support received from centres on a number of issues and circumstances is invaluable. These centres have provided a lifeline for some parents.
- **Advice and Information** – again, invaluable. Where will people go for this if their local centre closes? Also the 'drop in' service allows people to gain access to advice and information at any time.
- **Location and travelling** – people will struggle to travel, they don't all have transport and public transport can be difficult and unreliable. The location of a centre is very important to parents as they need something close to home and convenient.
- **Childcare** – people are concerned with having to change childcare or having to use a private provider. The childcare service provided by children's centres is valued. They promote healthy eating in children with healthy, varied meals. Parents employment will be effected by not having local, affordable, effective childcare.
- **Environment** – the environment in children's centres is good, nurturing, caring, safe, secure and welcoming. The buildings are purpose built and have very good facilities including outdoors. There are concerns about what buildings will be available and suitable.
- **Long term benefits** – children's centres support child development, their transition to school and help with early intervention. The future costs will be impacted by reducing the level of service provided in those early years.
- **Health** – people have experienced help with issues such as mental health, diagnosis for children's conditions, PND for parents etc. The centres work together with health and other agencies to improve outcomes for children and families.

Emails/Letters from Groups/Representatives

Other contacts have been received from groups, representatives, councillors, centres and schools.

There have been emails, letters and reports on the impact that the centres have on people, the predicted impact of closing children's centres, why centres should remain open and challenges against the rationale.

In brief, we have had the following contacts:

- Thrybergh Parish Council - regarding the risk that the proposed closure of the local centre will have
- NHS CCG - sharing the views of the GP Clinical Lead for Children's Services and that the impact the closures will have
- Cllr Jacque Falvey backed up by Cllr and Governer Jane Havenhand - challenging the rationale with reasons not to close the Dinnington centre
- Wath Learning Community Cooperative Trust - about Wath and Cortonwood Centres, suggesting clustering of the 2 centres.
- Brampton Bierlow Parish Council - questioning the rationale and suggesting clustering of centres in Wath and Brampton amounting to large numbers of disadvantaged
- Our Futures Group (Dinnington Disadvantaged Community Programme) – full report received about Dinnington with statistics included and why Dinnington should not close.
- Head teacher at Wales High - the value the CC's provide to the community, to working parents as well as the vulnerable.
- Church Action on Poverty (Dinnington) - about Dinnington area and why the children's centre should remain
- Councillor for Maltby/Dinnington - suggestion for Maltby to cover the Silver Birches children's centre at Sunnyside and to try to retain one centre covering the Dinnington and Anston areas
- Anston Parish Council – against the closure
- Children's Centre Head at Rawmarsh - views about closures from a Head's perspective including things that should be considered for the future model
- A Children's Centre Coordinator - about the effectiveness of centres and their potential
- Wath CC - a presentation from Wath Victoria about what they do and reasons to stay open
- Maltby CC - suggestions around rationale from Maltby Children's Centre Acting Head
- Portage – about their links to CC's and the impact it will have on the Portage service

8 Petitions

We have received petitions against closures including:

1123 signed petition from Rawmarsh
172 signed petition from Arnold
27 signed petition from Thrybergh/Dalton

9 Expressions of Interest

We have had 30 contacts via emails and letters expressing an interest in the centres.

From the survey, we have had 101 contacts left from people saying they would be willing to take on a children's centre building that is proposed to close or take on the day care provision at a building proposed to close.

Further work can be done on these expressions if required, following the result of the consultation.

10 Equalities Data

We asked respondents if they would like to answer some equal opportunities questions. 81% said yes, but some people did not answer all questions. The results are expressed as a % of those who responded to each question.

A majority of respondents were female aged 25-34 years. 9% of respondents were disabled or had a limiting long term illness/condition. 9% were carers. 90% were white British followed by 2.8% Asian or Asian/British Pakistani. 53% were Christian followed by 38.4% with no religion or belief.

Would you like to answer some equal opportunities questions?

Number	%	Response
1419	81%	Yes
327	19%	No
1746	100%	

What is your gender?

Number	%	Response
122	9%	Male
1293	91%	Female
1415		

Is your gender identity the same as the sex you were assigned at birth?

Number	%	Response
1366	98%	Yes
24	2%	No
1390		

What is your age?

Number	%	Response
200	14%	Under 25
676	49%	25 to 34
364	26%	35 to 44
84	6%	45 to 54
49	4%	55 to 64
15	1%	65 or older
1388		

Are you disabled or do you have a long term limiting illness or condition?

Number	%	Response
120	9%	Yes
1290	91%	No
1410		

Please give further details below if you wish:

Number	Type if stated
10	Learning disability/difficulty (such as Down's syndrome or dyslexia) or cognitive impairment (such as autism spectrum disorder)
25	Long-standing illness or health condition (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy)
42	Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia)
4	Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia), Other
4	Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia), Long-standing illness or health condition (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy)
13	Physical or mobility impairment (such as difficulty using your arms or mobility issues which mean using a wheelchair or crutches)
3	Physical or mobility impairment (such as difficulty using your arms or mobility issues which mean using a wheelchair or crutches), Long-standing illness or health condition (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy)
2	Physical or mobility impairment (such as difficulty using your arms or mobility issues which mean using a wheelchair or crutches), Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia)
11	Sensory impairment (such as being blind or deaf or visual/hearing impaired)
2	Sensory impairment (such as being blind or deaf or visual/hearing impaired), Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia)
1	Sensory impairment (such as being blind or deaf or visual/hearing impaired), Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia), Long-standing illness or health condition (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy)
0	Other?
117	

Are you a carer?

Number	%	Response
131	9%	Yes
1288	91%	No
1419		

How do you describe your ethnic origin?

Group	Number	%	Subgroup
White	1250	90.1%	British
	6	0.4%	Irish
	27	1.9%	Any other White background
Asian or Asian British	7	0.5%	Indian
	39	2.8%	Pakistani
	1	0.1%	Bangladeshi
	0	0.0%	Kashmiri
	4	0.3%	Any other Asian background
Multiple Heritage	2	0.1%	White and Asian
	1	0.1%	White and Black African
	3	0.2%	White and Black Caribbean
	8	0.6%	Any other Mixed background
Black or Black British	0	0.0%	Caribbean
	15	1.1%	African
	3	0.2%	Any other black background
Gypsy or Traveller	0	0.0%	Gypsy/Roma
	0	0.0%	Irish Traveller
	0	0.0%	Any other Gypsy or traveller background
Chinese, Yemeni, Arab	3	0.2%	Chinese
	0	0.0%	Yemeni
	0	0.0%	Arab
Other Ethnic Group	6	0.4%	Any other ethnic group
	12	0.9%	Not Stated
Total	1387		

What is your religion or belief (if any)?

Number	%	Response
630	53.03%	Christianity
457	38.47%	No religion or belief
78	6.57%	Other (please specify)
14	1.18%	Islam
3	0.25%	Hinduism

3	0.25%	Humanism
2	0.17%	Buddhism
1	0.08%	Sikhism
0	0.00%	Judaism
1188	100%	

11 Final Word - What does the consultation tell us?

A majority of people responding to this consultation were parents, carers or childminders of children under the age of 5, who will be directly impacted by the closure of any children's centres should they go ahead. We also received responses from professionals, community groups, members and people from local communities.

People do not want centres to close. Those who agreed with the chosen centres were mostly users of centres proposed to remain open. However, this does not necessarily mean that they agree with children's centre closures. They are answering yes to the question because they agree that their centre should remain open.

People do not agree with replacing the centres with outreach but they would agree with outreach as an alternative, if there is nothing else and if it is run correctly.

People disagree with our rationale because vulnerable people live in all areas of the borough. Everyone needs a centre not just those in deprived areas. It is seen as inequality. People are often unable to travel or the transport is simply not there or not realistic. Geography should be taken in to consideration to make the remaining children's centres accessible to all. Without a local centre, many people will not access services at all.

Families value the centres. The centres have a very positive impact on children, families and the community. People like a familiar, fit for purpose, regular building with regular staff whom parents and children can build relationships with. It's about having a place to go, somewhere to socialise that is familiar, safe, secure and comfortable. A place where they know support is available and they can drop in when they need to. A place for the community to come together.

The services most important to people are those directly for children closely followed by the adult/parental groups. Accessing multiple services, including health, in one location is effective and convenient.

Children's centres are not only about the children, they are about the health and wellbeing of parents and families; the support, the social interaction for parents; and the community togetherness.

The consensus is, do not close our children's centres. If we have to close some centres, then the rationale should be reconsidered to allow realistic access to everyone across the borough. Outreach should be put in place, in each local community without a centre and should be run by regular, familiar staff in regular, familiar, safe and secure buildings that are fit for purpose.

The information in this report is the result of all data gathered from the children's centre proposed closure public consultation. The information is provided is the views and opinions of the public and has been gathered to allow the leaders of our Early Years Services to review the proposals, assess whether there should be any alterations and to put forward their final proposals to Cabinet.

12 The Survey

Have Your Say on the Future of Sure Start Children's Centres in Rotherham

We are committed to keeping you involved and are keen to listen to your views.

Please complete the following questions to help us make the best decisions on the future of Sure Start children's centre services in Rotherham.

All responses must be received no later than 5pm on Wednesday 30th April 2014

Q1 Please tick all that apply

I am a parent/carer of children aged under 5	
I am a childminder of children aged under 5	
I will be a parent soon	
I am a professional working with children under 5	
None of these	

Q2 How often do you use children's centre services in Rotherham?

Two or more times a week	
Once a week	
Once a month	
Less often than once a month	
Never	

Q3 Which is the nearest children's centre to your home?

--

Q4 Which children's centre(s) do you use (please list)?

1	
2	
3	

Q5. Our approach is to cover the most vulnerable areas in Rotherham with a Children's Centre. The chosen centres are:

- Arnold Children's Centre
- Aughton Early Years Centre
- Coleridge Children's Centre
- Maltby Stepping Stones Children's Centre
- Rawmarsh Children's Centre
- Rotherham Central Children's Centre
- Swinton Brookfield Children's Centre
- Thrybergh/Dalton Children's Centre
- Valley Children's Centre

Do you agree with the chosen centres?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

If not, please tell us why.

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Q6. We propose to deliver an outreach service to all areas

(by 'outreach', we mean activities being delivered in other buildings within the local communities) Do you agree with this proposal?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

If not, please tell us why.

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Q7 Which services do you think a Children's Centre should provide (please tick all that apply)?

Adult Learning Groups	
Baby Clinics/Groups	
Breastfeeding support	
Dads Groups	
Early Education and Childcare	
Family learning sessions	
Healthy eating and cooking sessions	
Managing on a budget	
Parenting Groups	
Prenatal Groups	
Stay and Play Sessions	
Other (please indicate)	

Q8 What impact (if any) will the proposed reduction in the number of children's centres have on you? (please tick all that apply)

No impact	
I will use children's centre services less often	
I will not use children's centres at all	
I will attend alternative (non-children's centre) activities (e.g. swimming, visiting friends, attending other local groups etc.)	
I will attend another children's centre instead	
Don't know	
Other (please indicate what)	

Q9 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on a children's centre building that is proposed to close?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

If yes, would you be interested in working with the remaining children's centres so some children's centre activity could continue in the building you take on?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

Q10 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on the daycare provision in a children's centre building that is proposed to close?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

If yes, would you be interested in working with the remaining children's centres so some children's centre activity could continue in the building you take on?

Yes		No	
-----	--	----	--

Q11 Are there any other comments you would like to make about the proposals?

Please enter your postcode in the box below

Equal Opportunities

The information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence and will only be used to monitor take up of services and ensure that no particular individual or group of people are discriminated against in the provision of service. This monitoring information could be passed on to other services of the Council, who need to use it for the same purpose.

1. What is your gender?

<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Female
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2. Is your gender identity the same as the sex you were assigned at birth?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
------------------------------	-----------------------------

3. What is your age?

4. Are you disabled or do you have a long term limiting illness or condition?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
------------------------------	-----------------------------

Please give further details below if you wish:

☐ Physical or mobility impairment (such as difficulty using your arms or mobility issues which means using a wheelchair or crutches):

☐ Sensory impairment (such as being blind or deaf or visual / hearing impairment)

☐ Mental health condition (such as depression or schizophrenia):

☐ Learning disability/difficulty (such as Down's syndrome or dyslexia) or cognitive impairment (such as autistic spectrum disorder):

☐ Long-standing illness or health condition (such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy):

☐ Other (Please Specify):

5. Are you a Carer?

A Carer is someone who looks after a partner, relative or friend who is an older person, has a disability or long term illness. The Carer may, or may not live in the same household.

☐ Yes

☐ No
6. How do you describe your ethnic origin?

<p>White</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> British</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Irish</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other white background - please specify: _____</p> <p>Asian or Asian British</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Indian</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Kashmiri</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Asian background - please specify: _____</p> <p>Multiple Heritage</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Asian and White</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Black African and White</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Black Caribbean and White</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other multiple Heritage - please specify: _____</p>	<p>Black or Black British</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> African</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other black background – please specify _____</p> <p>Gypsy or Traveller</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy/Roma</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Irish Traveller</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Gypsy or Traveller background - please specify: _____</p> <p>Chinese, Yemeni, Arab</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chinese</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yemeni</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Arab</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other Ethnic Group - please specify: _____</p>
--	--

7. What is your religion or belief (if any)?

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Buddhism</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hinduism</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Islam</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sikhism</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other please specify _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Christianity</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Humanism</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Judaism</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No religion or belief</p>
--	---

Thank you for completing this form. The information you have provided will be used to help us to improve our services to you and other people in Rotherham.

13 Glossary of Terms

Abbreviation	Explanation
RMBC	Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
CC	Children's Centre
CYPS	Children and Young Peoples Services
PND	Postnatal Depression

14 Change History

Issue	Owner	Date	Change Details
1	C Woodward	15/05/14	Initial Draft
2	C Woodward	16/05/14	Report complete
3	C Woodward	02/06/14	Removal of headers/footers for insertion in to the final report as an appendix

Appendix 2

Interpretation of the analysis of the Children's Centre public consultation

3rd February to 30th April 2014

1. Introduction and Background

Sure Start children's centres play a significant role in providing effective early childhood services for families and young children, particularly those who are recognised as being in most need of help and support. They provide a practical way of bringing together services such as health visiting, early education and childcare, family support services, employment services and adult learning into one place, plus access to more targeted services for children and families in need of them.

The 22 children's centres in Rotherham have become an integral part of life for many children under 5, as well as their parents and carers. Centres identify, reach and help all families, especially those in greatest need of support, and have a particular emphasis on improving outcomes in:

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

Rotherham has 22 designated Sure Start Children Centres across the borough. On 15th January 2014 Rotherham Borough Council gave approval for a public consultation to be undertaken on future proposals for Children's Centres in order to achieve a required budget reduction of £2.2m for the period 2014-16.

The proposals were:

- Closure of 13 registered Children's Centre buildings with a reduction to 9 Children's Centres buildings across the borough.
- These 9 children's centres buildings are then clustered to form 7 registered centres across the borough with an increased size of reach areas.
- The creation of a Foundation Years' Service across health, social care and education services.

Government Policy since 2010

Government policy has continued to acknowledge that the first few years of a child's life are fundamentally important. Evidence tells us that they shape children's future development, and influence how well children do at school, their ongoing health and wellbeing and their achievements later in life.

The Government maintains that all young children, whatever their background or current circumstances, deserve the best possible start in life and must be given the opportunity to fulfil their potential. A strong focus on the first few years of children's lives leads to huge economic, social and emotional benefits later on, both for individuals and for society as a whole.

According to the Government, children's centres, based in the community, will provide access to a range of integrated universal and targeted services to meet local need. They will coordinate and be part of a range of support for families, giving them extra help when needed and bringing in professionals with specialist skills where necessary.

However, like most other areas of government spending, funding for Sure Start and Children's Centre's has been reduced, leading to re-evaluation of the services provided by many local authorities.

Statutory definition of a Children's Centre

A Sure Start Children's Centre is defined in the Childcare Act 2006 as a place or a group of places:

- which is managed by or on behalf of, or under arrangements with, the local authority with a view to securing that early childhood services in the local authority's area are made available in an integrated way;
- through which early childhood services are made available (either by providing the services on site, or by providing advice and assistance on gaining access to services elsewhere); and
- at which activities for young children are provided.

Therefore the statutory definition of a children's centre that children's focuses upon integrated services rather than providing premises in particular geographical areas.

The Aims of the Proposals for Rotherham Children's Centres

- To continue to offer sufficient provision via children's centres to meet the needs of children and families in the Rotherham
- To ensure we continue to give support to those children and families who are in greatest need
- To deliver savings of £2.2 million by April 2015
- To continue to work with partner agencies and organisations to access a range of services for families with children under 5
- To continue to improve co-ordination and access to a range of services for families with children under 5
- To create an Early Years Foundation Service across health, social care and education.

2. The Future Shape of Children's Centre Provision

Children's centres play an important part in addressing local strategic priorities, tackling deprivation and promoting health and wellbeing, by helping to give disadvantaged young children the best start in life. The future provision of Children's Centres needs to target children from the most deprived areas whilst seeking to maintain a level of service for all parts of the Borough. This must be achieved alongside a very significant reduction in funding which sets a very difficult challenge. Whilst comprehensive coverage is currently possible with 22 children's centres, the inevitable reduction means that a balance must be struck between serving those areas of highest need and serving all areas of the borough.

The proposals set out how resources can be more focused on direct services for children under five and their families, particularly those in greatest need to deliver the required savings whilst ensuring wide coverage across the borough and continued access to a nearby centre for those children and families in greatest need. We believe that by re-focusing our resources, working closely with health, social care, schools, private and voluntary sectors, including volunteers plus delivering services where they are most needed, we will maximise what children's centres and early years services can achieve.

Rationale used to underpin proposals

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that sufficient children's centres are readily accessible to those most in need. The GP data (as of 31st March 2013*) showing the number of children under five living in the most disadvantaged 30% super output areas, (index of multiple deprivation 2010**), which was used to determine which children's centre buildings would be proposed to stay open and which would be proposed to close or given an alternative early years usage.

It is proposed to keep open the children centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age living in the most disadvantaged areas. When evaluated, this equates to having 7 children centre areas (incorporating 9 buildings) across the borough. It is proposed to extend the reach area of the Centres remaining open and to provide outreach services in those areas that do not have ready access to a main children's centre building. By outreach we are referring to activities being delivered in other buildings within the local communities.

Children's Centre Buildings Proposed to Stay Open

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Arnold Children's Centre	597
Aughton Early Years Centre	411
Coleridge Children's Centre	970
Maltby Stepping Stones	727
Rawmarsh Children's Centre	888
Rotherham Central	725
Swinton Brookfield Children's Centre	636
Thrybergh Dalton Children's Centre	610
Valley Children's Centre	524

Children's Centre Buildings proposed to Close/Alternative Usage Options

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Cortonwood Children's Centre	211
Dinnington Children's Centre	352
Kimberworth Children's Centre	308
Marcliff Children's Centre	0
Meadows Children's Centre	206
Park View Children's Centre	345
Rockingham Children's Centre	261
Ryton Brook Children's Centre	67
Silver Birch Children's Centre	138
Sue Walker Children's Centre	0
Thorpe Hesley Children's Centre	0
Thurcroft Children's Centre	189
Wath Victoria Children's Centre	374

*Number of children under 5 years of age based on GP data as of the 31st March 2013

** Most disadvantaged 30% SOA areas as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010(IMD)

Please note in the table above, Marcliffe, Thorpe Hesley and Sue Walker Children's Centres show zero children living in the 30% SOA. Please note that in these areas children under 5 accessing the centre are from outside of the 30% SOA areas.



Creation of a Foundation Years Service

It is proposed to create a Foundation Years' Service with Children Centres working together with health partners, social care, voluntary sector, parents, schools and early education and child care providers, to continue to deliver services in local communities which improve outcomes for all children under 5 and their families, particularly those in need of support. All partners will deliver services for children aged 0-5 and their families within local communities. Outreach workers will continue to deliver services in those communities where buildings are proposed to close by using alternative venues and working in partnership with other service providers.




3. Consultation Activities Undertaken

Following Cabinet approval to consult on the proposals for Children's Centres, we undertook a borough-wide public consultation exercise with parents, carers, the community and stakeholders. The consultation was launched on the 3rd February 2014 and concluded on the 30th April 2014.

How the consultation was promoted and publicised

- Information was published on the RMBC website.
-  CCConsultation@rotherham.gov.uk
-  www.rotherham.gov.uk enter “have your say on childrens centres closures” in the search engine

People could also make their views known

-  In person at a Children’s Centre of their choice
-  Complete and submit a hard copy of the online questionnaire.
-  Or through letters and letters

- Other activities undertaken included:
 - Issuing regular press releases
 - Participating in media interviews
 - Publishing articles in stakeholder newsletters
- Regular meetings with the following stakeholder groups:
 - Unions
 - Meetings with Children Centre Leaders
 - Children Centre Executive Headteachers
 - Chairs and Vice Chairs of Governing Bodies
 - Lead Teachers meetings
 - Dinnington School Governing Body
 - Learning Communities Representatives
 - Deprived Communities Team Meeting
 - School Effectiveness Briefing
 - Health Partners
 - Parish Councillors meeting on 15th April 2014

Public Meetings Held

Date/Time	Children’s Centres	Venue
Thursday 6 th February 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
Monday 17 th February 2014 6.00pm - 7.00pm	Coleridge	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Wednesday 12 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Rawmarsh Community School Haugh Road Rawmarsh Rotherham S62 7GA
Thursday 20 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Brookfield Wath Victoria Cortonwood	Wath Comprehensive School Sandygate Wath upon Dearne Rotherham S63 7NW

Date/Time	Children's Centres	Venue
Tuesday 25 th March 2014 4.00 – 5.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Ferham Primary School Ferham Road Rotherham S61 1AP
Thursday 27 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Valley Arnold	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Monday 31 st March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Thurcroft Infant School Locksley Drive Thurcroft Rotherham S66 9NT
Wednesday 2 nd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Flanderwell Primary School Greenfield Court Flanderwell Rotherham S66 2JF
Thursday 3 rd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Wales High School Storth Lane Kiveton Park Sheffield S26 5QQ
Monday 7 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington Ryton Brook	Dinnington Community Primary School School Street Dinnington Sheffield, S25 2RE
Tuesday 8 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall Rosegarth Avenue Aston Sheffield S26 2DD
Wednesday 9 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington	Maltby Craggs Community School Strauss Crescent Maltby Rotherham, S66 7QJ
Monday 28 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
22.4.14 10.00 am -11am	Meadows Children Centre	Catcliffe Parish Hall

A Foundation Years practitioners and wider stakeholder consultation event took place on 2nd April 2014

4. Analysis of Consultation responses

Main information arising from the consultation

1746 people responded to the consultation survey. The majority of responses were from parents or carers (81.6%) and 82% are using the centres at least once a week.

- 44% of the respondents said that their nearest centre is one of the ones proposed to stay open and 48% of the respondents said that their nearest centre is one of the ones proposed to close. The remainder were centres not recognised or out of area.
- 41.5% of respondents said that they use one of the centres proposed to stay open, 50.3% said that they use one of the centres proposed to close. Note that some people selected more than one centre. The remaining 8.3% were centres not recognised or out of area.
- 43% of respondents agree with the chosen centres (57% disagree) and 58% of respondents agree with outreach proposals (42% disagree).
- The top 3 services listed when asked what a children's centre should provide were all child specific services: baby clinics/groups; stay and play sessions; early education and childcare. The remainder were adult focused groups such as parenting groups; breastfeeding groups and dads groups.
- When asked about impact, 34.3% of respondents said that they will not use a children's centre at all and 17.7% said that they will use them less often.
- The top 3 themes coming out of the consultation comments sections were: travel and location; the community and social impact; and the direct impact on children.
- 186 respondents said that they would be willing to take on a centre proposed to close, 173 of which would be interested in working with the remaining centres to continue children's centre activities. 142 respondents said that they would be willing to take on the day care provision in a centre proposed to close. However, only 101 of all respondents left contact details. No proposals were given at this stage.

Highlights from respondents living in an area of 30% or less IMD score

On the survey, we asked respondents for their post codes. This has allowed us to see whether respondents live in the areas of most deprivation, ultimately, where we have proposed to keep a children's centre open; or whether they lived outside of these areas, where ultimately, we have proposed to close the children's centres.

Of the 1746 respondents, 796 of them (45.6%) live in the most deprived areas (30% or less IMD score), 857 (49%) live in other areas of the borough and 93 (5.3%) did not supply their postcode or were out of area. This shows that 4% less people from deprived areas responded to the survey.

Of those 796 respondents in the most deprived areas, 51.7% agreed with the proposed centres and 62.3% agreed with the outreach proposals. This shows that not everyone in the most deprived areas agreed with the proposals.

Conclusions drawn from the analysis of respondents comments from the Children's Centre public survey

Questions 1 to 10 on the public survey

Questions 1- What is your status?

Question 2- How often do you use children's centre services in Rotherham?

Who responded to the consultation and how often do they use the CC services in Rotherham?

The majority of respondents to the public consultation were parents and carers (81.6%) who are current users or potential user of Rotherham Children Centres', and 82% are using the centre at least once a week. This shows that the majority of respondents to this public consultation will be affected by the proposals/ particularly where a Children Centre is proposed to close. This demonstrated that people in local communities value greatly their local CC and the services it offers for the benefit of their families and children, as well as being interested in having their view heard regarding the proposed CC closures

Questions 3 – Which is the nearest children's centre to your home?

Question 4- Which children's centre do you use?

Of the respondents to the public consultation it was not only people living near a centre proposed to close that responded, (highest number 123 Silver Birch, number of times selected 159 – 118 Wath Victoria, number of times selected 138- 91 Kimberworth, number of times selected 115), but in fact, some of the highest numbers were from people living near a centre proposed to stay open (Number of responses received-196- Arnold Centre, number of times selected 227 150- Aughton number of times selected 147 – 116 Swinton (Brookfield), number of times selected 128. Again this shows the wealth of interest from local communities in ensuring parents/users views are taken into consideration as part of this public consultation

Question 5- Our approach is to cover the most vulnerable areas in Rotherham with a Children's Centre. The chosen centres are:

- Arnold Children's Centre
- Aughton Early Years Centre
- Coleridge Children's Centre
- Maltby Stepping Stones Children's Centre
- Rawmarsh Children's Centre
- Rotherham Central Children's Centre
- Swinton Brookfield Children's Centre
- Thrybergh/Dalton Children's Centre
- Valley Children's Centre

Do you agree with the chosen centres?

Of the 1746 responses received, 745 (43%) agreed to the proposed list of Children Centres to close, whilst 1001 (57%) disagreed. This is a difference of 14% more respondents disagreeing to the proposal list of Children Centres to close, than agreeing. Of those respondents in the most deprived areas 51.7% agreed with the proposed Centres to close. However, this also shows that nearly half of the respondents living in a deprived area where centres are proposed to remain open still do not agree with the proposed centres to close.

Of those respondents who say that they use one of the centres proposed to stay open, 77.19% agree with these Centres remaining open: - highest 85.2% The Arnold Centre, 81.82% Coleridge, 80.43% Valley In comparison 90.4% of respondents who say they use one of the centres proposed to close disagree with these centres closing- highest Silver Birch 138, Wath V 124 and Kimberworth 103.

There is a strong feeling from respondents that proposed Children's Centres to close should not close, due to (highest number of occurring themes received) perceived increased travel and cost of travel to the centres remaining open; the impact of a 'loss' of a centre on the community, limiting social interaction and increased isolation; impact on the children, in relation to their development, transition to school, their education and attainment levels

Question 6 –We propose to deliver an outreach service to all areas

(by 'outreach', we mean activities being delivered in other buildings within the local communities)

Do you agree with the proposal for outreach services?

The majority of respondents (58%) agreed with the outreach proposals. Of these 62.3% of respondents living in the most deprived areas (30% or less IMD) also agreed with the outreach proposals.

42% of all respondents disagreed with the outreach proposals. The top 4 reasons given for disagreeing with the outreach proposals were related to:

- The current centre buildings are purpose built. Community buildings may not be available or suitable
- The location of and travelling to outreach services
- Familiarity and consistency of service, location and staff; routine and stability; feeling safe, secure and comfortable
- Outreach will be inadequate, insufficient and the quality of service will drop.

The full responses can be found **Appendix 1 (Report on the Data and Themes from the Children's Centre Public Consultation)** and should be taken into consideration when planning and implementing changes to children's centres delivery.

However, it appears that respondents are in favour of the proposal to deliver an outreach service to all areas, (by outreach we mean activities being delivered in other buildings within local communities).

Question 7 Which services do you think a children's centre should provide?

The high numbers selected by respondents when asked what services a children's centre should provide, demonstrated that all the services listed in the survey are valued. The top 3 services identified were all child specific services: baby clinics/groups; stay and play sessions; early education and childcare. The remainder were adult focused groups such as parenting groups; breastfeeding groups and dads groups. This suggests that the priority for future service delivery should be based on the child focused services, followed by parenting/family services.

Question 8 What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?

34.3% of respondents said that they will not use a children's centre at all and 17.7% said that they will use them less often. This means that the reduction of children centre buildings could have an impact if families are choosing not to access the remaining centres. Therefore there is a risk of some families experiencing issues which may not be picked up early enough and could escalate. Consideration should be given to how access and take up of services is retained. This would need to continue to be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Expressions of interests for continued use of Children's Centre Buildings

As part of the consultation process we sought expressions of interest from members of the public, wider stakeholders, schools, staff, private and voluntary childcare providers and the community. This relates to Q9 and Q10 below:

Q9 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on a children's centre building that is proposed to close?

If yes, would you be interested in working with the remaining children's centres so some children's centre activity could continue in the building you take on?

Q10 Would you or your organisation be willing to take on the daycare provision in a children's centre building that is proposed to close?

If yes, would you be interested in working with the remaining children's centres so some children's centre activity could continue in the building you take on?

The questions were asked to find out if there would be an interest from other parties in taking on the childcare and or to deliver early years services if a Children's Centre building is identified to close.

From the online survey 186 respondents said that they would be willing to take on a centre proposed to close, 173 of which would be interested in working with the remaining centres to continue children's centre activities.

142 respondents said that they would be willing to take on the day care provision in a centre proposed to close.

It is important to note that in relation to questions 9 and 10 that only 101 of all respondents left contact details. Some responses were from parents who may not have fully appreciated the implications of the questions they were responding to.

We also received 31 contacts via emails and letters expressing an interest in the centres. The table below gives an indication of the number of specific expressions of interest received.

Children's Centre	Number of Expressions of Interest from schools and private and voluntary providers
Rockingham	1
Park View (Kimberworth Park)	1
Wath Victoria	3
Cortonwood	2
Sue Walker (Kiveton Park)	2
Thurcroft	1
Dinnington	1
Ryton Brook	1
Silver Birch (Flanderwell)	3
Marcliff (Listerdale)	1
Meadows (Catcliffe)	1
Thorpe Hesley	1 (verbal enquiry)
Kimberworth	1 (verbal enquiry)
Valley	1

A letter was received from Sarah Champion MP in response to the public consultation. It requested that the Council, as an outcome of the current consultation, commits to consider a co-operative option as a potentially viable alternative to the proposed children centre building closures that have been consulted on. The request acknowledged that if the Council agreed, further time would be required for a fully detailed proposal to be produced on a co-operative model. This additional time requirement would be likely to impact on the current timescale to implement proposed new arrangements for Children Centre delivery by 1st April 2015. Based on the timescale suggested in Sarah Champion's proposal, it is estimated that the implementation would be likely to slip to 1st July 2015.

The co-operative model proposes to retain all Children Centre buildings. The cost is estimated to be £1.1 million to keep all buildings. Therefore the Council would not be in a position to make the required budget efficiencies within the required time period.

Next Steps for taking expressions of interest forward

The buildings proposals process agreed by Cabinet on the 19th May 2014 will be implemented. Formal applications will be considered from schools with a Children's Centre building on site in the first instance. If an application from a school is not successful or no schools apply, applications will then be

accepted from existing childcare staff for continuation of the childcare delivery and potential organisations / individuals for the childcare / community services areas. See the timelines below for more details:

Timeline for School Applications	
Date	Action
1.7.14	Proposed date for formal application process to be opened for schools with Children Centre buildings on site to apply for running of centre building, services and or childcare where relevant
31.7.14	Proposed end date for applications to be received by the LA
1.8.14	Proposed date for Applications to be assessed
6.8.14	Proposed date for successful applicants to be informed
7.8.14	Proposed date for communication to public regarding centres were there has been a successful application from a school , enabling continued delivery of childcare /delivery of early years services from the community building

Timeline for Staff Applications for Childcare Delivery	
Date	Action
6.8.14	Proposed date for formal application process to be opened for existing childcare staff for childcare provision
5.9.14	Proposed end date for Applications to be received by the LA
8.9.14	Proposed date for Applications to be assessed
10.9.14	Proposed date for successful applicants to be informed
11.9.14	Proposed date for communication to public regarding centres were there has been a successful application from staff

Timeline for External Organisations / Individual Applications	
Date	Action
6.8.14	Proposed date for formal application process to be opened for external organisations / individuals for the community/childcare element of the building
5.9.14	Proposed end date for applications to be received by the LA
8.9.14	Proposed date for Applications to be assessed
10.9.14	Proposed date for successful applicants to be informed
11.9.14	Proposed date for communication to the public regarding centres were there has been a successful application from an external organisation / individual for the community /childcare element of the building

Final Decisions / Transitions	
Date	Action
11.9.14	Proposed date for public communication regarding any Children Centre building that is definitely close by 31 st March 2015
October 2014- March	LA to work with successful applicants to ensure a smooth transition for both children, families and staff

2015	
1.4.15	Contracts issued to successful childcare/children centre service providers

We anticipate that this process should be successful in identifying sufficient providers to take on the buildings/childcare provision where Centres are identified to close. However if we are not successful the DfE will claw- back the capital investment which has been put into the centres which close.

Support for Potential Applicants

A three hour Ready for Business 'Introductory Workshop' will be provided by RiDO on Wednesday 16th July 6.00 – 9.00 pm for any schools / new organisations interested in applying to take over the Children's Centre buildings.

Rationale used as part of the Children Centre public consultation

Our proposal is to keep Children Centre buildings open in the most disadvantaged areas, in order to target services where there is the most need by children and families

Respondents challenged the proposed rationale, and suggested other alternatives, including other measures of deprivation; present usage of children/families individual Children Centre building; performance; cost of each individual Children Centre.

The index of Multiple Deprivation measure 2010 (which does include disabled parents and children) includes data on the following areas for the most deprived Super output areas across Rotherham

- Income Deprivation
- Employment Deprivation
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education and Skills and Training Deprivation
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Living Environment Deprivation
- Crime

However the Index of Multiple Deprivation measure is a measure across the whole population. Other measures such as the Child Wellbeing Index (2009) and the Children and Young People's education rankings could provide an increased focus on children's outcomes. However taking these factors into account does not change the proposed identified 9 centre buildings to remain open.

Taking up views of respondents as to why the rationale is based on IMD data from 2010, rather than more up to date data, this is the most up to date national data set that provides information to identify the most disadvantaged super output areas across Rotherham

Usage of centres

Respondents asked if the usage/attendance of centres had been taken into consideration when identifying centres proposed to close or stay open. The rationale is based on the reaching children and families in highest need. When looking at all children and families seen at any Centre, the majority (8) of the 9 Centres proposed to stay open are in the 12 centres with the highest number of children/families accessing them (this includes children accessing centre services who do not live within the reach area). Silver Birch CC is the second highest on the numbers of children aged under 5 years and families accessing services usage. However, only 138 of the children in their reach area live in the 30% most disadvantaged SOA, and therefore this centre is proposed to close.

Performance

Respondents stated that the rationale should consider performance of centres when proposing which centres should close. When judging performance by percentages of target groups seen, then yes, some centres with the highest performance are proposed for closure. However, as these Centres also have a smaller reach area / number of children living in nationally identified disadvantaged areas then, with the exception of Silver Birch Children's Centre they are working with fewer families than other centres proposed to remain open. When judging performance by Ofsted inspection outcomes, out of the 9 centre building proposed to remain open, 1 has an outstanding judgement; 7 good and 1 requires improvement. This compares to 13 centre building proposed to close, of which 9 are good; 2 are with either satisfactory or Requires Improvement, and 2 are awaiting an Ofsted inspection. It is therefore difficult to compare performance as several centres have been inspected under a new revised Ofsted framework, as two are awaiting an inspection.

Cost of centres

Another criteria to consider as an alternative to the rationale as commented by respondents, is to look at the running costs of each building with the possibility of keeping open the ones that cost the least to run. Taking into consideration the cheapest running costs of a Children Centre building does not correlate access to Children Centre buildings in areas of highest need. The cost of each Children Centre building has evolved in relation to the initial Children Centre building programme and therefore the cost of each building varies. The building costs also reflect whether the building is standalone, or is integrated within a school or a nursery school, or is a small single room extension to an existing building. Therefore the range and number of differing variables does not allow a fair parity and comparison between the running costs of buildings.

How will an increase in the birth rate and new housing developments impact on the future access to Children Centre services, if there is a reduction of Children Centre buildings?

Rotherham is projected to have a population of 262,100 in 2015, with 16,700 aged between 0-4 years. Early Years numbers are projected to peak at 16,900 in 2016 before reducing very slowly to 16,400 in 2021. Based on GP data 1st April 2013, the most deprived areas tend to have a higher proportion of children aged 0-4 than average which is reflected in the number living in the most deprived 30% of areas. It is Rotherham South (Arnold, Coleridge and Valley Children Centres), Wentworth South (Rawmarsh, Thrybergh and Dalton Children Centres); Rotherham North (Central, Kimberworth, Park View and Rockingham Children Centres) and Wentworth North (Brookfield, Wath and Cortonwood Children Centres), which have the highest numbers living in the areas of high deprivation. These 4 areas are home to 60% of children under 5, and 74% of those from the most deprived areas. In each case, the majority of children under 5 live in areas within the 30% most deprived.

There are a few locations where the scale of proposed housing development could have a significant impact on the future need for Children Centres, namely:

- Waverley and Treeton (Rother Valley West) – Aughton and Meadows CC
- Manvers, Wath and Brampton (Wentworth North) – Brookfield, Wath and Cortonwood CC
- Rotherham Urban Area (inc Bassingthorpe Farm) Kimberworth, Park View, Rockingham CC

The increase in the potential numbers of 0-4 year old children would generate additional demand for childcare and both universal and targeted Foundation Years services. The location of planned development would thus increase the need for children's Centres in Rother Valley West (Aughton/Meadows CC), Rotherham North (Kimberworth/Park View /Rockingham) and Wentworth North (Wath, Brookfield and Cortonwood). Where a new school is proposed to be built in the future within any new housing development then the potential for including accommodation for an integrated Foundation Years outreach service on the school site will be explored.

Narrative comments from respondents for questions 5/6 and any other further comments made relating to the proposals (see appendix 1 pages 21 onwards). These comments were received through the on line survey; hard copies; through public consultation meetings and letters.

The analysis of these comments have been summarised under recurring themes (**in order of frequency of comments made**).

Travel/Location

- The most recurring theme is the potential direct impact on parents of closing Centre buildings on the additional travel, and cost to access services at the remaining Children Centre buildings. This could result in people not accessing Children Centre services in the future. Respondents felt that having a centre in walking distance allows access to all children and families. Not everybody has transport, nor can afford transport costs, or be able to travel with young and/or disabled SEND children. Poor transport links mean that some areas don't have realistic access to a

centre at all. This was a recurring theme from the public consultation, and needs to be considered. The LA is not required to provide a Centre building in walking distance. However, they are required to provide access to services locally.

Community/Social

- People want to keep a local Children's Centre in order to maintain a central place to meet others in the local area and bring the community together, and support each other. Without a centre people will become isolated which could lead to increased levels of depression, isolation and loneliness for parents, families and children. Therefore this could lead longer term, to increased pressures on Health and Social Care services.

Child impact

- Respondents commented that Children's Centres offer children a good start in life. They provide a place for children to socialise with other children, learn life skills and begin their education. Respondents stated that the future of their children will be affected if they do not have a local centre, including their child's long term attainment, attendance and education. There is a potential of an increase in 'missed' safeguarding issues for children, if there wasn't a local Children's Centre.
- **Child care and employment** -people were concerned about what might happen to the childcare service if the children's centre building closed. They considered it an essential service for many particularly those who depend on it to be able to work. If the childcare was not available there would be a direct impact on the child and the employment of parents who depend on childcare.
- Out of the 13 Children Centre buildings proposed to close, only 7 have childcare service provision on site. 142 respondents to the on line survey questionnaire said they would be willing to take on the day care provision in a Children Centre building proposed to close. Please note that the majority of respondents have not gone into the details as to how they would continue to operate the day care services. The LA has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient childcare places across Rotherham. This suggests that other parties would be interested in exploring the potential of continuing to run day care provision in centre building proposed to close.

Buildings

- Respondents value the Children Centre building as a very important part of the service. They commented that Children Centre buildings are built for purpose, safe and secure, provide everything under one roof; and provide stability and familiarity for both children and families. The use of community buildings in local areas where Children Centre buildings are too close, will not be 'fit for purpose', could be unsafe; not secure and result in people not attending services at these buildings. Respondents stated that some areas of the borough may not have suitable community buildings available.

Support

- Parents really value the support that they and their children receive from the centres and the access to experienced and skilled staff which positively impacts on the whole family. To some the support they receive is a 'lifeline'. Without a centre people will not have somewhere to go for advice and information.

Staff

- Respondents value highly the Children Centre staff, and have established relationships, bonds and trust with them. Staff are experienced, knowledgeable and very skilled and 'go that extra mile' to support children and families. Many people commented that staff should not change as part of this review, as both children and families have already established secure attachments with the staff in individual centres. If the staff were to be changed or be 'lost' through restructuring, this would negatively impact on the quality of service. Children's level of emotional attachment with key workers would also be affected in detrimental way. Parents may not continue to use Children Centre services as a result.

Activities/groups/sessions: people said they really value the groups, activities, classes, courses etc. run at centres for both children and adults and there is a need for these services to continue. If services ceased it would impact on child development and the future of families.

Capacity: Respondents expressed concern over the capacity of the centres that remain open and how they would cope with the larger reach areas. People said centres and groups will be oversubscribed with the quality of the service dropping as a result and services becoming more stretched.

Outreach: some respondents said it could work in principal if it is planned right. It would need to have a very good communication strategy in place to ensure that all parents are aware of what is happening, where and when. Services need to be regular, reliable and in suitable settings, of a good quality and run by professionals. Outreach needs to be community focused and based locally to encourage people to use it. They should be run from children's centres to provide a familiar, stable and suitable environment.

Some respondents said outreach services cannot provide the same level of service as children's centres. They will be inadequate and insufficient and don't cater for child care

Partnership working with other services

Respondents said centres provide a central place for many services including health services. Not having services working together under one roof will not only impact on children and families, but will impact on services such as the Health service and Social services further down the line.

Who is vulnerable?

Risks to vulnerable children and families

- Respondents commented that Children Centre services reach out to vulnerable people in all areas, and help to identify risks early on. Supporting parents through difficult times; helping to identify problems, including through post natal depression and providing the right advice and information and contacts has been a 'lifeline' for some. Without this support, if some centres closed, this would place vulnerable people and children at further risk, as issues would not be identified earlier and go undetected.

Respondents' comments questioned *what makes one person disadvantaged as opposed to another?* They stated that *not only deprived people of Rotherham are vulnerable and need access to a Centre...Everyone needs the service and support no matter what area they live in, what their status is or what is defined as their level of deprivations.....Parents and children are vulnerable no matter where they live.*

Respondents really value Children Centre Services, group activities and the support, advice and information they receive. A reduction of Children Centres will impact on a reduced number of children and families accessing these services, including the most vulnerable. For some families this service provision is a 'lifeline'. Respondents are concerned that a reduction of Children's Centres will result in an increase of vulnerable families and children being at 'greater risk', with a reduction of 'drop in' sessions. Therefore early identification of vulnerable children and families issues and difficulties may be missed, raising increased incidences of safeguarding, which longer term would impact on increased services/caseloads being required for vulnerable families and children longer term.

Respondents are also concerned that a reduction of Children Centre buildings may result in increased pressure on the capacity of the remaining centres, leading to larger reach areas; oversubscription, and a drop in the quality of services delivered.

Consideration needs to be given in ensuring there is sufficient access to Children Centre services across the borough, particularly for those who are most vulnerable. This is proposed to be met by the Children Centre outreach team delivering services.

Increased and improved partnership with Health and the wider Early Years workforce, through the development of a Foundation Years' service should also address the above concerns. It will be imperative that communities have information as to what services are available in their locality and how to access these, and that the wider Early Years workforce is able to support and signpost access to appropriate local services.

Geographical distribution/clustering of centres

Respondents expressed their perception that some parts of the borough are *'getting more than others....Based on the current rationale the buildings proposed to remain open are concentrated in the centre of Rotherham, rather*

than outlying areas. However, the highest concentration of deprivation is in the central area of Rotherham. Respondents feel that the spread of centres proposed to remain open regarding their geographical distribution is not equal....Too many are closing, leaving insufficient coverage... there are large parts of the borough which are left without anything in their area, whilst some have the option of more than one centre to access... why can't you make sure the 7 remaining Children Centres are spread evenly across the borough?

Consideration needs to be given to addressing respondents concerns and views regarding perceived inequality of geographical distribution of the number of Children Centres proposed to remain open across Rotherham. In addition, this links to respondents concerns regarding the impact of 'losing centres' and the potential for reduced numbers of children and families accessing Children Centre services, in the future, including the most vulnerable.

Ideas and suggestions for the future of the service

We also received comments and views about the future of the Children Centre services. These included suggestions of the Council to use other funding, private providers/schools take on the Children Centre buildings, review of staffing, and opportunities to create further revenue and income sources. Some of these avenues have already been considered and implemented, eg staffing in childcare provision.

Partnership working

There are lot of positive comments and views from respondents with regard to effective partnership working that is already in place within Children Centre service delivery. Many respondents described the significant impact and difference accessing a Children Centre had made to improving their lives.

The recurring themes raised by respondents throughout this public consultation need to be considered as part of the decision making process regarding the proposals for Children Centre delivery from the 1st April 2015

5. Summary of findings from the public consultation

- Respondents really value the quality of services, the support they and their children receive from experienced staff across Rotherham's Children Centres, especially the baby clinic service; stay and play and childcare
- Respondents value that the Children Centre buildings are 'fit for purpose' and provide a welcoming community hub
- Respondents consider that organisations/services work well in partnership to deliver services.
- The majority of respondents do not agree to the proposal to close children Centre buildings.
- Respondents are concerned about the impact of the proposed reduction in the number of Children Centre buildings will have on their own and their children's ability to access the remaining centres proposed to stay open, including the most vulnerable children and families and; fairness of geographical distribution; and communities feeling isolated

- Respondents questioned the rationale used and felt that other criteria should also be considered to decide which centres are proposed to remain open and those proposed to close.
- The majority of respondents agree to the proposed outreach service, but have concerns about the effectiveness and quality of the service if delivered from other buildings in a local community.

6. Conclusion and recommendations

Consideration from information and views received from respondents as an outcome of the Children's Centre public consultation appears to suggest further consideration should be given to the initial proposal. This is in terms of the number of centre buildings proposed to close, in order that a more even geographical distribution is achieved, enabling more children and families, including this most vulnerable children and families, are able to more readily access a children's centre building.

On the basis of the rationale used throughout this public consultation; where Centre buildings are proposed to remain open (if they have more than 400 children living in the 30% most deprived SOA), the proposal should be reconsidered to include a further 3 Children Centre buildings to remain open. This would support respondents concerns regarding the following issues: travel and equity of geographical spread of proposed centre buildings in some areas across the Borough.

The additional proposed Centres to remain open are Wath Victoria Children's Centre building (374 children living in the most 30% SOA); Dinnington Children's Centre building (352 children living in the most 30% SOA) and Park View Children's Centre building (345 children living in the most 30% SOA. These 3 Children's Centres are the next Centres which have the highest number of children living in the 30% most deprived SOA.

If it was considered to increase the number of Centre buildings from 9 to 12, it would increase the number of families and children able to access a Children's Centre building in their locality, including the most vulnerable. These are as follows:

In the period 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014:

- 10,571 Rotherham children aged under 5 years accessed Children's Centre services at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 59% of those children seen accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 75% if the 3 additional centres were to remain open
- 6,278 Rotherham children aged under 5 years living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 74% of those children seen living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

- 3,002 Rotherham children aged under 5 years and living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre.
 - 71% of those children seen living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

The rationale is to keep Children Centre buildings open in the most disadvantaged areas

As of 1st April 2013

- 80% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%, if the 3 additional centres were to remain open
- 61% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 73%
- 71% of all children living in a SOA within a 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%
- 61% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 74%
- 61% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 72%
- 58% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years lives in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 71%

This would result in one or more Children's Centre buildings located in each of the 7 Health locality team areas, and 7 Area Assembly boundaries. This addresses some respondent's views regarding the need to align Children's Centre buildings to both Health and Area Assemblies. If Dinnington Children's Centre building remained open, this would mean that each of the 11 deprived neighbourhood communities would have a Children Centre building. If Wath Children's Centre building remained open this would take into consideration the particularly high prevalence of disabled parents in the Wath area.

The cost of retaining 3 additional centre buildings and services will be £350,000

7. Recommendations of options based on the findings from the public consultation

Option 1

1. Accept the original proposals, of retaining the 9 identified Children's Centre buildings, and closing the remaining 13 identified Children Centre buildings.

OR

Option 2

2. To retain 3 additional Children Centre buildings in addition to the original proposal. These are Wath Victoria Children's Centre (Wentworth North); Dinnington Children's Centre (Rother Valley South) and Park View Children's Centre (Rotherham North)

Frances Hunt – Assistant Head of School Effectiveness Service (Birth to 11)

Mary Smith – Early Years and Child Care Strategy Manager

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Decision making, Projects, Policies, Services, Strategies or Functions
(CDDPPSSF)**

<p>Under the Equality Act 2010 Protected characteristics are age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexuality, civil partnerships and marriage, pregnancy and maternity. Page 6 of guidance. Other areas to note see guidance appendix 1</p>	
<p>Name of policy, service or function. If a policy, list any associated policies:</p>	<p>Early Years and Childcare Services including Children's Centres</p>
<p>Name of service and Directorate</p>	<p>Early Years and Childcare Services (including children's centres), Children and Young People's Services</p>
<p>Lead manager</p>	<p>Mary Smith</p>
<p>Date of Equality Analysis (EA)</p>	<p>21/01/2014</p>
<p>Names of those involved in the EA (Should include at least two other people)</p>	<p>Mary Smith Dorothy Smith Frances Hunt Paul Fitzpatrick Sue Wilson Zahid Qureshie Stuart Fletcher</p>
<p>Aim/Scope (who the Policy /Service affects and intended outcomes if known) See page 7 of guidance step 1</p> <p>Context</p> <p>Rotherham has 22 Children's Centres which aim to provide integrated services for all children under five years of age and their families, particularly those most in need. These services include but are not limited to: early education and childcare provision, access to health services, information and advice, individual family support, parenting programmes, outreach services, adult learning, training and links to Job Centre Plus services. Therefore Children's Centres are tasked to provide access to universal and targeted services for all children, including but not limited to the following protected characteristic groups BME, workless households, teenage mothers, lone parents, children living in the most deprived areas (30% Super Output Areas), disabled parents, male carers and targeted fathers.</p> <p>Each Centre has a designated reach area although children and families can attend any children's centre in the borough. The centres regularly monitor who and who does not access services and the impact services have on improving outcomes for children and families particularly the most vulnerable. Users and non - service users are also consulted to inform and shape local service delivery plus increase engagement and access to services.</p> <p>Statutory definition of a Children's Centre</p> <p>A Sure Start Children's Centre is defined in the Childcare Act 2006 as a place or a group of places:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which is managed by or on behalf of, or under arrangements with, the local authority with a view to securing that early childhood services in the local authority's area are made available in an integrated way; • through which early childhood services are made available (either by providing the services on site, or by providing advice and assistance on gaining access to services elsewhere); and • at which activities for young children are provided. 	

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It follows from the statutory definition of a children's centre that children's centres are as much about making appropriate and integrated services available, as it is about providing premises in particular geographical areas.

Centres identify, reach and help all families, especially those in greatest need of support, and have a particular emphasis on improving outcomes.

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

A children's centre should make available universal and targeted early childhood services to children under 5 years of age and their families, either by providing the services at the centre itself or by providing advice and assistance to parents (mothers and fathers) and prospective parents in accessing services provided elsewhere.

This Equalities Analysis has been undertaken to identify the potential impact of proposed changes to children's centres delivery from 1st April 2015 which Cabinet agreed (15th January 2014) could go out to public consultation. This is an evolving EA, which will be monitored on a regular basis and have additional information added to it as required.

In determining this proposal implications relating to the Public Sector Equality Duty will be considered in all cases. These are :

(a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;

(b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

(c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.'

The proposal considered here will ensure that all equality considerations will be taken on board to help mitigate any disproportionate or negative impact on any "Protected characteristic" or our deprived communities. This is evidenced in our rationale to reviewing Children's Centre service provision to keep open the children centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age (GP data 31.3.13) living in the 30% most disadvantaged super output areas as measured nationally by the Index of Multiple Disadvantage (IMD) 2010 locally. Also current usage data is available for each children's centre which shows data broken down by race, gender and disability. Any proposal adopted will continue to monitor usage to ensure equality in service delivery continues.

Further, equality monitoring of all consultees shows inclusivity in the consultation process by BME, women and disabled respondents that is more or less proportionate to the demographic profiles of the borough. The disaggregated data shows that there are significant number of BME and disabled respondents who agree with the two key questions (chosen centres and outreach provision). A more detailed analysis of the consultation process is contained in **Appendix A**

The Proposals – Children Centre services will continue to be delivered in all communities, particularly for those in most need. However in light of the significant budget reduction of

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2.2m, services will be delivered differently by keeping 9 children's centre buildings open and delivering outreach services to those communities where 13 children's centre buildings are proposed to close. Expressions of interest will be sought from schools, staff, private and voluntary childcare providers and other organisations to take on the 13 buildings to continue delivery of childcare provision and children centre services. The 9 children centre buildings proposed to remain open will be clustered to form 7 designated Children's Centres across the borough with an outreach service delivering services in all local communities.

It is proposed to create a Foundation Years' Service with Children Centres working together with health partners, social care, voluntary sector, parents, schools and early education and child care providers, to continue to deliver services in local communities, which improves outcomes for all children under 5 and their families, particularly those in need of support. All partners will continue to deliver services for children aged 0-5 and their families within local communities. For example:

- Ante natal and post natal services
- Healthy Child Programme
- Free Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds
- Free early education for the vulnerable 2 year old

Outreach workers will continue to deliver services in those communities where buildings are proposed to close by using alternative venues and working in partnership with other service providers.

The Rationale - underpinning the proposals is to ensure that sufficient children's centres are readily accessible in areas of highest need. The GP data* (31st March 2013) showing the number of children under fives living in the most 30% disadvantaged super output areas** (index of multiple deprivation 2010), was used to determine which buildings would be proposed to remain open and which proposed to close.

It is proposed to keep open the children centre buildings where there are more than 400 vulnerable children under 5 years of age living in the most disadvantaged areas (30% SOAs). When evaluated, this means having 7 children centre areas (incorporating 9 buildings) across the borough. It is proposed to extend the reach area of the 7 centres remaining open and to provide outreach services to those areas that do not have ready access to a main children's centre building. By outreach we are referring to activities being delivered in other buildings within the local communities.

Children's Centre Buildings Proposed to Stay Open

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Arnold Children's Centre	597
Aughton Early Years Centre	411
Coleridge Children's Centre	970
Maltby Stepping Stones	727
Rawmarsh Children's Centre	888
Rotherham Central	725
Swinton Brookfield Children's Centre	636
Thrybergh Dalton Children's Centre	610
Valley Children's Centre	524

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Children's Centre Buildings proposed to Close/Alternative Usage Options

Children's Centre	Number of children under 5* as at 31.3.13 in 30% SOA's**
Cortonwood Children's Centre	211
Dinnington Children's Centre	352
Kimberworth Children's Centre	308
Marcliff Children's Centre	0
Meadows Children's Centre	206
Park View Children's Centre	345
Rockingham Children's Centre	261
Ryton Brook Children's Centre	67
Silver Birch Children's Centre	138
Sue Walker Children's Centre	0
Thorpe Hesley Children's Centre	0
Thurcroft Children's Centre	189
Wath Victoria Children's Centre	374

*Number of children under 5 years of age based on GP data as of the 31st March 2013

** Most disadvantaged 30% SOA areas as measured by the Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010(IMD)

Please note in the table above, Marcliffe, Thorpe Hesley and Sue Walker Children's Centres show zero children living in the 30% SOA. Please note that in these areas children under 5 accessing the centre are from outside of the 30% SOA areas.

A public consultation has taken place from 3rd February until 30th April 2014. This included an online questionnaire, comments email section, Frequently Asked Questions, 13 formal public consultation events with parents across the borough and a stakeholder event on the 2nd April 2014 for key stakeholders/partners. It also included face to face sessions with interested parties as requested.

Following the analysis and outcome of the public consultation, a report will be prepared for the Cabinet meeting to be held on 18th June 2014.

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Table 1 shows all Rotherham Children's Centres (with the buildings proposed to stay open highlighted) and the number of users accessing individual Centres by target/protected characteristics groups between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014.

Children's Centre Accessed	BME Children Seen	Workless Household Seen	Total Children Seen	30% SOA Children Seen	Teenage Mothers	Lone Parents	Disabled Parents	All Male Carers	Target Fathers
Rawmarsh	77	241	890	725	46	142	24	238	105
Aughton	73	135	742	258	25	96	19	221	49
Stepping Stones	40	304	722	510	32	168	21	181	98
Brookfield	25	147	696	475	24	67	15	117	38
Rotherham Central	337	301	682	596	27	119	27	161	127
Arnold	145	294	657	580	27	130	32	144	74
Coleridge	381	321	593	583	38	144	16	127	112
Valley	399	174	716	376	9	79	18	142	94
Thrybergh	39	228	560	521	27	101	11	122	60
Wath Victoria	53	172	661	348	19	116	44	158	58
Dinnington	34	165	601	270	30	92	17	125	43
Park View	35	163	436	309	17	77	16	127	44
Silver Birch	56	89	827	131	27	72	14	193	26
Kimberworth	87	112	565	362	14	65	11	87	39
Cortonwood	38	125	516	218	11	78	27	126	51
Sue Walker	33	57	421	12	12	39	23	65	18
Meadows	35	84	414	172	11	91	22	119	30
Marcliff	22	28	367	42	4	18	2	42	7
Thorpe Hesley	14	14	306	23	2	28	23	85	17
Rockingham	21	73	298	232	10	58	10	61	29
Thurcroft	9	104	274	172	16	43	3	73	28
Ryton Brook	5	19	172	28	2	14	2	13	4
Total Accessed Services (counted once)	1764	3002	10571	6278	375	1611	332	2543	1075
Total Accessed at proposed 'Open' Centres	1516	2145	6258	4624	255	1046	183	1453	757
% Accessed at proposed 'Open' Centre	86%	71%	59%	74%	68%	65%	55%	57%	70%

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What equality information is available? Include any engagement undertaken and identify any information gaps you are aware of. What monitoring arrangements have you made to monitor the impact of the policy or service on communities/groups according to their protected characteristics? See page 7 of guidance step 2

The following equality information is available:

User data for each Children's Centre broken down by the protected group characteristics is detailed in **Table 1** above and has been taken into consideration. It is also supplemented by data for the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs and the number of children under five living in the most disadvantaged SOAs which has been used as the rationale to keep open the centres with the highest number of under fives (over 400) living in the most disadvantaged 30% SOAs.

Children Centres are provided with annual baseline data and agreed targets from the Local Authority on engagement rates for the target groups in their reach area. The target groups include: teenage mothers, lone parents, BME (Asian, Pakistani and other BME), disabled parents, father/male carers, children under five living in workless households, all children under five living in the reach area, children under five living in 30% most disadvantaged SOAs.

They also have demographic information about each individual Children Centre reach area, the 11 Deprived Communities profiles, Rotherham Health profiles, CC quarterly monitoring reports (detailing take-up of services by different target groups), Early Years Foundation Service profile data, Ofsted judgements for Children Centres and Private and Voluntary and Independent early education and childcare providers. Centres also identify local community priorities eg domestic violence, substance misuse, mental health

Table 2 below shows details and analysis of the priority/protected characteristics groups that may be affected by the proposals.

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Table 2 shows details and analysis of the priority/protected characteristics groups that may be affected by the proposals

Priority / Target Group	Demographic Information	Children's Centre data	Public Consultation (ref Appendix 1)	Analysis and Comments
BME Families (with children aged under 5 years)	15.9% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham are from a BME group. 80% of these children live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 86% of children from a BME group who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open	7.8% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation described themselves as being of a BME group. 62% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 64% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of children from a BME group live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centre buildings are proposed to close. Take up of services by this group will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Families living in households dependent on workless benefits (with children aged under 5 years)	27.7% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham live in a household dependent on workless benefits. 61% of these children live in an area where	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 71% of children living in a household dependent on workless benefits who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	This group was not identified as part of the public consultation. However they are a priority target group for Children's Centre delivery and access is monitored on a quarterly basis as part of the Children's Centre Performance	The majority of children living in a household dependent on workless benefits live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where

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	the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.		Cycle.	Centres buildings are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Families living in 30% most disadvantaged SOAs (with children aged under 5 years)	55% of children aged under 5 in Rotherham live in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA. 71% of these children live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 74% of children living in a 30% most disadvantaged area who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	45.6% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation live in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA. 51.7% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 62.3% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of children living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Teenage Mothers	3% of mothers with children aged under 5 years in	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 68% of teenage mothers who accessed	11% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation were	The majority of teenage mothers live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access

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	Rotherham are teenage mothers. 61% of teenage mothers in Rotherham live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	aged under 25 years. 44.5% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 72.5% agreed with the outreach proposals.	a centre which is proposed to remain open. Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close. Teenage parents are a priority group for centres. The take up of services will continue to be monitored quarterly to ensure that teenage parents continue to access universal and targeted services where appropriate. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Lone Parents (with children aged under 5 years)	15% of parents of children aged under 5 years in Rotherham are lone parents. 60% of lone parents in Rotherham live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 65% of lone parents who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	This group was not identified as part of the public consultation. However they are a priority target group for Children's Centre delivery and access is monitored on a quarterly basis as part of the Children's Centre Performance Cycle.	The majority of lone parents live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a

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				quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Disabled Parents (with children aged under 5 years)	1.2% of parents with a child aged under 5 years in Rotherham are a disabled parent. 57% of disabled parents with children under 5 years live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 55% of disabled parents who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	6.9% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation described themselves as being disabled or having a long term limiting illness or condition. 46.7% of these respondents agreed with the proposed closures. 54.2% agreed with the outreach proposals.	The majority of disabled parents live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. Particular attention will be given to the Wath Victoria reach area which has a high number of disabled parents in comparison to other centres to ensure they continue to have access to services.
Male carers within target groups (with children aged under 5)	69% of male carers (within target groups) with children under 5 years live in an area where the local	During the period 1 st April 2013 – 31 st March 2014 70% of male carers (within target groups) who accessed Children's Centre services, accessed at	6.9% of respondents to the online Children's Centre Closure Public Consultation were male. 52% of these respondents agreed	The majority of male carers within target groups live in an area where the local Children's Centre is proposed to remain open and currently access a centre which is proposed to remain open Under this proposal for the future of

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	Children's Centre is proposed to remain open.	a Centre which is proposed to remain open.	with the proposed closures. 59% agreed with the outreach proposals.	Children's Centres an outreach service will be delivered to meet the needs of target families where Centres are proposed to close, therefore families will still have access to services. The take up of services will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis. It is not expected that this specific group will be more disadvantaged by the proposals than any other group.
Faith/religious or other beliefs	Whilst not a specified target group for Children's Centres the service will aim to provide equality of access to all faith/religious or other belief groups.		Responses were returned from the following faith communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 36% Christianity • 26% No religion or belief • 4% Other • 0.8% Islam • 0.2% Hinduism • 0.2% Humanism • 0.1% Buddhism • 0.05% Sikhism 	There will be equality of impact across all groups, therefore it is not considered that this group will be more disadvantaged than any other. Children's Centres will continue to contribute towards supporting community cohesion.
Sexual orientation	Whilst not a specified target group for Children's Centres the service will aim to provide equality of access to people of all sexual orientation.		No information has been collected	The proposals will impact equally across people of all sexual orientation.

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Pregnancy and Maternity	No data is currently available	No information has been collected	All Children's Centres will continue to work closely with midwives and health visitors to support access to "pre and post birth" maternity services, including health visiting. These services will form an integral part of the Foundation Years Service the core service offer.
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	No data is currently available	No information has been collected	The proposals will impact equally across married people, those in civil partnerships and non-married people

Please also note the following information:

- Children's Centres have a duty to work with identified target groups to improve outcomes for children and families. This is closely monitored by the local authority on a quarterly basis. It is also challenged through Ofsted Children Centre inspections
- The proposal is to keep open Children Centre buildings in the most disadvantaged areas and deliver outreach services to vulnerable families living in other areas to minimise the impact of closing centre buildings.
- GP data as at 1st April 2013 (includes all children aged under 5 years registered with a Rotherham GP) shows that:
 - 84% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 73% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 84% of all children living in a SOA within the 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 66% of all Rotherham children live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
- In addition:
 - 74% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 72% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open
 - 71% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building will remain open

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Individual centres undertake local consultation with the community, service users and non-users to identify need. They also evaluate and review current services and revise delivery in light of feedback received. Centres produce local plans to address under-represented and targeted groups which identify the centre's priorities and required actions. These are monitored by the CC Advisory Boards and the Local Authority (LA) on a quarterly basis. The LA also completes an annual challenge meeting with each centre which reviews performance, value for money and outcomes/impact for children under five and their families, including but not limited to the following protected characteristic groups BME, workless households, teenage mothers, lone parents, children living in the most deprived areas (30% Super Output Areas), disabled parents, male carers and targeted fathers.

Ofsted Performance of Rotherham Centres demonstrates the impact centres have had on improving outcomes for all children under five, particularly for the targeted groups.

Of the 20 Children's Centre inspections completed by March 2014, 85% have been judged to be good or outstanding: 16% Requiring Improvement (RI) and 0% Inadequate. Rotherham's Children Centre performance continues to be very good, and very high when compared to both other LA's performances in the Yorkshire and Humberside region, and that against the national average figures. As of October 31st (latest national data set) Rotherham's performance was as above with the exception that 84% of Centres inspected were judged Good or better. The national average as of 31st October 2013 was 68% good or better; 30% RI and 2% inadequate. As of October 31st in the Yorkshire and Humberside region Children 71% were judged Good or better; 30% RI and 0% inadequate. Out of 15 LA's in the Yorkshire and Humberside region, Rotherham is 3rd joint highest with regard to the percentage of centres achieving a Good Ofsted outcome and 9 other LA's in the region have higher numbers of Centres being judged as Requiring Improvement

Children accessing Children's Centres in Rotherham are gaining a very positive start to their development and the support that their parents/families are receiving.

Policy Documents

DfE Sure Start Statutory Guidance April 2013

Ofsted Framework for the inspection of Sure Start Children's Centres April 2013

DfE/DOH Supporting Families in the Foundation Years

Graham Allen, Frank Field, Marmot, Munro, Dame Tickell reviews

EYFS framework

Best Practice for a Sure Start: The Way Forward for Children's Centres, Report from the All Party Parliamentary sure Start Group, July 2013

The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults, Frank Field, Dec 2010

Supporting Families in the Foundation Years, Frank Field, 2010

Conception to age 2 -The Wave Trust June 2013

Birth and Beyond, DH, 2011

Rewiring Public Services, Children's Services, LGA, 2013

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Evidence for the Frontline, Alliance for Useful Evidence, Dr. Jonathan Sharples, 2013
 Integrated Commissioning Strategy for Early Years services for children with additional needs 2008-2011, Devon County Council, 2008
 The Tail, How our schools fail one child in five: what can be done, Marshall, 2013
 Strategic toolkit for planning integrated working, 4Children, 2010
 Bright Futures: local children local approaches, LGA, 2013
 Report of the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum, The CYP Forum, 2012
 The State of the State 2013, In Search of Affordable Government, Deloitte and Reform, 2013
 NCB Collection of Essays 2013 -14

The research and evidence base from the above documents will be used to inform the creation of Rotherham Foundation Years Service across health, social care and education services.

<p>Engagement undertaken with customers. (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>Statutory Public consultation 3/2/14 – 30/04/14 including parents, stakeholders, general public, staff.</p> <p>For dates and times of events see Appendix B</p> <p>Press and other media communications</p> <p>Public can make their views known through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 👤 In person at a Children's Centre of their choice ✉ CCConsultation@rotherham.gov.uk 💻 www.rotherham.gov.uk enter "have your say on children's centres closures" in the search engine <p>Additional Meetings Held</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 3rd February 2014</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 5th February 2014</p> <p>CC Leaders/Lead Teachers - 6th March 2014</p> <p>CC Executive Headteachers 3rd February 2014</p> <p>Chairs and Vice Chairs of Governing Bodies 3rd February 2014</p> <p>Dinnington School Governing Body (request for meeting) 20th February 2014</p> <p>Health Partners – Foundation Years draft vision and principles – 14th February 2014</p> <p>Learning Communities Representatives – 13th March 2014</p> <p>Deprived Communities Team Meeting – 2nd April 2014</p>
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	<p>SES Briefing - 7th April 2014</p> <p>Parish Councillors meeting – 15th April 2014</p> <p>Wider Stakeholder Event – 2nd April 2014</p> <p>Key themes from the full public consultation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • transport issues including cost and access of transport to go to the buildings proposed to stay open plus geographical borough wide spread of the buildings proposed to stay open might mean that some areas of the borough would have difficulty in accessing a centre building. The LA is not required to provide a Centre building in walking distance. However, they are required to provide access to services locally. The impact of this concern raised may be lessened by ensuring the continuation of the early years outreach service delivery is maintained in each local area. • the possible impact if childcare provision does not continue in those areas where a building is proposed to close on a child's development and impact on parents continued employment if they cannot access childcare. It is envisaged that alternative providers will be identified to continue the daycare provision. • Rationale does not cover those areas of vulnerability outside of the disadvantaged 30% super output areas. It was commented that vulnerability is not just related to where you live but also to personal circumstances. The outreach service and proposed Foundation Years Service will mitigate this through delivering services in local communities. • Centre buildings are fit for purpose. Other suitable venues may not be available in local communities. Without a centre building people felt they may become isolated. This will be monitored to take any required action. <p>Summary of main findings from full public consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents really value the quality of services, the support they and their children receive from experienced staff across Rotherham's Children Centres, especially the baby clinic service; stay
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	<p>and play and childcare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respondents value that the Children Centre buildings are 'fit for purpose' and provide a welcoming community hub. • Respondents consider that organisations/services work well in partnership to deliver services. • The majority of respondents do not agree to the proposal to close children Centre buildings. • Respondents are concerned about the impact of the proposed reduction in the number of Children Centre buildings will have on their own and their children's ability to access the remaining centres proposed to stay open, including the most vulnerable children and families and; fairness of geographical distribution; and communities feeling isolated. • Respondents questioned the rationale used and felt that other criteria should also be considered to decide which centres are proposed to remain open and those proposed to close. • The majority of respondents agree to the proposed outreach service, but have concerns about the effectiveness and quality of the service if delivered from other buildings in a local community.
<p>Engagement undertaken with staff about the implications on service users (date and group(s) consulted and key findings) See page 7 of guidance step 3</p>	<p>The following meetings took place:</p> <p>28.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Early Years and Childcare Service</p> <p>20.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Lead Teachers</p> <p>30.1.14 Budget Position meeting with Unions</p> <p>3rd February – 30th April weekly update meetings with Unions as required throughout the consultation period</p> <p>Staff have also attended the public consultation meetings and fed their views on the proposals into the consultation process</p> <p>Appropriate Local Authority HR Staff consultation on outcome of 18.6.14 Cabinet meeting and its impact on staff will begin once the final option has been decided by Members. This will involve consultation period of at least 30 days.</p>

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The Analysis

How do you think the Policy/Service meets the needs of different communities and groups? Protected characteristics of age, disability, gender, gender identity, race, religion or belief, sexuality, Civil Partnerships and Marriage, Pregnancy and Maternity. Rotherham also includes Carers as a specific group. Other areas to note are Financial Inclusion, Fuel Poverty, and other social economic factors. This list is not exhaustive - see guidance appendix 1 and page 8 of guidance step 4

Children's Centres identify, reach and help all families, especially those in greatest need of support, and have a particular emphasis on improving outcomes in:

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances
- Children's centres should make available **universal and targeted early childhood services** either by providing the services at the centre itself or by providing advice and assistance to parents (mothers and fathers) and prospective parents in accessing services provided elsewhere.
- Children's centres are as much about making appropriate and integrated services available, as they are about providing premises in particular geographical areas.

Target groups for centres: refer to the groups and families the centre identifies as having needs or circumstances that require particularly perceptive intervention and/or additional support.

The target groups will vary according to the centre's identification of its community and their needs but in any particular centre may include but not be limited to:

- lone parents, teenage mothers and pregnant teenagers
- children from low income backgrounds
- children living with domestic abuse, adult mental health issues and substance abuse
- children 'in need' or with a child protection plan
- children of offenders and/or those in custody
- fathers, particularly those with any other identified need, for example, teenage fathers and those in custody
- those with protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010
- children who are in the care of the local authority (looked after children)
- children who are being cared for by members of their extended family such as a grandparent, aunt or older sibling
- families identified by the local authority as 'troubled families' who have children under five
- families who move into and out of the area relatively quickly (transient families), such as asylum seekers, armed forces personnel and those who move into the area seeking employment or taking up seasonal work
- any other vulnerable groups or individual families including those young children and families identified as at risk of harm by other services – such as adult social care, schools, police, and health services.

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The proposal is to continue to meet the above need as the services provided will continue to be delivered but in a different way or at a different location if a centre building is closed. This will be through the delivery of outreach services and existing local early years services such as health visiting and early years and childcare services at suitable local venues in local communities if a centre building is closed. **Table 1** (referred to previously) details the number of each targeted group which each CC provides services to

The proposed Foundation Years Service will work within the framework of a strategic leadership team for the CC cluster which includes representation from education, health and early help/social care. The leadership team will share information and data plus target setting to provide a coherent, holistic and integrated approach to universal and targeted early childhood service delivery from pre- conception to 5. This will ensure better targeted resources to meet children and family's needs to improve outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable, within the context of community based services

Analysis of the actual or likely effect of the Policy or Service:

See page 8 of guidance step 4 and 5 **Does your Policy/Service present any problems or barriers to communities or Group?** Identify by protected characteristics **Does the Service/Policy provide any improvements/remove barriers?** Identify by protected characteristics

In addition to Appendix 1, Table 1, Table 2 the following themes were identified.

Transport, geographical location, pattern and usage of centre buildings.

- Some children and families may not access remaining CC buildings and services resulting in poorer outcomes for children and families and increased pressure on higher need services such as social care. Not all families in need of services necessarily live in the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs.
- Increasing the size of reach areas for the proposed 7 designated children's centres may result in each Centre leader being responsible for an increase engagement by the centre of children under 5 and their families within and outside the 30% SOAs
- Capacity of the CC workforce available to cover the increased reach areas.
- geographical distribution of the CC buildings proposed to remain open is focused on the 30% most disadvantaged SOAs and therefore concentrated in the centre of the borough.

The above will be addressed by monitoring take - up of services on a quarterly basis, particularly by targeted groups. It is envisaged that the Foundation Years Service will improve workforce capacity by partners and service providers working together to meet the needs of children and families. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service, Children's Centres and other partners will take appropriate measures to address this.

Day-care Provision

The majority of children's centres across the borough operate day care provision. The operation of such day care needs to be considered in light of the LA statutory duty to secure sufficient early education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. This particularly applies to the need to secure good quality (as judged by Ofsted) early education for vulnerable 2 year olds. In many cases the children's centre day care is already fulfilling this function, and is included within the LA sufficiency report.

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Children could be at risk of not achieving good outcomes, resulting in fewer children reaching expected attainment levels at the age of 5 years. Parents may not be able to continue work if the childcare provision is not available and there are no alternative sources of provision or providers. This means that the early education and day care provision needs to continue therefore expressions of interest are being encouraged from schools in the first instance and then from staff/ the private and voluntary sector to continue to run the childcare provision.

The following additional risks have been identified;

- As the main source of income is likely to be Early Education Funding, there is risk of the provision losing funding if it does not maintain a good or better Ofsted outcome
- The close working relationship between day care staff and family support in a centre may be affected, resulting in a fragmented service for vulnerable families, thus reducing the impact of such work
- The opportunity to prioritise places in day care for vulnerable children may be affected, potentially leading to such vulnerable children being unable to access local Early Education Funded provision
- The outcome of children's centre inspections could be adversely affected by the quality of the day care which is within the children's centre building, if such day care does not maintain the high quality currently offered
- The ability to maintain good quality provision may be reduced if children's centre leaders are not directly responsible for the day care (100% of children's centre day care is currently judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted)
- Children's delay in readiness for school and narrowing the gap in attainment outcomes at the age of 5.

The above will be addressed by continuing to monitor the sufficiency and quality of services and early education and childcare provision, including take-up of services and impact on outcomes for children and families, particularly the most vulnerable. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Services will take appropriate measures to address this.

Early Intervention and Prevention

There are at present 15,427 under 5's living in Rotherham. Of which 8,539 (55%) live in 30% SOA and below. The impact of closing 13 buildings will result in 6,830 children under 5 and their families living in Rotherham having no access to a CC building in their local community. Of which 2,451 children and their families living in 30% SOA and below would have no access to a CC building in their local community. **Table 1** shows details of the number of each targeted group which each CC provides services to.

The following additional risks have been identified;

- Reduced opportunities for work with children and their families, particularly most vulnerable. This will lead to a potential increase in poor outcomes for children and families and the need for higher levels of support and crisis interventions from specialist services such as social care resulting in a potential increased cost to the council.
- Reduction in local access to jointly delivered CC services such as health, early education and childcare provision, family support, training information and advice

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services; particularly for the most vulnerable and hard to reach families who are most in need of help and those families who will be affected by the pressures of the current economic climate.

- Families may be reluctant to travel to Centre buildings outside their local community and therefore may not take up services, particularly those who are vulnerable or hard to reach.
- There will be a potential loss of the local Children's Centre identity within some communities which could result in families, particularly the most vulnerable not knowing where to go to seek support or accessing services.

The above should be mitigated by the proposal to continue to the delivery of outreach to appropriate local communities as outreach workers will deliver services at other community venues if a centre building is closed. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service will take appropriate measures to address this.

The Foundation Years Service will work within the framework of a strategic leadership team for the CC cluster which includes representation from education, health and early help/social care. The leadership team will share information and data plus target setting to provide a coherent, holistic and integrated approach to universal and targeted early childhood service delivery from pre- conception to 5. This will ensure better targeted resources to meet children and family's needs to improve outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable, within the context of community based services.

Quarterly monitoring of take - up of services, particularly by targeted groups will be undertaken. Where there is a gap in provision or quality identified, the Early Years and Childcare Service, including Children's Centres and other partners will take appropriate measures to address this.

Meeting Ofsted inspection requirements regarding levels of performance and outcomes for children and families

There is a potential risk of not meeting the following Ofsted benchmarks for a centre to be judged good or better as a result of Children Centre reach areas being increased if centre buildings are closed. The Ofsted benchmarks include but are not limited to the following

- A minimum of registering 85% of families with under-fives in each of the children centre reach areas which includes targeted groups
- A minimum of sustaining contact with 65% of targeted groups of children and families (including workless households and 30% SOA's)

This would need to be addressed through robust joint Foundation Years Leadership across health, early years, children's centres, schools, early help/social care, private and voluntary childcare providers and the voluntary sector. Agreed information and data sharing protocols, monitoring and performance management frameworks would need to be in place.

In response to the outcomes from the recent public consultation an additional option 2 has been put forward to Cabinet for consideration.

This is in terms of the number of centre buildings proposed to close, in order that a more even geographical distribution is achieved, enabling more children and families, including the most vulnerable, to more readily access a children's centre building.

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On the basis of the rationale used throughout the public consultation; where Centre buildings are proposed to remain open (if they have more than 400 children living in the 30% most deprived SOA), the proposal should be reconsidered to include enabling a further 3 Children Centre buildings to remain open. This would support respondents concerns regarding travel and equity of geographical spread of proposed centre buildings in some areas across the Borough

The additional proposed Centres to remain open are Wath Victoria Children's Centre building, (374 children living in the most 30% SOA); Dinnington Children's Centre building (352 children living in the most 30% SOA) and Park View Children's Centre building (345 children living in the most 30% SOA. These three Children's Centres are the next Centres which have the highest number of children living in the 30% most deprived SOA.

If **option 2** was chosen, this would result in one or more Children's Centre building being located in each of the individual 7 Health locality team areas, and 7 Area Assembly boundaries. This addresses some respondents' views regarding the need to align Children's Centre buildings to both Health and Area Assemblies. If Dinnington Children's Centre building remained open, this would mean that each of the 11 deprived neighbourhood communities would have a Children Centre building. If Wath Children's Centre building remained open this would take into consideration the particularly high prevalence of disabled parents in the Wath area.

If Cabinet decide to increase the number of Centre buildings from 9 to 12, it would raise the number of families and children able to access a Children's Centre building in their locality, including the most vulnerable, as follows:-

In the period 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014:

- 10,571 Rotherham children aged under 5 years accessed Children's Centre services in at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 59% of those children seen accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 75% if the 3 additional centres were to remain open
- 6,278 Rotherham children aged under 5 years living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre
 - 74% of those children seen living in a 30% most disadvantaged SOA accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%
- 3,002 Rotherham children aged under 5 years and living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed at least 1 Rotherham Children's Centre.
 - 71% of those children seen living in a household dependent on workless benefits accessed a Centre whose building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 88%

In relation to targeted groups and the areas where they live as of 1st April, 2013

- 80% of all BME children in Rotherham live in an area where a Children's Centre

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building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%, if the 3 additional centres were to remain open.

- 61% of all children living in households dependent on workless benefits live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 73%.
- 71% of all children living in a SOA within a 30% most disadvantaged nationally live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 84%.
- 61% of disabled parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 74%.
- 61% of teenage mothers with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 72%.
- 58% of lone parents with at least 1 child under 5 years live in an area where a Children's Centre building is proposed to remain open. This would increase to 71%.

What affect will the Policy/Service have on community relations? Identify by protected characteristics

Centres have a role in promoting community cohesion by offering valuable services to parents during early childhood which potentially could help the child develop and gain the best start in life. Further, children's centres offer these services to all communities under one roof and this often serves to break down cultural barriers and promote a sense of belonging for all. This will continue and will be monitored as part of the ongoing performance management processes

Please list any **actions and targets** by Protected Characteristic that need to be taken as a consequence of this assessment and ensure that they are added into your service plan.

Website Key Findings Summary: To meet legislative requirements a summary of the Equality Analysis needs to be completed and published.

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Equality Analysis Action Plan - See page 9 of guidance step 6 and 7

Time Period: January 2014 to March 2015

Manager: Mary Smith

Service Area: Early Years

Tel:.....

Title of Equality Analysis:

If the analysis is done at the right time, i.e. early before decisions are made, changes should be built in before the policy or change is signed off. This will remove the need for remedial actions. Where this is achieved, the only action required will be to monitor the impact of the policy/service/change on communities or groups according to their protected characteristic.

List all the Actions and Equality Targets identified

Action/Target	State Protected Characteristics (A,D,RE,RoB,G,GI O, SO, PM,CPM, C or All)*	Target date (MM/YY)
Complete statutory public consultation on the proposals	All	3 rd February to 30 th April 2014
Hold a wider stakeholder event to consult on proposals to create a Foundations Years Service	All	2 nd April 2014
Analysis of public consultation to feed into Cabinet paper	All	May to June 2014
Report presented to Cabinet to agree decision	All	18 th June 2014
HR Staff Consultation on the impact of the model for Children's Centres from 1 st April 2015 and analysis of feedback	All	July to September 2014
Options on buildings proposed to close taken forward to engage alternative providers to continue to run the centre buildings	All	June 2014 - February 2015
Recruitment of staff to new structure	All	September 2014 – January 2015
A more in-depth and detailed feasibility study would need to be completed	All	July 2014 – January

Website Summary – Please complete for publishing on our website and append to any reports to Elected Members, SLT or Directorate Management Teams

Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
<p>Directorate: Children and Young People's Services</p> <p>Function, policy or proposal name: Children Centres</p> <p>Function or policy status: Changing (new, changing or existing)</p> <p>Name of lead officer completing the assessment: Mary Smith</p> <p>Date of assessment: 21st January 2014</p>	<p>1. Children's Centres already deliver universal and targeted services to target groups which include but are not limited to the protected characteristics groups. Centres and the Local Authority monitor uptake of services by all children under 5 and their families, particularly the most vulnerable and the targeted groups.</p> <p>2. There is some level of interest from partners who would like to explore taking on the daycare and or the children's centre services in centre buildings proposed to close.</p> <p>3. A more in-depth and detailed feasibility study would need to be completed to identify which buildings were already accessed by families and the areas where the families lived in to further identify potential risk of families, particularly the most vulnerable, of not accessing the main centre buildings due to transport issues or the distance families would have to travel.</p>	<p>1. Amend current performance and monitoring processes to fit the new model. (September 2014 – February 2015)</p> <p>2. Implement the buildings options process for buildings proposed to close to engage alternative providers to continue to run the centre buildings from 1st April 2015. (June 2014 - February 2015)</p> <p>3. Complete an in-depth and detailed feasibility study (July 2014-July 2015)</p>

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Completed equality analysis	Key findings	Future actions
	<p>4. A mapping exercise should be undertaken to identify which buildings are available in local communities and their suitability to deliver quality early years services, the level of early years/foundation years workforce available and the availability of resources.</p> <p>5. A full implementation plan and communication strategy will be developed to advise all users of their nearest Children's Centre under the new model and how to continue to access services. This will be monitored to ensure that the new model does not have an adverse or disproportionate impact on target groups/protected characteristics.</p>	<p>4. Mapping exercise to be undertaken to address the key findings (July 2014 – January 2015)</p> <p>5. Implementation plan and communication strategy undertaken to address the key findings (January 2015 – March 2015)</p> <p>New structure to be in place and operational from 1st April 2015</p>

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Appendix A - Children's Centre Proposed Closure Consultation Response Form Further Analysis on Equalities Data

We asked respondents if they would like to answer some equal opportunities questions. 81% said yes, but some people did not answer all questions. The results in this report are expressed as a % of those who responded to each question.

A majority of respondents were female aged 25-34 years. 9% of respondents were disabled or had a limiting long term illness/condition. 9% were carers. 90% were white British followed by 2.8% Asian or Asian/British Pakistani. 53% were Christian followed by 38.4% with no religion or belief.

Gender

91% of respondents were female and 9% were male.

46.7% of females agreed with the chosen centres compared with 52% of males.

60.8% of females agreed with the proposal for outreach compared with 59% of males.

To the question 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the top 4 responses were the same for each gender:

31% females selected 'I will not use a children's centre at all' compared with 28% of males.

14% of females selected 'don't know' compared with 18% of males.

13% of females selected 'I will use the children's centre services less often' compared with 14% of males.

12% of females selected 'no impact' compared to 16% of males.

So the percentage responses from males and females were very similar. The biggest difference was that a higher percentage of males said it will have no impact.

BME Groups

90.1% of respondents were British and 9.9% were all other ethnicities (BME).

Of those BME 62% agreed with the proposed closures. This is a significantly higher percentage than the overall survey response which was 43%.

64% of those BME agreed with the outreach proposals. This was a slightly higher percentage than the overall survey response, which was 58%.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the top 4 responses were:

22% selected 'I will not use children's centres at all', which is 12% lower than the overall survey response to this question.

20% selected 'don't know', which is 5% higher than the overall survey response.

15% selected 'I will use children's centres less often' and 12% said 'no impact' which are both similar to the overall responses.

So in comparison to the overall survey response, a higher percentage of BME agreed with the proposed closures whilst a similar amount agreed with outreach. A higher percentage of non-BME said that they wouldn't use children's centre services at all than those who were BME. A higher percentage of the BME didn't know what the impact will be on them.

Young People – Under 25 years old

14% of respondents to this question were under the age of 25.

44.5% of those under 25 years disagreed with the proposed centres. This is very close to the overall survey response of 43%.

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72.5% of those under 25 years agreed with outreach. This is significantly higher than the 58% of the overall survey that agreed, which suggests that more of the younger group are agreeable to the idea of using outreach services.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' 42.5% selected 'I will not use a centre at all'. This is 8% higher than the overall survey responses.

14% will use less often, 13.5% selected 'no impact' and 12% selected 'don't know'. However, 14.5% selected multiple answers which included using other centres, alternatives or will use less often. Therefore, less than half will not use at all but the remaining will use an alternative or say it will have no impact.

Disability or Long Term Limiting Illness or Condition

120 people responded to say that they are disabled.

Of those 46.7% agreed with the chosen centres. This is slightly higher percentage agreeing with the proposed centres than the overall survey response of 43%.

54.2% people agreed with the outreach proposals. This is a slightly lower than the overall survey response of 58%.

So similar numbers of disabled people disagree with the chosen centres but do agree with outreach. In both of these questions, the numbers are nearly a 50/50 response, and are close to the figures from the overall survey response.

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?', the highest response was 'I will not use centres at all' from 33.3% of respondents which is close to the overall survey response rate of 34.34%.

15% said no impact compared with 10.64% of the overall survey response

14.1% will use CC's less often compared with 17.72% of the overall survey response

5.8% will use an alternative compared with 13.19% from the overall response

However, 16.6% (19) people ticked multiple options which included using an alternative, using another centre or using less often. 10% didn't know and 4% said 'other'. So 51.7% will use some kind of alternative, other centre or say it will have no impact. 33% say they will not use at all. 11% didn't know and 4% said other.

So in comparison to the overall response, similar percentages agree with the chosen centres and outreach proposals and say that they will not use a centre at all. However, a higher percentage of those with a disability said it will have no impact but a lower percentage will use an alternative.

Religion or Belief

Of all of the responses to this question, the largest groups were: 53% Christianity 38.5% no religion or belief, 6.5% other. 2% were other named religions or beliefs.

Overall, 53.6% of those who had some kind of religion or belief disagree with the chosen centres. This is not too far from the overall survey response of 57%.

Of those with a religion or belief, 60.5% agree with outreach proposals and of those without a religion or belief 62% agree. Again these are both very close to the overall survey response percentage of 58%

When asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' the highest numbers for reasons selected were:

27% of those with a religion or belief will not use a centre at all compared to 36% of those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 34%.

14.7% of those with a religion or belief selected 'don't know' compared to 14.2% of those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 14.78%.

13.95% of those with a religion or belief will use a centre less often compared to 11.81% those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 17.72%.

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12.72% of those with a religion or belief selected 'no impact' compared to 13.56% those without a religion or belief. The overall survey response to this was 10.64%

So those with a religion or belief answered in similar percentages to those without and to the overall response rate. The largest difference was with those who said they will not use a centre at all. A higher percentage of those without a religion or belief will not use a centre at all.

Summary:

In summary, these are the greatest differences coming out of the survey responses for the particular groups detailed above:

The responses from males and females were very similar. The biggest difference was that a higher percentage of males said it will have no impact.

A higher percentage of BME agreed with the proposed closures than the overall response rate and less of the BME group said that they wouldn't use a children's centre at all.

A higher rate of those under 25 years old agreed with outreach than the overall survey response. This suggests that more of the younger group are agreeable to the idea of using outreach services. However, when asked 'What impact will the reduction of children's centres have on you?' a higher percentage of those under 25 years old selected 'I will not use a centre at all' than the overall survey response rate.

A higher percentage of disabled respondents said that the closures will have no impact compared with the overall survey response but a lower percentage said that they will use an alternative if centres close.

A higher percentage of those without a religion or belief will not use a centre at all compared to those with a religion or belief. However, this is a similar percentage to the overall survey responses.

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Appendix B - Children's Centres Public Consultation Meetings Held

Date/Time	Children's Centres	Venue
Thursday 6 th February 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
Monday 17 th February 2014 6.00pm - 7.00pm	Coleridge	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Wednesday 12 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Rawmarsh Community School Haugh Road Rawmarsh Rotherham S62 7GA
Thursday 20 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Brookfield Wath Victoria Cortonwood	Wath Comprehensive School Sandygate Wath upon Dearne Rotherham S63 7NW
Tuesday 25 th March 2014 4.00 – 5.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Ferham Primary School Ferham Road Rotherham S61 1AP
Thursday 27 th March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Valley Arnold	Clifton Comprehensive Middle Lane Rotherham S65 2SN
Monday 31 st March 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Thurcroft Infant School Locksley Drive Thurcroft Rotherham S66 9NT
Wednesday 2 nd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Rawmarsh Thrybergh/Dalton Silver Birch Marcliff	Flanderwell Primary School Greenfield Court Flanderwell Rotherham S66 2JF
Thursday 3 rd April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Wales High School Storth Lane Kiveton Park Sheffield S26 5QQ
Monday 7 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington Ryton Brook	Dinnington Community Primary School School Street Dinnington Sheffield, S25 2RE
Tuesday 8 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Aughton Early Years Meadows Sue Walker Ryton Brook Thurcroft	Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Hall Rosegarth Avenue Aston Sheffield S26 2DD

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Wednesday 9 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Maltby Stepping Stones Dinnington	Maltby Craggs Community School Strauss Crescent Maltby Rotherham, S66 7QJ
Monday 28 th April 2014 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Central Kimberworth Park View Rockingham Thorpe Hesley	Rockingham Professional Development Centre Roughwood Road Wingfield Estate Rotherham, S61 4HY
22.4.14 10.00 am -11am	Meadows Children Centre	Catcliffe Parish Hall

A Foundation Years practitioners and wider stakeholder consultation event took place on 2nd April 2014

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18th June 2014
3.	Title:	Update on recommendations for improving access for young people seeking help and support around self harm
4.	Directorate:	Children & Young People's Services

5. Summary

The report provides a response to the ten recommendations made by the Youth Cabinet to improve young people's access to appropriate help and support around self harm. The recommendations were presented to Cabinet at the meeting on 9th April 2014. In response to those recommendations, this report offers a way forward that will develop a holistic approach through both strategies, training and service delivery.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet receives and accepts the report in response to the Youth Cabinet Scrutiny recommendations

7. Proposals and Details

The Rotherham Youth Cabinet Scrutiny Review of Improving Access for Young People Seeking Help and Support around Self Harm was presented to Cabinet on 9th April 2014. The focus of the review's recommendations was to develop clear and concise information that will improve young people's access to services. It was also recommended that a more integrated approach at a strategic level was established to ensure that young people receive an appropriate and timely intervention through clear pathways and protocols.

8. Finance

The Review highlights the value of supporting young people around self harm within tight budget constraints and reduced capacity. However, the financial impact of any future identified needs will require careful consideration.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

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

- Consistently raise public awareness regarding self harm
- Improve access to appropriate support and intervention
- Destigmatise the issue of self harm
- Ensure appropriate commissioning of services
- Evidence the outcomes of The Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for Children & Young People 2014-19

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

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

- Ensure a consistent approach to young people
- Provide a timely response according to the needs of an individual
- Evidence that all agencies are proactively undertaking a co-ordinated approach to the issue of self harm in young people
- Evidence that the voice of young people has impacted on the strategies and guidelines
- Raise professionals' skills and knowledge to be able to respond more appropriately to young people

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The following people were consulted and provided information to support this report:

Ruth Fletcher-Brown - Public Health Specialist (Mental Health and Domestic Abuse)

Paul Theaker - Operational Commissioner
Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit

Kay Denton-Tarn – Health Schools Consultant

Sherran Finney - RLSCB Learning & Development Co-ordinator
Safeguarding Children's Unit

Andrew Danylkiw - Youth Offer Project Officer
Integrated Youth Support Service

Anna Clack - Public Health Specialist (Starting and Developing Well)

Barbara Murray, Deputy Assistant Director
Children and Young People's Mental Health Service RDaSH

Nigel Parkes – Senior Contracts and Service Improvement Manager RCCG

Paul Theaker - Operational Commissioner
Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit Resources Directorate

Contact Name : *Christine Brodhurst-Brown, Head of Integrated Youth Support Services.* Chris.brodhurst-brown@rotherham.gov.uk

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review: Update on recommendations for improving access for young people seeking help and support around self harm

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>Recommendation 1: That a consistent, concise and simple message is developed and disseminated for use by ALL organisations (including schools, health and social care, youth services, vol-comm sector);</p> <p>Recommendation 8: That the provision of information on self-harm to all schools and colleges is improved and standardised;</p>	Accept	<p><i>The following response meets the proposals of recommendations 1 and 8:</i></p> <p>On behalf of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm Group, the Public Health Specialist (Mental Health& Domestic Abuse) is working with children's mental health services on the production of a pathway and guidance on self-harm which will be available for consultation this summer. The Youth Cabinet will also be consulted and involved in the content, and will be actively engaged in its implementation which will be adopted by all universal services across Rotherham.</p> <p>A flowchart leaflet (CARE about Suicide) has been produced for universal workers giving information about how to respond to issues around self harm. This has been disseminated extensively and is also now on the website of all statutory partner organisations.</p> <p>RDaSH CAMHS have just produced a biro incorporating a banner containing information about early signs and coping strategies. These pens will be distributed through secondary schools and other educational settings.</p>	Ruth Fletcher-Brown Public Health Specialist (Mental Health and Domestic Abuse)	August 2014

<p>Recommendation 2: That agencies work together to develop clear, consistent referral routes that are shared with ALL relevant organisations;</p>	Accept	<p>This will be achieved through the development of the self-harm pathway and guidance which will be adopted by all universal services. The guidance will be reviewed and adapted as necessary. The guidelines will be adopted by the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm Group and the RLSCB.</p> <p>In early April a Suicide Prevention Conference organised by Rotherham Public Health addressed a wide audience from across a broad spectrum of services involved in supporting young people. It presented both the national and local picture as well as offering information and resources to staff. One comment from the day was "The whole day was an excellent awareness raising experience and was very informative". The Care about Suicide leaflet was also available to all participants at the event.</p>		
<p>Recommendation 3: In line with recommendations 1 and 2, ensure that resources/training/support are available for schools, colleges, parents, young people etc;</p>	Accept	<p>The Education Safeguarding Forum for Designated Members of Staff for Child Protection, Chaired by the RLSCB Learning & Development Co-ordinator, is now being explored as a vehicle for sharing of information, good practice and training around self harm and suicide prevention. The Forum, which meets three times a year with staff from Primary and Secondary Schools, Early Years Settings and Further Education Colleges, will offer the chance for staff to further develop their skills and experience around this particular issue.</p> <p>The Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) held its annual Conference in February with young people's health as its agenda. The 'Make Every Contact Count' approach was presented to the 195 delegates around emotional wellbeing, helping to raise the skills and knowledge of staff to be able to address the needs of young people in a variety of settings</p>	Chris Brodhurst-Brown Head of Integrated Youth Support Service	December 2014

		<p>including drop-ins, one-to-ones and group work activities.</p> <p>The Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for Children & Young People 2014-19 has identified the need to address training and development needs of tier 1/universal workers in relation to mental health issues amongst young people. Training needs of universal workers in relation to suicide and self-harm is also an action of the Rotherham Suicide Prevention and Self-Harm Group.</p>	Paul Theaker Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit	
<p>Recommendation 4: That young people are involved in developing user-friendly information/media messages (including new technology/social media);</p>	Accept	<p>IYSS is currently in the process of developing a website to promote its 'Young People's Offer'. At all stages of the website development young people have been involved in directing the content of the material. Within the health element, and particularly around the mental health section, young people have offered their own messages around stress and depression, as well as suggesting the types of information they find useful as a self help tool.</p> <p>The Youth Cabinet will be involved in the development of the self-harm guidelines and developing user friendly messages as a result of this. The Public Health Specialist (Mental Health & Domestic Abuse) is going to be working with a group of young people and Communications and Marketing (RMBC) to look at information messages on exam stress It is anticipated that there will be other future opportunities with different groups.</p> <p>Public health messages for young people in relation to suicide and self-harm is an action within the Rotherham Suicide and Self Harm Group.</p>	<p>Chris Brodhurst-Brown Head of Integrated Youth Support Service</p> <p>Ruth Fletcher-Brown Public Health Specialist (Mental Health and Domestic Abuse)</p>	September 2014

<p>Recommendation 5: That young people are involved in service design e.g. commissioning of school nurses;</p> <p>Recommendation 10: Examine ways in which student access to school nurses can be improved;</p>	Accept	<p><i>The following response meets the proposals of recommendations 5 and 10:</i></p> <p>The Youth Cabinet have been consulted on the C&YP's Commissioning Strategy and have been asked how they would like to be involved in any existing and future commissioning activity. Their responses will be incorporated into forthcoming actions including the provision of appropriate and timely service delivery.</p> <p>Earlier this year, the Youth Cabinet were consulted as part of the final consultations of the School Nursing Specification and further opportunities will be available as part of the ongoing review of this work. Within the School Nursing Service specification and contract from the 1st July 2014, the service will be required to promote their work and contact details to schools and young people. It must be noted that while elements of the school nursing service provision are universal, much of the activity and interventions are targeted to those with identified health needs. School nursing services however, can and will, both support and signpost young people to the most appropriate service where necessary.</p>	<p>Paul Theaker Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit</p> <p>Anna Clack Public Health Specialist (Starting and Developing Well)</p>	2015/16
<p>Recommendation 6: That advice to young people on self-harm is available through drop-ins, one-to-one sessions as well as web-based materials;</p> <p>Recommendation 7: That consideration is given to ways in which the service can 'fit' around the young person and that appropriate 'out-of-hours'</p>	Accept	<p><i>The following response meets the proposals of recommendations 6 and 7:</i></p> <p>The Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for Children & Young People 2014-19 has identified the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigate options for provision of web-based support for parents & young people • investigate provision for e-platforms (e-clinic), email and text based support 	Paul Theaker Commissioning, Policy & Performance Unit	2014-19

advice/support is available;		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> investigate options for provision of a 24/7 service including telephone and crisis support <p>The development of family focused children and adolescent mental health services will see services focus on self-help, self-referral, flexible appointment times and consultation with young people and families regarding choice of services (The Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health Strategy for Children & Young People 2014-19).</p> <p>Youth Start, in partnership with CAMHS, provides a bespoke weekly drop-in that provides direct access via self or assisted referral to appropriate and timely intervention. Early help is the key, along with a 'step up, step down approach through tier 1 and 2 services which may result in young people avoiding the need for a tier 3 service. However, where such an intense service is required, partnerships and pathways are well established that ensure a coordinated response can work effectively for the young person's needs.</p> <p>The Rotherham Public Health Channel has been used to promote messages and service information to young people. The QTV channel is operational in a number of GP surgeries and health settings as well as the IYSS Eric Manns Building.</p> <p>IYSS continuously involves young people in ensuring that service delivery is tailored to their needs. Assessments, action plans and evaluation tools that identify the health needs of young people are an integral part of making sure that ongoing support is wrapped around the needs of the person.</p>	Chris Brodhurst-Brown Head of Integrated Youth Support Service	
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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18th June 2014
3.	Title:	Rotherham Local Flood Risk Management Strategy All Wards
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

On the 4th March 2013 the Cabinet Member Meeting approved the Council's Draft Rotherham Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Strategy) for consultation.

The draft Strategy has been forwarded to the Council's partners, stakeholders and communities for consultations, and has been amended where necessary.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet resolves to:

- 6.1 approve the final Strategy (ref: Appendix A).**
- 6.2 approve the publication of the final Strategy.**
- 6.3 approve the periodic update and publication of the Strategy.**

7. Proposals and Details

The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 implement the requirements of the European Floods Directive, which aims to provide a consistent approach to managing flood risk across Europe. The regulations impose new duties on the Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Rotherham, including the responsibility for managing local flood risk in particular from ordinary watercourses, surface runoff and groundwater.

Under the requirements of the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and the Floods and Water Management Act 2010, the Council's key new roles and responsibilities are as follows:

- Duty to produce a local flood risk management strategy for the Rotherham area.
- Ability to work with other risk management authority regarding flood risk.
- Duty to exercise and carry out works in accordance with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy and relevant local flood risk management strategies.
- Provide strategic leadership and partnership between lead local flood authorities and other risk management authorities.
- Duty to co-operate and provide information with other risk management authorities.
- Power to carry out works to manage flood risk from surface runoff or groundwater.
- Power to arrange for a flood risk management function to be transferred to another risk management authority.
- Power to request information from other key agencies and landowners in connection with its flood management functions.
- Duty to act as the co-ordinator for the investigation of flood incidents and publish the results on the Council's website.
- Duty to establish and maintain a register of drainage assets/ features and a register of structures/features which it considers are likely to have a significant effect on local flood risk.
- Power to designate features or structures that affect flood risk which places legal responsibilities on the owner of the asset to manage.
- Power to formally consent and/or approve works within Ordinary Watercourses which includes all temporary and permanent works.
- Duty to promote and manage Sustainable Drainage.
- Duty to establish a Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) Approving Body (SAB), which will have the power to approve, supervise, adopt and maintain SuDS, and how surface water is managed on new development sites.
- Duty to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development.

The Flood and Water Management Act requires the Council to ensure that adequate scrutiny arrangements are put in place to review, scrutinise and approve the Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Rotherham. The draft strategy was presented to the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Management Board on the 8th February 2013 where it was recommended that the Strategy be forwarded onto the Cabinet for approval.

The Strategy will be reviewed and scrutinised on a six yearly cycle as a minimum. The Strategy is a 'living' document and it is a duty of the Council to update and amend the Strategy year on year, for example in response to changes in legislation, actual data following a major flood event, new asset data, resource and funding opportunities etc.

8. Finance

Defra has allocated £120,200 for 2014/2015 to Rotherham which will enable the Council to carry out its new duties under the Floods and Water Management Act 2010. The funding will support Lead Local Flood Authorities in developing local flood risk management strategies, surface water management plans, priority actions, mapping, and administering consents for works affecting an ordinary watercourses.

In addition Defra allocated a further £61,500 to be used during 2013/14 and 2014/15, which will enable the Council to establish and implement its new Sustainable Drainage System Approving Body (SAB) duties under the Floods and Water Management Act 2010.

Although a final decision has not yet been made by Government on the date for implementation of the SAB regime (this includes administration, design check, approval, supervision, adoption and maintenance of SuDS); it is anticipated that the Council will be in a position to do so for **major developments** (> 10 properties) from October 2014 within existing resources. From 2017, the regime will apply to all **minor developments** (comprising 2 or more properties), it is anticipated that there may be in excess of 150 such developments each year. The staffing implications of this legislative change have not yet been fully appraised.

Defra has indicated that a fee can be charged for the submission of a SuDS application; in addition it has been suggested that the cost for future maintenance of SuDS systems may be borne by residents served by the SuDS, via their Council Tax. The Council would be required to administer these payments.

The implications of fully implementing the legislative changes are not yet clear, either in terms of staffing and workload, or the ongoing maintenance burden for SuDS. Additional revenue funding is not reflected in the current medium term financial strategy.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, the Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority for Rotherham, is committed to carrying out its new roles and duties for local flood risk management, including surface water overland flows throughout the Borough. It is likely that there will be additional pressures on the Council's resources to carry out the duties as the Lead Local Flood Authority.

The Government has indicated that after autumn 2014 the Council will be required to carry out its duties to adopt and then maintain SuDS e.g. pipes, swales, ponds etc. These new duties are likely to have an impact on the many of the services; the Council is therefore working closely with other Local Authorities to prepare and implement relevant guidance, applications, legislation, adoption and maintenance procedures prior to the implementation of SAB. The implementation of the SuDS approval and adoption processes is to be carried out in 2 phases, and for the first 3 years only major development is included and there are exemptions where planning permission has already been granted. From autumn 2014 to 2017 it is estimated that the Council will receive between 4 and 8 major development applications per average year for the adoption of SuDS. After 2017 it is estimated that the Council will receive between 150 and 175 major and minor applications per average year for the adoption of SuDS.

There is some uncertainty that future funding will be continue to be provided by Defra after 2015, this could apply additional pressures on the Council to obtain future funding to fulfil its roles and responsibilities under the Act and to continue with its duties in keeping the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy updated.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The issues contained within this report support the following Corporate Priorities:

Priority 3: Ensuring all areas of Rotherham are safe, clean and well maintained

11. Background Papers and Consultation

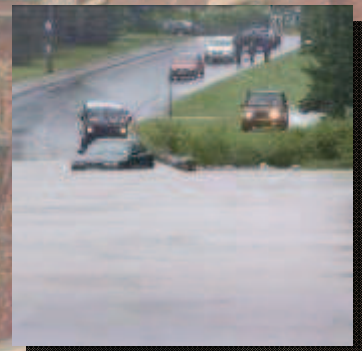
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council - Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Rotherham including consultation with Partners, Stakeholders, and Communities.
- Strategic Environmental Assessment*
- Surface Water Management Plans*
 - Wath*
 - Forge Island*
 - Anston*
 - Aston, Aughton and Swallownest*
- Floods and Water Management Act 2010
- Flood Risk Regulations 2009

*(The documents are available for inspection at W:\Transport and Infrastructure\Road Maintenance\Drainage\LFRMS Documents or can be viewed via Democratic Services).

Contact Name : *Graham Kaye, Principal Engineer, ext 22983*
graham.kaye@rotherham.gov.uk

Rotherham Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

May 2014



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APPENDICES

Appendix A - Action Plan
Appendix B - Drawings
Appendix C - Policies

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

Assets	Structures, or a system of structures, used to manage flood risk.
Areas Susceptible to Surface Water Flooding (AStSWF)	A method of surface water flood modelling carried out by the Environment Agency to indicate the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. Now superseded by Risk of Flooding from Surface Water Map. See also FMfSW & RFfSW.
Catchment	An area that serves a watercourse with rainwater. Every part of land where the rainfall drains to a single watercourse is in the same catchment.
Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP)	A strategic planning tool through which the Environment Agency works with other key decision-makers on the large scale of a River Basin District to identify and agree overarching policies for sustainable flood risk management.
Critical Infrastructure	Infrastructure which is considered vital or indispensable to society, the economy, public health or the environment, and where the failure or destruction would have large impact. This would include emergency services such as hospitals, schools, communications, electricity sub-stations, water and waste water treatment works, transport infrastructure and reservoirs.
Defence	A structure that is used to reduce the probability of floodwater affecting a particular area, for example a raised embankment.
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The government department with overall responsibility for flood risk management.
FRM	Flood Risk Management.
FCERM	Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management.
Flood	The temporary covering by water of land not normally covered with water.
Flood Map for Surface Water (FMfSW)	A method of surface water flood modelling carried out by the Environment Agency to indicate the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding, now superseded by Risk of Flooding From Surface Water Map. See also AStSWF & RFfSW.
Flood Risk Area	An area determined as having a significant risk of flooding in accordance with guidance published by Defra.
Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWM Act)	The Flood and Water Management Act clarifies the legislative framework for managing surface water flood risk in England.

Fluvial flooding	Flooding of main rivers.
Floods Directive	The EU Floods Directive came into force in November 2007 and is designed to help Member States prevent and limit the impact of floods on people, property and the environment. It was transposed into English law in December 2009 by the Flood Risk Regulations.
Groundwater	Water which is below the surface of the ground and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
Hazard	A potential source of harm.
Hydrology	The study of the effects of water on and below the earth's surface.
Internal Drainage Board (Danvm IDB in Rotherham)	Drainage Board who are legally responsible to ensure that flows are maintained in ordinary watercourses within their domain.
Local Development Framework (LDF)	Local Planning Authority documents which comprises of community involvement, local development scheme and the annual monitoring report.
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)	Local Authority with Flood Risk Management Functions as defined in the Flood and Water Management Act.
Local flood risk	Flood risk from sources other than main rivers, the sea and reservoirs, principally meaning surface runoff, groundwater and ordinary watercourses.
Main River	A watercourse shown as such on the Main River Map and for which the Environment Agency has flood risk management responsibilities and powers.
Ordinary watercourses	A river, stream, ditch, cut, sluice, dike or non-public sewer that is not a designated Main River and for which the Lead Local Flood Authority has flood risk management responsibilities and powers.
Pluvial flooding	Pluvial flooding (or surface runoff flooding) is caused by rainfall and is that flooding which occurs due to water ponding on, or flowing over, the surface before it reaches a drain or watercourse.
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) (Rotherham PFRA submitted to Defra December 2011)	Assessment of surface water flood risk in the area covered by a Lead Local Flood Authority describing both the probability and harmful consequences of past and predicted future flooding.
Flood Risk Regulations	UK legislation implementing the European Floods Directive 2009.

Resilience	The ability of the community, services, area or infrastructure to withstand the consequences of an incident.
Riparian owner	A riparian owner is someone who owns land or property adjacent to a watercourse. A riparian owner has a duty to maintain the watercourse and allow flow to pass through their land freely.
Risk	Measures the significance of a potential event in terms of likelihood and impact. Risk is the likelihood that a person may be harmed or suffers adverse health effects if exposed to a hazard.
Risk assessment	A structured and auditable process of identifying potentially significant events, assessing their likelihood and impacts, and then combining these to provide an overall assessment of risk, as a basis for further decisions and action.
Risk of Flooding From Surface Water Map (RFfSW)	A map showing results of surface water flood modelling carried out by the Environment Agency to indicate the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. See also FMfSW & AStSWF.
River basin district	There are 11 river basin districts in England and Wales, each comprising a number of contiguous river basins or catchments.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	Documents prepared by local planning authorities assessing broad areas of flood risk to inform planning decisions.
Surface runoff	Rainwater (including snow and other precipitation) which is on the surface of the ground (whether or not it is moving), and has not entered a watercourse, drainage system or public sewer.
Surface Water Flooding	In this context, surface water flooding describes flooding from sewers, drains, groundwater, and runoff from land, small water courses and ditches that occurs as a result of heavy rainfall.
Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)	A plan which outlines the preferred surface water management strategy in a given location.
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	A sequence of management practices and control measures designed to mimic natural drainage processes by allowing rainfall to infiltrate and by attenuating and conveying surface water runoff slowly compared to conventional drainage.

Water Framework Directive (WFD)	A European Community Directive (2000/60/EC) of the European Parliament and Council designed to integrate the way water bodies are managed across Europe. It requires all inland and coastal waters to reach “good status” by 2015 through a catchment-based system of River Basin Management Plans.
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

In June 2008, Sir Michael Pitt published his final report, Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods, which called for urgent and fundamental changes in the way the country is adapting to the increased risk of flooding, the need to provide consistent and co-ordinated management of flood risk, communication with communities, identification of those responsible in the local management of flood events, and adaptation to climate change. The report states that local authorities should play a major role in the management of local flood risk, taking the lead in tackling problems of local flooding and co-ordinating all relevant agencies.

The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 and Flood and Water Management Act 2010 are an important part of the Government's response to the Pitt Report. The Act is intended to create a more integrated, comprehensive and risk-based regime for managing the risk of flood and coastal erosion, including identifying clear responsibilities. In light of this, local authorities are being granted new powers and existing responsibilities for local flood risk management are being extended.

This Local Flood Risk Management Strategy has been produced by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council, to set out how the local flood risk within the borough will be managed. The brief for the strategy was approved by Cabinet on 19 March 2012.

The general principles of the Local Flood Risk Strategy are:

- Community focus & partnership working
- Sustainability
- Risk Based Approach
- Proportionality
- Multiple benefits

The Strategy identifies objectives and an action plan to achieve them.

This Strategy is a living document and will be subject to amendments and additions year on year.

1.2 Sources of Flooding

This Strategy considers local flood risk, namely the following sources of flooding:

Surface water runoff – rainwater (including snow and other precipitation), which is on the surface of the ground (whether or not it is moving), and has not entered a watercourse, drainage system or public sewer. Flooding from surface runoff is sometimes called pluvial flooding. Note that the term 'surface water' is used generically to refer to water on the surface.

Ordinary watercourse – any river, stream, ditch, cut, sluice, dike, culvert which is not a main river.

Artificial water bearing infrastructure – includes reservoirs (see below), sewers, water supply systems and canals. The strategy does not assess flooding from sewers, unless wholly or partly caused by rainwater or other precipitation entering or otherwise affecting the system. Floods of raw sewage caused solely, for example, by a sewer blockage do not fall under the Regulations. The Regulations also do not apply to floods from water supply systems, e.g. burst water mains.

Groundwater – water which is below the surface of the ground and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil. It is most likely to occur in areas underlain by permeable rocks, called aquifers. Within Rotherham, deep flows within aquifers do not generally cause flooding. Whilst flow of groundwater underground at shallow depths may contribute to localised flooding where it emerges as springs or issues, the flow closely mirrors surface flows and is not related to a widespread rise in groundwater levels. Groundwater flooding has therefore not been addressed separately to surface water flooding in this strategy.

This Strategy does not consider the following sources of flooding, except where there is an interaction with surface water flooding for example where high water levels within river impede the discharge from an ordinary watercourse:

Main river – watercourses legally defined and marked as such on the main rivers map. Generally they are larger streams or rivers, but can be smaller watercourses. The Environment Agency has flood risk management responsibility for them.

Large reservoirs – Under the Reservoirs Act 1975, the Environment Agency are responsible for regulating large raised reservoirs with a capacity exceeding 25,000 m³. This may reduce to 10,000 m³ by the commencement of provisions of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. It is possible that this Strategy will require updating to include the amendments to reservoirs in the Act.

1.3 Introduction to the Area

The Borough of Rotherham is situated in South Yorkshire and covers an area of 286km² and has a population of approximately 253,900 (2009 census). Rotherham is generally underlain by the middle coal measures with predominantly impermeable soils and underlying strata. Consequently, the hydrology of the area is dominated by surface or shallow depth flows.

The north-west and central areas of the Borough drain to the river Don, which runs from Sheffield, through Rotherham town centre, where it is joined by the River Rother, then to the north east where it is joined by the River Dearne near the Boundary with Doncaster, and are within the Rotherham sub-area of the Don Catchment in the Humber river basin district.

The south east third of the Borough drains towards the River Ryton, is hydrologically independent of the Don catchment and is within the Sherwood sub-area of the River

Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan in the Humber river basin district. The boundaries between two water companies and Environment Agency (EA) regions reflect these catchment boundaries, the south east being Severn Trent Water Ltd and EA Midlands region, the remainder being Yorkshire Water Services Ltd and EA Yorkshire & North East region.

The rivers classed as “main river” are shown on Figure 1 below.



Figure 1 - Main Rivers

2.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

The EU Floods Directive, was passed as a result of widespread flooding in Europe, and has been transposed into UK law by the Flood Risk Regulations 2009.

In June 2008, Sir Michael Pitt published his final report, Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods, which recognised that there were significant gaps in the powers held by various bodies in trying to reduce and respond to the risk of flooding and called for urgent and fundamental changes in the way the country is adapting to the increased risk. The report includes 92 recommendations, of which 21 are specifically designated to local authorities.

The Government's response to the Pitt Review included the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which puts in place many of the changes recommended by Sir Michael Pitt. Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) have been designated and have taken on new powers and duties extending their organisation's previous responsibilities for flood risk management and will therefore need to take resource and organisational decisions to deliver the new legislative requirements.

The Water Framework Directive (WFD) 2000 is European legislation with the primary aim of improving water quality. The Directive requires the creation of river basin management plans and flood risk management plans.

3.0 LINKS TO OTHER STRATEGIES

This strategy must be consistent with national and regional strategies, the most important of which are listed below.

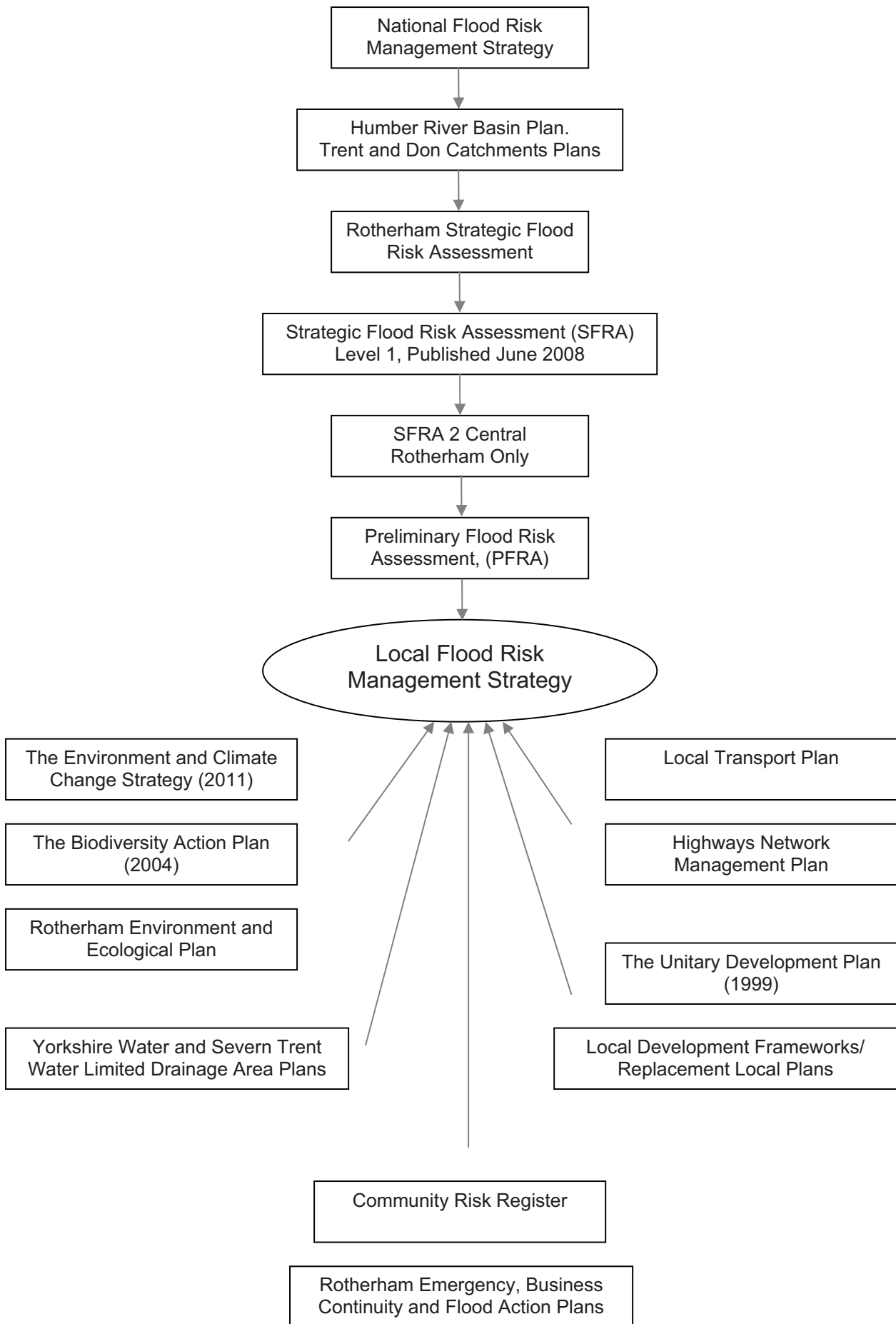


Figure 2 - Links Between National, Regional And Local Strategies And Plans

3.1 National Plans

National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England

In accordance with the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 this strategy builds on existing approaches to flood and coastal risk management and promotes the use of a wide range of measures to manage risk.

The strategy encourages more effective risk management by enabling people, communities, business, infrastructure operators and the public sector to work together to:

- Ensure a clear understanding of the risks of flooding and coastal erosion, nationally and locally, so that investment in risk management can be prioritised more effectively;
- Set out clear and consistent plans for risk management so that communities and businesses can make informed decisions about the management of the remaining risk;
- Manage flood and coastal erosion risks in an appropriate way, taking account of the needs of communities and the environment;
- Ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities are able to respond effectively to flood forecasts, warnings and advice;
- Help communities to recover more quickly and effectively after incidents.

The strategy shows how communities can be more involved in local flood and coastal erosion risk management. It also emphasises the need to balance national and local activities and funding. In setting out future approaches to flood risk management, this strategy considers the level of risk and how it might change in the future, the risk management measures that may be used, roles and responsibilities, future funding and the need for supporting information.

3.2 Regional Plans

River Basin Management Plans (2000)

Rotherham is located in the Humber River Basin District

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) is the driving legislation for the River Basin Management Plans.

Catchment Plans

The regional catchment level plans define 6 policy options for managing flood risk in sub catchments, the higher the policy number, the more intensive the proposed flood risk management action.

- Policy 1** Areas of little or no flood risk where we will continue to monitor and advise.
- Policy 2** Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we can generally reduce existing flood risk management actions.
- Policy 3** Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we are generally managing existing flood risk effectively.
- Policy 4** Areas of low, moderate or high flood risk where we are already managing the flood risk effectively but where we may need to take further actions to keep pace with climate change.
- Policy 5** Areas of moderate to high flood risk where we can generally take further action to reduce flood risk.
- Policy 6** Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we will take action with others to store water or manage run-off in locations that provide overall flood risk reduction or environmental benefits.

The south east third of the Rotherham lies in the Sherwood sub-area of the River Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan, is designated as Policy 3, and has no specific actions within the Rotherham Boundary.

The remainder of Rotherham lies in the Rotherham sub-area of the Don Catchment Flood Management Plan, and is designated as Policy 5. Specific objectives for this area are:

- Identify the long term implications of the changing flood regime (due to FCRM works), including the implications of climate change, on Centenary Wetland Reserve and Rother Valley Country Park to ensure that the condition of these sites is maintained, and where possible improved.
- Where possible, opportunities should be sought to enhance the river corridor habitats, landscape, access and amenity facilities to support the local planning policy drive to develop green infrastructure and increase access to the riversides.
- Work in partnership with the Lead Local Flood Authority to reduce the risk of flooding from surface water.
- Incorporating policies and recommendations within Rotherham MBC LDF, through the development of a water management and flood resilient design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD);
- Significantly improve flood awareness throughout the sub-area using approaches such as Flood Action Groups (FAG); development of a Local Flood Website; focused flood warning and awareness campaign carried out in partnership.

- Determine in greater detail the risk of flooding to utilities, i.e. gas, electricity, water and telecommunications installations and the consequences of the loss of these installations during flooding.
- Work in partnership to identify potential blockages to high flows and determine the feasibility of removal or adaptation, for example Don Bridge.
- Following the completion of the 'River Rother and Dearne Regulator Assessment', ensure that this detailed scientific evidence is used to determine the long term approach to managing flood risk within the Rotherham policy unit.
- Continue to monitor the condition of structure integrity of all lakes and dams i.e. Ulley Reservoir, to ensure the potential for failure is reduced.
- Produce a multi agency approach to registering culverts and outfalls. This should enable the location, capacity and condition of assets to be recorded and fed into their long term management.

3.3 Rotherham Local Plans – (Flood related)

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) Level 1, Published June 2008

The level 1 Rotherham SFRA was carried out primarily to inform planning policy. It is a high level policy document which delineates areas into high, medium and low flood risk.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 2 - Central Rotherham Only

This particular Strategic Flood Risk Assessment is one of three documents produced by Jacobs consultants in December 2010. It provides a flood risk toolkit for the Rotherham Regeneration and Flood Alleviation Area.

Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, (PFRA)

The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 implement the requirements of the European Floods Directive. The regulations impose new duties on Lead Local Flood Authorities including responsibility for managing local flood risk in particular from ordinary watercourses, surface runoff and groundwater.

The PFRA is a high level exercise based on existing and available information.

- Over 8,500 residential properties in Rotherham have been identified as potentially at risk from surface water flooding, compared with less than 300 at risk of flooding from rivers.
- 106 areas have been identified for prioritisation in subsequent flood risk management planning, bullet points 3&4 above.
- The unaltered Flood Map for Surface Water produced by the Environment Agency was used to define Locally Agreed Surface Water Information.
- This document does not consider flooding from main rivers, reservoirs or as a consequence of sewer blockages.

Rotherham MBC Final PFRA was submitted to Defra in December 2011.

3.4 Rotherham Local Plans – (non flood related)

Rotherham's Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan 2011 – 2015 (Revised 2013)

The purpose of this Strategy is to explain how Rotherham MBC will reduce our environmental impact; reduce its contribution to climate change and adapt to future changes resulting from climate change. The strategy will contribute to national climate change objectives including:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050 against a 1990 baseline.
- Reducing fuel poverty and improve energy efficiency through the Government Energy Company Obligation and Green Deal.
- Generating 15% of the UK's energy consumption from renewable energy by 2020.

Climate change is set to be an issue that will dominate the 21st century because of its economic, social and environmental implications. Although an international issue, many of the effects will be felt, and ultimately will need to be managed, on a local scale.

The Unitary Development Plan (1999) is RMBC's response to FCERM *Policy UTL1 Safeguarding Utility Infrastructure* "In granting planning permission, the Council, in consultation with the utility companies, will require that development proposals take into account any existing and new service infrastructure requirements, such as major pipelines, transmission lines, telecommunications networks, distribution mains, sewers, sewage treatment works, land drainage systems, flood defences, scheduled washlands and surface and groundwater resources, together with associated apparatus, installations and operational land and the need for access for maintenance and repair purposes." (RMBC *The Unitary Development Plan 1999*).
Rotherham's Local Plan (Completion 2013) will eventually replace the *Unitary Development Plan*.

Rotherham's Unitary Development Plan (UDP) was formally adopted by the Council in June 1999. The plan guides development throughout the borough covering such issues as housing, employment, transport, conservation and the protection of the environment. The UDP will eventually be replaced by the Local Plan.

Rotherham's Local Plan (2013)

The Local Plan (previously called the Local Development Framework or LDF) will provide a long-term development strategy for Rotherham, setting out policies and proposals for new housing, shopping and employment, and how you travel throughout the borough.

The Local Plan will eventually replace the existing Unitary Development Plan and will help to streamline the local planning process and promote a proactive and positive approach to managing development. It will help the Council decide on planning applications and promote Rotherham's continued regeneration whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment. The current programme for producing the Local Plan is set out in our Local Development Scheme.

The Biodiversity Action Plan 2004

This Local Biodiversity Action Plan identifies a programme of activities to ensure the protection and enhancement of Rotherham's important biodiversity. It is the result of the work of Rotherham's Biodiversity Forum, a partnership of naturalists, landowners, conservationists and RMBC staff and identifies the conservation priorities for Rotherham.

- Part One sets the scene of biodiversity conservation in the UK and locally.
- Part Two describes in detail the identification of local priorities.
- Part Three contains the Habitat and Species Action Plans that identify threats and opportunities facing some of our most important biodiversity and sets out work programmes to halt their decline.

Rotherham Emergency Plan, Multi-Agency Flood Plan and Flood Action Plans

The Council's Emergency Plans are published on the Council's intranet. The Plans consist of a corporate Borough Emergency Plan and various Service Emergency Plans. The Environment and Development Services Emergency Plan has Flood Action Plans which identify areas at high risk of flooding such as Catcliffe.

The Plans are living documents and are amended and updated regularly.

Community Risk Register

The Community Risk Register is published by South Yorkshire Local Resilience Forum in compliance with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 (Contingency Planning) Regulations 2005. It is updated annually.

The purpose of the Register is to identify possible hazards which could impact on the communities of South Yorkshire, to assess the likelihood of each of these hazards occurring, and to thereby inform contingency planning arrangements within South Yorkshire.

Yorkshire Water and Severn Trent Water Drainage Area Plans

The Water Companies have a statutory duty to maintain and manage public sewers and maintain a register of properties at risk from hydraulic overloading in the public sewerage systems.

The Water Companies have a duty to assist LLFA in sharing of information and data and have an understanding of flood risk from the public sewerage systems.

Local Transport Plan (LTP)

The LTP is a South Yorkshire-wide plan which covers both the infrastructure (see HAMP below), and the use of the network, transportation planning etc.

Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP)

The HAMP sets out how the highways infrastructure is managed within Rotherham. Highways assets may be receptors at risk of flooding, or drainage assets such as culverts and highway drains which must be maintained to manage flood risk.

4.0 ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL FLOOD RISK

4.1 Past flood events

Rotherham has experienced 3 flooding events of major local significance since 2000, the nationally significant flood event in June 2007 and by more localised events in November 2000 and June 2009.

Recent flooding incidents are generally well reported and documented. Records of older floods do exist in some cases, but are incomplete and difficult to verify. The easily accessible records have been extracted and mapped. As further historical information becomes available, the flooding records will be updated.

A desk study of historical flooding confirms that there have been many significant floods on the Don and Rother for hundreds of years, including before the catchment was significantly developed. The development of the catchment and changes to the watercourses and sewers mean that the older historical information is not useful for assessment of current flood risk.

4.2 Environment Agency Surface Water Flood Risk Modelling

Surface water flood modelling has been carried out by the Environment Agency to indicate the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. However, the **Environment Agency surface water flood maps are not suitable for identifying whether an individual property will flood.** This is because information on floor levels, construction characteristics or designs of properties is not considered.

The modelling was carried out by applying rainfall to a digital terrain model and this was done using 3 different methodologies, namely Flood Map for Surface Water (FMfSW), Areas Susceptible to Surface Water Flooding (AStSWF) and Risk of Flooding from Surface Water (RFfSW). FMfSW and AStSWF were carried out before the draft LFRMS was produced and were used to identify areas at risk and in particular the 106 areas in Rotherham prioritised for further investigation. During the consultation period, the RFfSW information became available. This is considered superior to both previous methodologies and supersedes both. The 106 areas have therefore been reprioritised using the updated modelling and environmental information.

Drawing 187/46/DR002A in Appendix B shows the 106 areas and the revised rankings.

Maps showing flood risk, including surface water risk, are available on the Environment Agency website.

	River Flooding	Surface Water (RFfSW)
Dwellings at risk	273	2321

Table 2 - Comparison between river flooding and surface water flooding

The above figures show that the threat to residential properties numerically is overwhelmingly from surface water flooding. Non residential flooding affecting industry and infrastructure is more at risk from river flooding due to its geographical concentration along river corridors. See drawing 187/46/DR001A in Appendix B for a comparison of the areas at risk from the two types of flooding.

5.0 GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

An organogram of governance and partnership arrangements is provided in Figure 3 below.

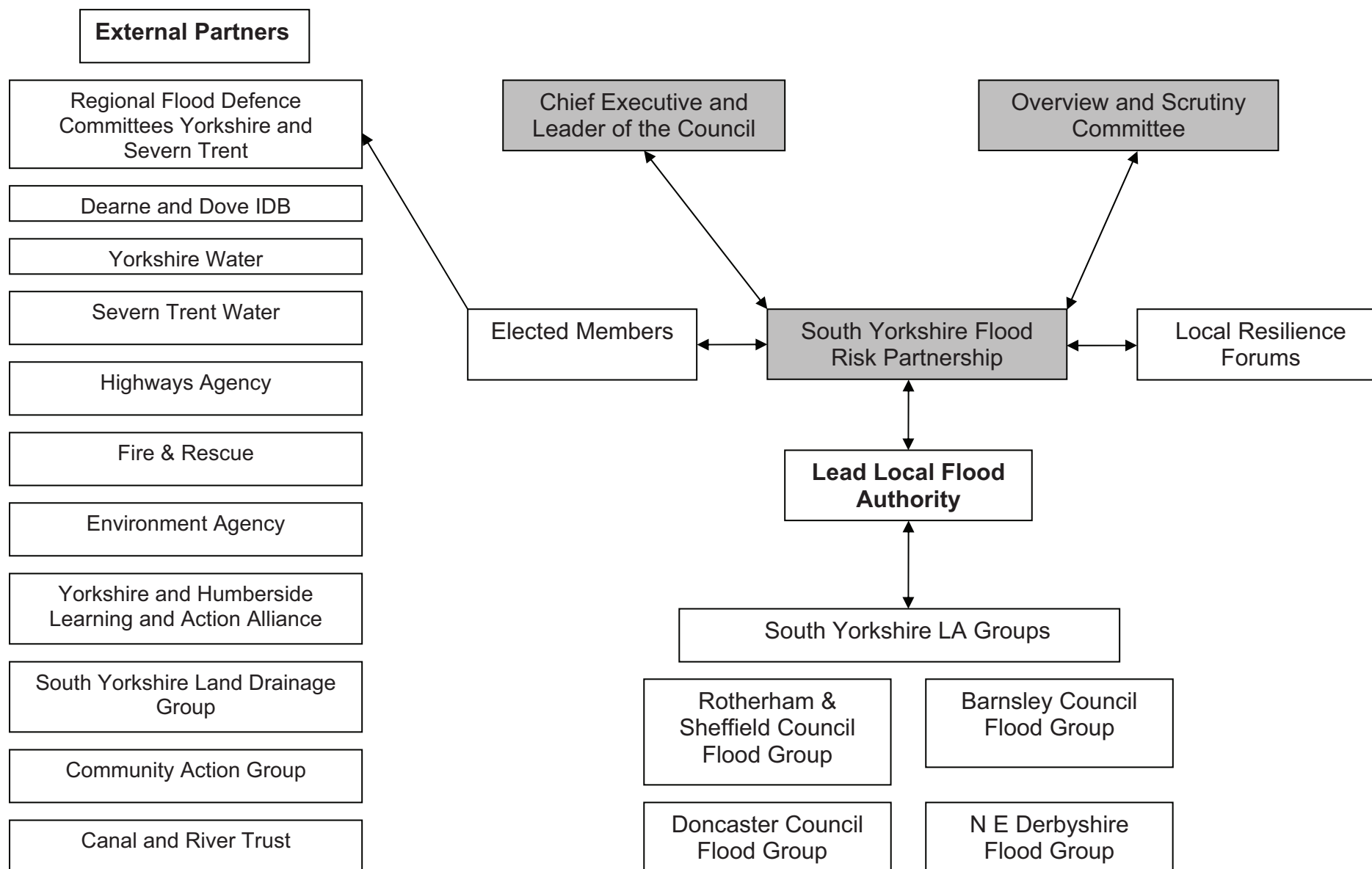


Figure 3 - Rotherham Flood Management Governance

6.0 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES

6.1 Definition

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 defines certain organisations as “Risk Management Authorities” (RMA). In Rotherham, these are:

- Lead Local Flood Authority – Rotherham MBC
- The Environment Agency – Yorkshire & Northeast Region and Midlands Region
- An Internal Drainage Board – Danvm are in Rotherham this is only applicable to Hound Hill Dike and part of Brook Dike in Wath-Upon-Dearne.
- A Water Company - Yorkshire Water Services Ltd and Severn Trent Water Ltd
- A Highway Authority – Rotherham MBC & Highways Agency

All Risk Management Authorities have the following new responsibilities under the provisions of the Act.

- A duty to cooperate with and provide information to other risk management authorities
- Ability to take on flood and coastal erosion functions from another risk management authority when agreed by both sides

Risk Management Authorities are required to act in a manner consistent with the national flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy. These risk management authorities must also, with the exception of water companies, act consistently with relevant local flood risk management strategies in carrying out their flood risk management functions.

Individual Risk Management Authorities have the following specific responsibilities, duties and powers:

A duty is something the RMA is legally obliged to do; a power can be used at the RMA's discretion.

6.2 Lead Local Flood Authority – Rotherham MBC

- **Duty to produce a local flood risk management strategy** – develop, maintain, apply, monitor and publish a local strategy. The strategy will provide a framework to deliver a prioritised programme of works and initiatives to manage flood risk in the area.
- **Strategic leadership of local risk management authorities.** It is recommended that this is done through the formation of a local flood

partnership between lead local flood authorities and other risk management authorities

- **Duty to co-operate with other risk management authorities** –arrangements have been in place for a number of years via South Yorkshire Land Drainage Group, Yorkshire and Humber Learning and Action Alliance and the more recent South Yorkshire Flood Risk Management Partnership where partners can share best practice and develop joint initiatives.
- **Duty to exercise flood risk management functions in a manner consistent with the national strategy**
- **Power to do works to manage flood risk from surface runoff or groundwater**
- **Power to arrange for a flood risk management function to be transferred to another risk management authority** – It is not currently anticipated that any functions will be transferred.
- **Power to request information in connection with its flood management functions from another person** – reciprocal arrangements are in place with the Council's principal partners, other Risk Management Authorities, and organisations such as Environment Agency, Network Rail and the Canals and Rivers Trust, to exchange relevant information. The Council will continue to expand its knowledge base by requesting relevant information from other key agencies and landowners.
- **Duty to investigate flooding** – the LLFA will act as the co-ordinator for the investigation of flood incidents, determining responsibility for any further action from risk management authorities. The LLFA has local discretion to determine which flood incidents it investigates. The draft investigations policy will be attached as an appendix. The results of any investigation will be published on the Council's website and any relevant risk management authorities informed of the results.

Whilst the principal purpose of formal flood investigation is to identify cause and responsibility for further action and provide a single point of contact for the householder, business or community, the information gathered will be invaluable in extending the Council's knowledge of drainage infrastructure and local flood risk.

- **Duty to maintain a register of drainage assets / features** – the Council must establish and maintain a register of structures or features which it considers are likely to have a significant effect on local flood risk. Information on ownership and state of repair will also be held on the register. The register will be available for inspection. The LLFA has discretion to set a local indication of "significance" to determine which assets it records on the register.

The register will be available on the Council's website and will allow local residents, communities and businesses to better understand where the significant drainage and flood management features are located.

- **Power to designate features that affect flood risk** – if the LLFA considers a structure or feature affects a flood risk and it is not owned by the LLFA or the Environment Agency, it may formally “designate” the structure/feature. Designation places legal responsibilities on the owner of the asset to manage it with due regard to its function as a flood risk feature. The owner may not alter, remove or replace a designated structure or feature without the consent of the LLFA. The act does allow the owner of the asset right of an appeal should it be considered unnecessary, unreasonable or without justification.

Structures or features meriting designation could include culverts, garden/building walls, flood banks etc where there is evidence that their location affects flood risk.

The Council intends to use the powers in a proportionate manner, determining an appropriate measure of significance for the flood risk. Any proposal to designate a structure or feature will be fully evidenced and justified. A policy for designation is included in Appendix C.

- **Power to formally consent works within Ordinary Watercourses** – the FWM Act transfers legal powers from the Environment Agency to the Council to manage works proposed in ordinary watercourses. The Environment Agency will continue to consent works in designated main rivers and the Council will consent those works in all other (Ordinary) watercourses. Works which may need approval by the Council include new and replacement culverting, provision and removal of weir structures, construction of river walls and temporary support works for permanent structures which interfere with the flow of water in the watercourse. The Council will actively manage works proposed by riparian owners to ensure that flood risk does not increase as a result of their actions.
- **Duty to promote and manage Sustainable Drainage** – the FWM Act creates a responsibility for the Council to approve, adopt and maintain all newly constructed SuDS which serve more than one property. There are currently some uncertainties as to how and when this duty will be delivered but the principle of SuDS being the drainage solution of first resort, owned and maintained by the Council, has been widely accepted. The Council, as the SuDS Approving Body (SAB), will have significant influence as to how surface water is managed on new development sites. There are great opportunities to remove the burden on currently over-loaded drainage systems through the development of more natural systems of water management.
- **Duty to aim to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development** in the exercise of flood risk management functions and to have regard to any Ministerial guidance on this topic

6.3 The Environment Agency

- Strategic overview for all forms of flooding
- Development of a National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) to cover all forms of flooding
- The conversion of Regional Flood Defence Committees into Regional Flood and Coastal Committees with a new remit to include coastal erosion issues
- Powers to request information from any person in connection with the Environment Agency's flood and coastal erosion risk management functions
- Power to designate structures and features that affect flooding or coastal erosion
- Powers to cause flooding and erosion for nature conservation and cultural heritage reasons, and people's enjoyment of these
- A duty to have regard to FCERM in carrying out other work that may affect FCERM
- A duty to have regard to Local Flood Risk Management Strategies
- A duty to report to Ministers about flood and coastal erosion risk management including application of the national strategies for England and Wales. This report covers all sources of flood risk and where applicable its management by all relevant Risk Management Authorities
- Statutory consultees to the SuDS Approving Body on sustainable drainage that impacts water quality or strategic flood risk
- Continuing roles and responsibilities contained within the Act include:
- Responsibility for coastal flooding
- Responsibility for fluvial flooding from main rivers
- Duty to contribute to sustainable development in discharging their FCERM functions
- Ability to issue levies to lead local flood authorities for an area
- Updated provisions for the regulation of reservoirs.

6.4 Water Companies – Yorkshire Water Services Ltd and Severn Trent Water Ltd

- Duty to act consistently with the national strategies and to have regard to local strategies when carrying out their flood risk management functions
- Duty to be subject to scrutiny from lead local flood authorities' democratic processes in respect of their flood risk management functions
- Adoption of private sewers and pumping stations

6.5 Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs)

Danvm (formerly Dearne and Dove) IDB, (covers part of Wath Upon Dearne only)

- Power to designate structures and features that affect flooding or coastal erosion
- Powers to cause flooding and erosion for nature conservation and cultural heritage reasons, and people's enjoyment of these
- Duty to exercise their functions in a manner consistent with local and national strategies
- Duty to be subject to scrutiny from lead local flood authorities' democratic processes
- Ability to work in consortia with other IDBs
- Statutory consultees to the SuDS approving body on sustainable drainage that impacts land drainage

6.6 Highway Authority - Rotherham MBC & Highways Agency

- **Duty to maintain the public highway network (excluding motorways)** – the Highways Act requires the Council, as Highway Authority, to ensure that highways are drained of surface water and, where necessary, maintain all drainage systems. In particular, the Council carries out regular maintenance of road gullies and their connections to the carrier drains. The carrier drain will generally be an adopted public sewer, maintainable by the local water company but, in some instances, it may be a dedicated highway drain also maintainable by the Council. Culverts, carrying watercourses, crossing public highways may have trash grilles installed at the upstream end of the culvert, protecting the culvert from blockages. The highway authority has a responsibility to ensure these grilles operate efficiently, achieved by clearing them on a regular maintenance cycle.

- **Highways Agency** has the same duties and responsibilities for motorways and trunk roads, which in Rotherham are the M1 and the M18 only.
- **Duty to adopt and maintain SuDS draining new roads** – The SuDS Regulations require Highway Authorities to adopt SuDS which drain a newly constructed road.

6.7 Other Powers and Duties of Rotherham MBC

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 identified Rotherham MBC as the Lead Local Flood Authority for the Borough. The main responsibilities from the Act have been summarised in the previous section but the main effect of the Act will be to provide, for the first time, the means for the Council to coordinate and manage local flood risk.

The Council also has a number of duties, powers and responsibilities from other legislation which assist the Council in providing a comprehensive approach to the management of local flood risk as follows:

6.8 As a Category 1 Responder (Emergency Planning)

- Duty to assess risk of emergencies occurring and use this to inform contingency planning
- Duty to put in place emergency plans
- Duty to put in place Business Continuity Management arrangements
- Duty to put in place arrangements to make information available to the public about civil protection matters and maintain arrangements to warn, inform and advise the public in the event of an emergency
- Duty to share information with other local responders to enhance co-ordination
- Duty to Co-operate with other local responders to enhance co-ordination and efficiency
- Duty to provide advice and assistance to businesses and voluntary organisations about business continuity management (Local Authorities only)

6.9 As Planning Authority

- **Responsibility to consider flood risk in Local Plans** – the Planning Authority must prepare, publish and use a Local Development Framework (LDF) which directs how land can be used. The LDF considers flood risk from both fluvial (main river) and local sources (surface water) of flooding, paying due regard to

available Strategic Flood Risk Assessments, Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments and Surface Water Management Plans.

- **Responsibility to consider flood risk when assessing applications for development** – The Planning Authority should only approve development where it can be demonstrated that the proposal doesn't increase the overall risk of flooding in the area and is adequately protected from flooding itself. A sequential approach should be taken to ensure development sites are chosen which offer the lowest possible flood risk.
- **Working with the SAB (See below)** – The Planning Authority should highlight at the Master Planning stage or during any early pre-planning enquiries the need to discuss drainage and flood management requirements with the SAB.

6.10 As Sustainable Drainage Systems Approving Body (SAB)

- **Duty to establish a SuDS Approving Body (SAB)** – The Council as LLFA has to establish an approving body for new surface water drainage systems in its area.
- **Duty to receive applications for, and approve all construction work which has drainage implications** – The SAB will receive all applications for construction where there are drainage implications, assess their compliance with any national and/or local standards and approve or decline the application as appropriate.
- **Duty to adopt SuDS which serve more than one property** – The SAB will adopt all surface water drainage systems constructed in accordance with the SuDS Regulations where they drain more than one property. SuDS draining public roads will be adopted by the Highway Authority
- **Duty to maintain adopted SuDS** – The SAB must maintain all adoptable SuDS in accordance with the national standards for sustainable drainage.

6.11 As a Riparian Owner

- **Duty to pass on flow in a watercourse without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the rights of others** – The Council, as a landowner, has a duty to pass on the flow in a natural watercourse from its land to another
- **Duty to accept flow** – The Council has a responsibility to accept normal flow onto its land and even flood flow which may be caused by under-capacity downstream. There is no duty for a landowner to increase the capacity of a watercourse crossing his land
- **Duty to maintain the bed and banks of the watercourse** – The Council must clear obstructions in the watercourse which affect the flow of water in the

channel, including vegetation, artificial obstructions and heavy siltation. The Council is responsible for protecting its own property from natural seepage through natural river and flood banks. There is also a duty to control alien invasive species, such as Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam.

6.12 Other Partners

Other partners who are not designated RMAs but may contribute to flood risk management include:

Rotherham MBC

- Emergency Planning Unit
- Strategic/Forward Planning
- Property Services
- Bridges and Structures
- Highways Development Control
- Leisure and Community Services
- Transportation
- Public Rights of Way
- Car parks
- Information Services
- Communications, community engagement and public relations
- Sustainability and climate change teams
- Environmental services

External

- Highways Agency
- Network Rail
- Emergency services
- Parish and Town Councils
- Housing Associations
- Local Resilience Forum
- Canal and Rivers Trust (formerly British Waterways)
- Natural England
- English Heritage
- Met Office
- Local partnerships, forums and community groups
- Association of British Insurers
- Wildlife Trusts
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- Association of Drainage Authorities
- National Flood Forum
- Land and Business Associations
- National Farmers Union
- Professional Institutions
- Land owners and land/estate managers

7.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY

- Objective 1** Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk within the LLFA
- Objective 2** Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk amongst Risk Management Authorities and other partners, stakeholders and communities.
- Objective 3** Formalise arrangements between Risk Management Authorities
- Objective 4** Formalise Policies and Procedures for new responsibilities at set out in the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) and Flood and Water Management Act (2010).
- Objective 5** Create Asset Record and Register to record drainage infrastructure and FRM assets
- Objective 6** Improve management of Council owned drainage and flood management assets
- Objective 7** Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets
- Objective 8** Co-ordinate Flood Risk Management and Planning functions to reduce flood risk to existing and proposed developments.
- Objective 9** Take a sustainable approach to FRM, balancing economic, environmental and social benefits from policies and programmes, including a Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Objective 10** Identify and promote schemes to reduce flood risk which are viable considering practicality, cost benefit and funding potential.
- Objective 11** Identify potential sources of funding.
- Objective 12** Co-ordinate Flood Risk Management and Emergency Planning procedures
- Objective 13** Take into account equalities by carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment
- Objective 14** Promote buy-in by stakeholders by consulting during Strategy preparation and on completed Strategy
- Objective 15** Secure commitment from all Flood Risk Management Authorities to act in accordance with the Strategy by official acceptance by the relevant Boards, Committees, Scrutiny etc.

8.0 ACTION PLAN

The SWMP provides a methodology to identify the most appropriate measures to use in locations identified as being at risk of flooding. Measures can be “structural” such as planning controls and improved community engagement, or “non-structural” such as physical improvement or maintenance works. It is impractical and unaffordable to carry out every measure for every situation. The Strategy will help to determine which measures are most appropriate for individual areas, which measures offer best value for money and how a blend of structural and non-structural measures can be used to give a balanced approach to mitigating risk.

A detailed action plan which addresses the objectives of the Strategy as detailed in item 7 above is contained in Appendix A.

9.0 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT FUNDING

Source of Funding	Description	Indicative budget in 2012/13	Administered By	Appropriate For
Flood Defence Grant-in-Aid (FDGiA)	Central government funding for flood (and coastal) defence projects – recently revised to encourage a partnership approach to maximise match-funding, work towards achieving specified outcomes with a requirement to evidence a reduction in flood risk to properties	£30million (Yorkshire)	Environment Agency	Medium to large capital FRM projects
Local Levy	Annual contributions from Councils to a regional “pot”, smaller than the FDGiA budget but offers more flexibility on the type and size of project it can fund.	£2million (Yorkshire)	Environment Agency	Smaller FRM projects or as a contribution to FDGiA projects
Private Contributions	Voluntary, but funding from beneficiaries of projects could make contributions from national funding viable. Contributions could be financial or “in kind” e.g. land, volunteer labour	Unknown	RMBC	All projects
Water Company Investment	Investment priorities heavily regulated by Ofwat but opportunities for contributions to area-wide projects which help to address sewer under-capacity problems	Unknown	Water Company	Areas with a history of sewer flooding. Projects which help to remove surface water from combined sewers
Section 106 contributions (Town & Country Planning Act)	Contributions from developers, linked to specific development sites where off-site improvements to drainage infrastructure are required to make the developers proposals acceptable	Unknown	RMBC	Larger development sites
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A local levy applied by the Planning Authority on developers to contribute to a general infrastructure fund. Rotherham Council has not yet implemented a CIL scheme. A bid for CIL would have to be made for flood management/drainage improvements against other competing council priorities.	Unknown	RMBC	Areas where there is a large amount of development being carried out by several parties.

SAB Income	Application and inspection fees from developers in support of the approval, inspection and maintenance of new development related SuDS.	Unknown - Awaiting Defra decision of how funding will be provided. Possible risk for Council.	RMBC	Inspection, adoption and maintenance of SuDS.
Council Capital Funding	The Councils infrastructure programme prioritising capital improvement projects. In recent years the programme has included funding for several flood alleviation schemes but future funding is uncertain.	£Nil Presently only emergency works are considered.	RMBC	Measures which are small to medium capital projects
Council Revenue Funding	<p>The Council currently funds maintenance of existing assets via the revenue budgets of the departments where liability falls, including Streetpride, Neighbourhoods, Resources.</p> <p>Defra funding of £156.3k per annum has been provided to finance the execution of the Council's new duties. Funding at this level is expected to continue until 2015. Funding for financial year 2015/16 and beyond will be subject to government spending review.</p>	<p>Highway Drainage & Land Drainage Maintenance (£143k)</p> <p>Gully cleansing (£159k)</p> <p>Waste Disposal (£48k)</p> <p>Flood Management Team (£156k)</p>	RMBC	Measures requiring officer time and/or maintenance activity

Table 3 - Potential Sources Of Funding

10.0 THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 Effects of Climate Change

The Environment Agency commissioned work to consider the varying impacts of climate change on sources of local flood risk for each River Basin District across England and Wales.

10.2 The Evidence

There is clear scientific evidence that global climate change is happening now. It cannot be ignored. Over the past century around the UK we have seen sea level rise and more of our winter rain falling in intense wet spells. Seasonal rainfall is highly variable. It seems to have decreased in summer and increased in winter, although winter amounts changed little in the last 50 years. Some of the changes might reflect natural variation, however the broad trends are in line with projections from climate models.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) levels in the atmosphere are likely to cause higher winter rainfall in future. Past GHG emissions mean some climate change is inevitable in the next 20-30 years. Lower emissions could reduce the amount of climate change further into the future, but changes are still projected at least as far ahead as the 2080s.

We have enough confidence in large scale climate models to say that we must plan for change. There is more uncertainty at a local scale but model results can still help us plan to adapt. For example we understand rain storms may become more intense, even if we can't be sure about exactly where or when. By the 2080s, the latest UK climate projections (UKCP09) are that there could be around three times as many days in winter with heavy rainfall (defined as more than 25mm in a day). It is plausible that the amount of rain in extreme storms (with a 1 in 5 annual chance or rarer) could increase locally by 40%.

10.3 Key Projections for Humber River Basin District

If emissions follow a medium future scenario, UKCP09 projected changes by the 2050s relative to the recent past are:

- Winter precipitation increases of around 12% (very likely to be between 2 and 26%)
- Precipitation on the wettest day in winter up by around 12% (very unlikely to be more than 24%)
- Peak river flows in a typical catchment likely to increase between 8 and 14%

10.4 Implications for Flood Risk

Climate changes can affect local flood risk in several ways. Impacts will depend on local conditions and vulnerability. Wetter winters and more of this rain falling in wet spells may increase river flooding. More intense rainfall causes more surface runoff, increasing localised flooding and erosion. In turn, this may increase pressure on drains, sewers and water quality. Storm intensity in summer could increase even in drier summers, so we need to be prepared for the unexpected.

Drainage systems in the district have been modified to manage water levels and could help in adapting locally to some impacts of future climate on flooding, but may also need to be managed differently. Rising river levels may also increase local flood risk away from major rivers because of interactions with drains, sewers and smaller watercourses. Where appropriate, we need local studies to understand climate impacts in detail, including effects from other factors like land use. Sustainable development and drainage will help us adapt to climate change and manage the risk of damaging floods in future.

10.5 Adapting to Change

Past emission means some climate change is inevitable. It is essential we respond by planning ahead. We can prepare by understanding our current and future vulnerability to flooding, developing plans for increased resilience and building the capacity to adapt. Regular review and adherence to these plans is key to achieving

long-term, sustainable benefits. Although the broad climate change picture is clear, we have to make local decisions based on a degree of uncertainty. We will therefore consider a range of measures and retain flexibility to adapt. This approach, embodied within flood risk appraisal guidance, will help to ensure that we do not increase our vulnerability to flooding.

10.6 Long Term Developments

It is possible that long term developments might affect the occurrence and significance of flooding. However current planning policy aims to prevent new development from increasing flood risk.

In England, National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) aims to "ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas at highest risk. Where new development is, exceptionally, necessary in such areas, policy aims to make it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere and where possible, reducing flood risk overall."

Adherence to Government policy ensures that new development does not increase local flood risk. However, in exceptional circumstances the Local Planning Authority may accept that flood risk can be increased contrary to Government policy, usually because of the wider benefits of a new or proposed major development. Any exceptions would not be expected to increase risk to levels which are "significant" (in terms of the Government's criteria).

11.0 ENVIRONMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

The Strategy considers that the LFRMS is a significant local strategy and, consequently has been appraised under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations. Reprioritisation of flood risk areas has been carried out taking into account environmental factors assessed in the SEA report. More detailed assessment of flood risk management actions, including revenue works and capital schemes will be undertaken using the SEA findings.

Where possible, opportunities should be sought to enhance the river corridor habitats, landscape, access and amenity facilities to support the local planning policy drive to develop green infrastructure and increase access to the riversides. The effect of the strategy on the Council's carbon emissions, and hence climate change, are part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The Councils Climate Change Adaptation Plan identifies specific measures which are targeted at managing the consequences of more frequent severe rainfall events. These measures have been addressed by complementary measures in this Strategy.

Funding applications for flood defence works are assessed against criteria which also assess benefits unrelated to flood risk and projects which deliver environmental improvements score more highly and are therefore more likely to obtain funding.

12.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

Consultation on the strategy was carried out in 2 stages. The first stage of consultation was carried out as part of the strategy development and was limited to other RMAs and stakeholders who have a major involvement with the strategy. The strategy places obligations on these organisations, so they were given the opportunity to contribute to the draft before was circulated more widely.

The secondary consultation was carried out on the updated draft strategy and the Strategic Environmental Assessment simultaneously. This consultation was available on the Council's website and open to all (e.g. communities, flood action groups, Parish Councils, members of the public etc). A combination of targeted consultations and publicising the existence of the strategy was used to maximise the breadth and quantity of feedback.

This strategy has been updated to take into account responses from both stages of the consultation.

13.0 CIVIL CONTINGENCIES AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The Emergency Planning Shared Service, Rotherham & Sheffield have responsibility for the planning for and management of the Council's response to emergencies, through the Borough Emergency Plan and any other relevant Plans.

The increasing knowledge of flood risk will be used to feed into the Rotherham Multi-Agency Flood Response Plan, particularly in the following areas:

- Production of flood hazard maps combining depth and velocity information.
- Improved assessment of flood risk to critical infrastructure utilities, i.e. gas, electricity, water and telecommunications installations and the consequences of the loss of these installations during flooding.
- Principal highways. Major flooding incidents
- Business continuity.
- Reservoir inundation plans, including reservoirs outside of Rotherham.
- Determine in greater detail the risk of flooding to residential and non residential buildings.

14.0 THE ROLE OF THE PLANNING AUTHORITY

To meet the requirements of the Strategy the role of the Planning Authority is as follows (refer also to item 6.9 above):

- Responsibility to consider flood risk in Local Plans.
- Responsibility to consider flood risk when assessing applications for development.
- Working with the SAB at early pre-planning stage.

15.0 SUDS APPROVING BODY (SAB)

Section 6.10 lists the duties of the SAB. Implementation of this section of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 is now expected to come into force in autumn 2014 for major developments and in 2017 for other developments with drainage implications.

This section will be updated when further information about the implementation is available.

16.0 ADDRESSING THE SKILLS GAP

The skills necessary to undertake new responsibilities imposed on the Council by the FWM Act have been partially addressed Defra's capacity building training programme. The introduction of SABs will require additional staff resources and training and funding arrangements for both the adoption and future maintenance.

The phased implementation of the FWM Act relating to SuDS, as currently proposed, will reduce the impact for the first 3 years and the ongoing maintenance liability will accumulate over the years from a zero base. It is anticipated that, until the second phase of the implementation, existing resources will be sufficient. A more detailed assessment of staffing levels and training requirements will be made when full details of the SAB process are confirmed by government.

17.0 DATA MANAGEMENT

Satisfying the objectives of the Strategy will entail the collection, creation and recording of large amounts of data.

A policy to control the storage and use of this data has been produced and is included in Appendix C. The policy, which is specific to flood risk management functions is compatible with the Council's data management policies, licensing agreements and legislation such as the Data Protection Act and The Freedom of information Act.

It is recognised that in order to achieve the maximum benefit from the available data, it should be freely available. The policy considers the most appropriate format for the data to be made available, taking into account the restrictions above. Modelled predictions of flood extents and similar data should not be presented in a format which implies a greater accuracy than can be achieved in practice.

18.0 THE ROLE OF SCRUTINY AND OVERVIEW COMMITTEES

The Flood and Water Management Act requires LLFAs to ensure that adequate scrutiny arrangements are put in place, including arrangements to review and scrutinise the exercise by risk management authorities of flood risk management functions or coastal erosion risk management functions which may affect the local authority's area.

Risk management authorities must comply with a request made by an overview and scrutiny committee for information and/or a response to a report, and must have regard to reports and recommendations of an overview and scrutiny committee. In effect, the Act extends Local Authority scrutiny to cover the full range of flood risk management activities carried out within the local authority area.

The Local Government Association Framework to assist the development of the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management identifies the following areas to be considered for the strategy.

- What existing expertise exists among elected members in the locality?
- Have there been previous scrutiny exercises on a task and finish select committee approach that could provide a local model?
- Can an existing committee undertake the role, or is an entirely new grouping required? Does the area wish to focus on specific priorities, or to take a broad overview of the whole range of water management activities?
- How can the scrutiny process be developed as a two-way dialogue between committee members and risk management authorities, such that the expertise and knowledge of Members is enhanced and deepened?
- Member support can be developed through proactive briefing and workshops, especially in developing an understanding of the roles of different risk management authorities; and
- The rationale for, and scope of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy needs to be explained clearly, particularly its local relevance in relation to other existing priorities.

19.0 REVIEWING AND REVISING THE STRATEGY

The Flood Risk Regulations 2009 stipulate a six year cycle of flood risk planning based on a four stage process of:

- Undertaking a Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) (2011).
- Identifying flood risk areas (2011).
- Preparing flood hazard and risk maps (2013).
- Preparing flood risk management plans (2013).

The Strategy will be reviewed, revised and subjected to Scrutiny and Council Approval on the six year cycle as a minimum. The Strategy is a living document and it will be necessary to update parts on a more frequent basis, for example following changes in legislation or major flooding incidents. Sections of the Strategy which are required to be updated on a more frequent basis, such as the action plan, have been included as appendices to allow easy revision.

ROTHERHAM MBC (LLFA) – ACTION PLAN

Objective 1 - Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk within the LLFA

	Action	Action Plan	Responsibility	Target Date
1.1	Review the skills and knowledge of FRM officers and others and address any identified weaknesses.	Assess what skills are required to deliver effective flood risk management. If required skills and resources are not currently available, determine the best way to obtain them, e.g. develop in-house or buy in as and when necessary. The resources required to carry out the SAB function are still currently unknown.	LLFA SAB	Dec 2014
1.2	Record Historical Flood Data	Capture historic flood data from Council's records in GIS format. Future flooding to be recorded on the same system.	LLFA	Completed
1.3	Information from stakeholder engagement	Collect data from stakeholders about drainage systems and flood incidents.	LLFA	Completed
1.4	Record Drainage and Flood Assets including critical assets	Identifying the location, capacity and condition of drainage assets is key to understanding how local flood risk is managed. Understanding the interaction between rivers, watercourses, sewers, highway drains, private drainage SuDS, reservoirs, land drainage, groundwater and overland flows is critical to understanding flood risk. The level of detail currently recorded varies greatly across these differing asset types.	LLFA	Majority by Dec 2013 but ongoing
1.5	Predicted flood risk	Review currently available models of flooding including The Environment Agency's flood maps and FMfSW and AStSWF. Risk of flooding from Surface Water mapping also considered.	LLFA	Completed
1.6	Detailed assessment high flood risk locations identified in PFRA	Rotherham's PFRA identified 106 locations where critical infrastructure or 10 or more residential properties are at risk of surface water flooding, according to the modelling done by the Environment Agency. These areas will be investigated in detail to verify the risk and determine whether mitigation measures are required. If so, the feasibility of mitigation measures will be assessed, including an assessment of cost/benefit and therefore the likelihood of funding.	LLFA	Mar 2013 20% Mar 2014 60% Mar 2015 100%

1.6 cont	Detailed assessment high flood risk locations identified in PFRA (continued)	<p>The interaction between river and surface water flooding is particularly complex and needs to be better understood by the Environment Agency and the LLFA if flood risk is to be accurately assessed.</p> <p>The at risk areas, which have been prioritised by number of properties at risk and their environmental sensitivity, will generally assessed in priority order, but areas may be assessed before those with a higher priority if there is an operational reason to do so, e.g. they are in the same sub-catchment as a higher ranked area or if there is a flood or major development planned.</p> <p>4 number Surface Water Management Plans have been carried out in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town Centre / Forge Island ○ Wath-Upon-Dearne ○ Aston / Aughton / Swallownest ○ Anston / Dinnington / Laughton Common <p>The SWMP areas include 26 of the 106 risk areas.</p>	LLFA	<p>Mar 2013 20%</p> <p>Mar 2014 60%</p> <p>Mar 2015 100%</p> <p>SWMPs completed</p>
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Objective 2 - Improve the level of understanding of local flood risk amongst partners, stakeholders and communities.

2.1	Publish a clear strategy and publicise its existence	The strategy is by nature, a technical document addressing complex issues but it is imperative that the main priorities in the strategy are understandable by all stakeholders.	LLFA	June 2014
2.2	Develop information strategy to improve partner and stakeholder knowledge	<p>The Council needs to translate the technical information on flood risk into simple, readily understandable terms. Text and graphics should be used to allow partners and stakeholders to understand the risk relevant to their interests. Innovative means of conveying complex information will be investigated, sharing best practice from other LLFA's.</p> <p>Planned publication of predicted surface water flood risk areas will raise the profile of flood mapping with the general public. It is important that information about how the published information is interpreted is included with the published information.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014

Objective 3 - Formalise arrangements between Risk Management Authorities

3.1	Agree protocols	<p>Risk Management Authorities are listed in section 6, with a description of their roles and responsibilities.</p> <p>Responsibilities of parties to be mutually agreed with agreed protocols for sharing of information, promoting joint works.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
3.2	Formalise arrangements with adjoining LLFAs. Cross Boundary Issues.	<p>Identify which catchments and/or watercourses extend beyond the borough boundary.</p> <p>Adjoining local authorities to be consulted on the strategy.</p> <p>FRM responsibilities on watercourses which cross or run along boundaries to be agreed with neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>Where possible, procedures and systems should be compatible with procedures of adjoining authorities. Data formats should be the same or easily convertible. Sharing of information and technology.</p>	LLFA Adjoining LLFAs	Dec 2014
3.3	Environment Agency	<p>Responsible for the management and maintenance of flows within Main Rivers.</p> <p>Strategic overview for all forms of flooding</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
3.4	Water Companies	<p>Water companies (Yorkshire Water and Severn Trent) have a duty to maintain public sewers and ancillaries.</p> <p>Develop agreements with water companies</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
3.5	Danvm (formerly Dearne & Dove) IDB	<p>Responsible for the management and maintenance of flows within Ordinary watercourse within their domain (i.e. part of Wath Upon Dearne area.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
3.6	Highways Agency	<p>The M1, M18 and associated junctions are the only highways in Rotherham Managed by the Highways Agency. Assess the effect of the motorway assets on flood risk and whether a formal arrangement is necessary.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014

Objective 4 - Formalise Policies and Procedures for new responsibilities at set out in the Flood Risk Regulations (2009) and Flood and Water Management Act (2010).

4.1	Consenting Works Affecting Ordinary Watercourses	Produce a procedure for consenting of works affecting ordinary watercourses. The procedure to be an appendix to this strategy. Produce local guidelines for public use.	LLFA	June 2014
4.2	Carry out Flood investigations Section 19 Flood Investigations Other Investigations	Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 imposes a duty on Local Authorities to investigate flooding incidents to determine and publish which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions and whether these were exercised. A procedure / policy is required to define how this duty will be satisfied. The Council's will investigate all internal flooding but the criteria under Section 19 of the Act will be based <u>on 5 or more internal flooding to properties</u> . The findings of Section 19 investigations will be published on the Council's website. In practice, the Council will investigate, to some degree, all reported flood incidents. As a minimum, locations and details from the report, will be recorded on the Council's mapping system. The procedure to be an appendix to this strategy.	LLFA	Policy June 2014 Publish S19 Findings- Within 6 Months Of Flood
4.3	Designating Flood/ Drainage Assets	The Councils current knowledge of 3rd party drainage features or structures is limited. Work carried out to deliver Objective 1 will allow the Council to judge the merits of designating such assets. The Council is obliged to designate new SuDS created by the SAB. The Council will formulate a procedure for the designation of non-SuDS features including criteria to determine which assets to designate. The procedure to be an appendix to this strategy.	LLFA	June 2014

Objective 5 - Create Asset Record and Register to record drainage infrastructure and FRM assets

5.1	Create Asset Record showing location of watercourses where consenting powers have been transferred to LLFA	Fundamental to undertaking flood risk management duties on ordinary watercourses is knowing the location and extents of these watercourses. Although the intention is to work towards a “definitive” watercourse map, it is not a priority to achieve 100% because doing so in areas of low flood risk would not be an efficient use of resources.	LLFA	Dec 2014
5.2	Asset Register and Record Maintain a public Asset Register	Establish Asset Register and Record and update year on year. Determine what information from the record is to be made publicly available and the format for doing so. The procedure to be an appendix to this strategy.	LLFA	Procedure And Establish Register Sept 2014
5.3	Populate above record to include at least 90% of watercourses by length and all watercourses in identified flood risk areas	The Councils register of drainage assets will include the following structures or features <i>For pipes / culverts</i> <i>The diameter is greater than 600mm or cross sectional area is greater than 0.3m² or</i> <i>The pipe/culvert has a recorded history of flooding or</i> <i>The pipe/culvert is within 20m of a cluster of 5 or more recorded flood incidents (non-cellar) – excluding pipes of 225mm diameter or less</i> <i>For trash grilles</i> <i>The grille is council-maintained and is on the monthly clearance programme or</i> <i>The grille is privately-maintained and total blockage would cause flooding of adjacent infrastructure</i> <i>For surface water pumping stations</i> All pumping stations to be included <i>For SuDS</i> All new SuDS adopted by the LLFA	LLFA	90% by length Dec 2014

Objective 6 - Improve management of Council owned drainage and flood management assets

6.1	Identify highest risk open and closed watercourses, highway drains and other drainage/flood features	The Council has a statutory duty to maintain highway drains but only a riparian responsibility to keep watercourses within its ownership clear of obstructions. Some watercourses create a high flood risk for nearby communities and would benefit from a more structured and targeted maintenance regime. The council will carry out a comprehensive, methodical survey of all known, non-Environment Agency or Water Company, assets	LLFA	Dec 2014
6.2	Watercourses in Council Land	<p>As a major landowner, the Council has riparian responsibility for many watercourses. The extents of these will be identified, and the department responsible for their maintenance will be determined.</p> <p>Currently there are culverted watercourses where the department responsible may not even be aware of the existence of the culvert. CCTV surveys of surface water culverts carried out following recent flooding incidents has shown that some of the culverts are in poor condition. The extent of the potential liability is not currently known. A culvert in Council owned land in Swallownest, the existence of which was not known in 2009, collapsed and the cost of replacing just 80m of this was in excess of £250k.</p> <p>A plan for inspection and maintenance of open watercourses and culverts in Council land will be produced.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
6.3	Highway Structures	<p>Many highway structures have an effect on watercourses, bridges, culverts and walls. All structures are inspected periodically, but the inspections are infrequent and concentrate on the condition of the structure, rather than the effect on flow due to silt and vegetation etc.</p> <p>The Design Manual For Roads and Bridges, Volume 1, Section 1, Part 1 BD/2/12 Paragraph 3.3 states that culverts or bridges with a clear span or diameter greater than 0.9m require technical approval, and once constructed, require periodic inspection.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014

6.3 cont	Highway Structures (continue)	Rotherham Streetpride inspects and maintains many smaller assets in the same way, but pipes smaller than 450mm diameter are generally not classed as highway structures. Responsibility for their maintenance should be determined.	LLFA	Dec 2014
6.4	Highway Drainage Systems	Historically, highway drainage systems within Rotherham have not been well recorded, if at all. A highways asset register is currently being created, which includes recording the locations of assets visible on the surface, such as manhole covers and gullies. Highway drains will be recorded as part of the data gathering for the asset record.	LLFA	Dec 2015
6.5	Private Drainage Systems	<p>Since the transfer of the majority of private sewers to the water companies, the number of private sewers has decreased massively, however surface water sewers did not transfer.</p> <p>Private drainage systems which remain the responsibility of the Council will be identified, and the department responsible for their maintenance will be determined.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
6.6	Develop an affordable cyclical inspection and maintenance regime based on risk	Maintenance budgets are limited and need to be targeted at those areas where the risk of flooding is highest. The extent of flood risk and the asset type, condition and vulnerability to temporary blockage will influence the type and frequency of maintenance required. The maintenance of the watercourses to maximise the drainage of surface water will be balanced with sensitive treatment of the biodiversity elements. Maintenance plans will incorporate appropriate direction on responsible management of the local water environment. Cyclical maintenance plans will be reviewed for trash grilles protecting council-owned culverts, highway gullies and open watercourses where regular clearance would be beneficial in protecting downstream properties and infrastructure. Plans will be adapted as new information is collected.	LLFA	Dec 2014

6.7	Implement a responsive, reactive maintenance regime based on risk	The Council cannot afford to carry out planned, preventative maintenance to all the drainage assets it is responsible for. There will be some situations where the Council may have to respond reactively to situations which arise suddenly or are reported directly by the public. The speed and type of response will be determined by the level of flood risk and the resources available. Existing council systems for receipt of, and response to, requests for maintenance work will be re assessed to ensure a risk-based approach is followed.	LLFA	Dec 2014
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Objective 7 - Encourage proactive, responsible maintenance of privately-owned flood defence and drainage assets

7.1	Identify highest risk private flood defence and drainage assets	<p>The vast majority of watercourses are in private ownership. Whilst riparian owners have a general responsibility to keep watercourses free of obstruction, a higher level of maintenance, which might help in maximising capacity, will need support and encouragement for private landowners. More often than not, landowners will be unaware of the level of flood risk associated with their watercourse. The Council will filter information collected under for the asset record to identify private assets. The assets will be allocated a flood risk significance level, to highlight the private assets of greatest concern. A database of higher-risk private assets, with details of the risk and suggested maintenance regimes will be compiled.</p> <p>Historically the Council has had powers (but no duty) under the Land Drainage Act to take enforcement action against riparian owners. These powers have been little used and have only been used reactively. The new duties require the Council to take a more proactive role, particularly with regard to inspecting and recording of third party assets.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
7.2	Develop technical advice for owners to guide them in preparing local maintenance plans	Improving knowledge of the location and condition of private drainage assets, acquired through Measures 1.1 and 1.3, will allow the Council to suggest appropriate proactive maintenance measures to reduce the risk of flooding to themselves and adjacent landowners. Maintenance plans will manage and maintain both the efficient flow of water along the watercourse and a healthy and attractive biodiverse environment. A general advice note on riparian rights and responsibilities is available from the Environment Agency.	LLFA	Dec 2014
7.3	Partnership Working	Maximise the benefits from partnership working with flood risk partners and our stakeholders	LLFA	Dec 2014

Objective 8 - Co-ordinate Flood Risk Management and Planning functions to reduce flood risk to existing and proposed developments.

8.1	Develop and apply a robust local policy on FRM and drainage solutions on new development sites	The development of new sites and redevelopment of existing sites gives the Council an opportunity to reduce flood risk within the sites and upstream and downstream of the sites. National planning guidance exists which encourages the Council to adopt a consistent approach when recommending appropriate flood risk measures for new development sites. The national guidance is currently under review but the Council is committed to adopting a similar, local approach in the future which will replicate the national guidance. The council will continue to set stretching targets for developers in relation to permitted discharges from new or redeveloped sites, reassessing the targets as the council acquires more evidence of local flood risk. The Council's advice on flood risk and drainage for new development sites, based on the national guidance, will be reviewed against the developing legislation and strengthened to give clear and robust advice to developers.	RMBC Planning	On establishment of SAB
8.2	Develop a process with the Planning Department to create clear advice and direction to developers on FRM and Drainage	Flood management and drainage solutions for development sites can be space-intensive and it is vital that early discussions with developers and planning officers take place to allow appropriate provision to be designed into the development. It is essential that the local guidance to be produced in Measure 5.1 forms part of an internal council procedure that integrates technical advice with the planning application process. Agreement and application of FRM and Drainage advice has to be translated into appropriate conditions attached to planning approvals. The Council will develop a procedure to ensure that appropriate and timely advice is given to planners and developers and that planning approvals and conditions are clear and enforceable.	RMBC Planning	On establishment of SAB

8.3	Use available information on flood risk to identify appropriate development potential	<p>The Council, as Planning Authority, has a responsibility to direct development towards areas where flood risk is lowest and any proposed development is appropriate to the flood risk present at the site. An increasing amount of evidence is available to identify and quantify the flood risk that exists across the borough. The evidence base for flood risk will be used alongside environmental, social and financial factors to determine sustainable solutions for local issues. The relevant previous and developing plans and strategies will be reviewed. The Councils Core Strategy for the Local Plans is complete and flood risk is presented in broad terms. The aspirations of this strategy, and the related plans and policies, will be embedded in the future land allocation processes required by the Local Plans.</p> <p>Incorporating policies and recommendations within Rotherham MBC LDF, through the development of a water management and flood resilient design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).</p> <p>Actively manage flood risk associated with new development proposals. Influence land allocations in Local Plans to reflect flood risk.</p>	LLFA RMBC Planning	Dec 2014
8.4	Establish the SuDS Approving Body (SAB)	The timetable implementation of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 in relation to SuDS and the establishment of SABs is currently unknown but it is now expected to come into force from Autumn 2014.	Defra RMBC	Autumn 2014

Objective 9 - Take a sustainable approach to FRM, balancing economic, environmental and social benefits from policies and programmes, including a Strategic Environmental Assessment

9.1	Carry out a strategic assessment of the environmental impact of the strategy	<p>The Council considers that the LFRMS is a significant local strategy and, consequently requires appraisal under the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations.</p> <p>Where possible, opportunities should be sought to enhance the river corridor habitats, landscape, access and amenity facilities to support the local planning policy drive to develop green infrastructure and increase access to the riversides.</p> <p>More detailed assessment of environmental impact of flood risk management actions, including revenue works and capital schemes will be undertaken using the SEA findings.</p>	LLFA	<p>SEA Completed Nov 2013</p> <p>Dec 2014</p>
9.2	Climate Change	<p>The effect of the strategy on the Council's carbon emissions, and hence climate change, will be part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment.</p> <p>The Councils Climate Change Adaptation Plan identifies specific measures which are targeted at managing the consequences of more frequent severe rainfall events. These measures have been addressed by complementary measures in this Strategy.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
9.3	Water Framework Directive (WFD) and Biodiversity 2020	<p>Assess the effect of the WFD and Biodiversity 2020 on existing policies and practices and develop guidelines for applicants and public. Consents for works on ordinary watercourses will require assessment against the WFD.</p> <p>Ensure that all actions within the strategy are compliant with the WFD.</p>	LLFA EA	<p>Dec 2014</p> <p>Dec 2014</p>
9.4	Fish and Eel Passage	Determine the extent of the ordinary watercourse network where fish and eel passage issues require consideration.	LLFA EA	Dec 2014

Objective 10 - Identify and promote schemes to reduce flood risk which are viable considering practicality, cost benefit and funding potential.

10.1	Develop a programme of schemes and initiatives which have a realistic prospect of being funded	<p>The strategy describes a suite of measures which can be taken to manage local flood risk. Some measures are more affordable than others with larger capital improvement schemes offering the greatest challenges for funding. The national funding administered by the Environment Agency targets schemes with evidenced high risk of property flooding, preferably with contributory funding from partners and stakeholders benefiting from the scheme. The Council's immediate priorities, using the outputs from the SWMP work carried out under Measure 1.6, are to establish an evidence base for the location and the extent of the risk of local flooding, quantify the size and potential effect of the risk and then identify costed options for appropriate and affordable mitigation measures. A programme of suitable projects which may attract capital funding will gradually develop over time. The council will deliver the actions detailed in the SWMP to help identify projects for the higher priority areas in the district.</p> <p>Funding applications often require feasibility or outline design to have been completed, to enable an accurate assessment of costs and benefits.</p> <p>Identify projects and programmes which are affordable, maximising capital funding from external sources</p> <p>Define an <i>action plan type</i> for all the flood risk areas e.g. Do nothing Maintain existing systems Promote flood alleviation schemes Promote Property Level Flood Protection</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
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10.1 cont	Develop a programme of schemes and initiatives which have a realistic prospect of being funded (continued)	<p>Rotherham Specific Flood Management Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green Ings Culvert (Station Road) Wath-Upon-Dearne ○ Whiston Brook ○ Catcliffe Pumps ○ Aldwarke Lane 	LLFA	Dec 2014
10.2	Develop and implement a policy on de-culverting	<p>The presence of culverts has been identified as a key factor in limiting the achievement of good ecological potential/ status as defined by the Water Framework Directive. Culverts can impact negatively on watercourses by creating:</p> <p>Flood risks from issues of capacity, blockage and collapse</p> <p>Potential barriers to fish migration</p> <p>Impeding the operation of natural geomorphological processes</p> <p>Limitations on presence of aquatic flora and fauna</p> <p>A 'separation' of the community from the watercourse</p> <p>Determine the extents of culverted watercourses as part of the asset record and identify which of these may be suitable.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014

Objective 11 - Identify potential sources of funding.

11.1	Determine all other funding sources, Council, partners and other external, and maximise “match-funding”	Potential sources of funding are listed in Section 9.0. Manage expectations we will need to set out clearly the aims of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.	LLFA	June 2015
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Objective 12 - Co-ordinate Flood Risk Management and Emergency Planning procedures

12.1	Embed the LFRMS into response and recovery plans and use developing knowledge on flood risk to “tune” emergency procedures	<p>The Emergency Planning Shared Service, Rotherham & Sheffield have responsibility for the planning for and management of the Council’s response to emergencies, through the Borough Emergency Plan and any other relevant Plans.</p> <p>The increasing knowledge of flood risk will be used to feed into the Rotherham Multi-Agency Flood Response Plan, particularly in the following areas: Production of flood hazard maps combining depth and velocity information. Improved assessment of flood risk to critical infrastructure, principal highways</p> <p>Business continuity.</p> <p>Inundation plans.</p> <p>Determine in greater detail the risk of flooding to utilities, i.e. gas, electricity, water and telecommunications installations and the consequences of the loss of these installations during flooding.</p>	LLFA	Dec 2014
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Objective 13 - Take into account equalities by carrying out an Equality Impact Assessment

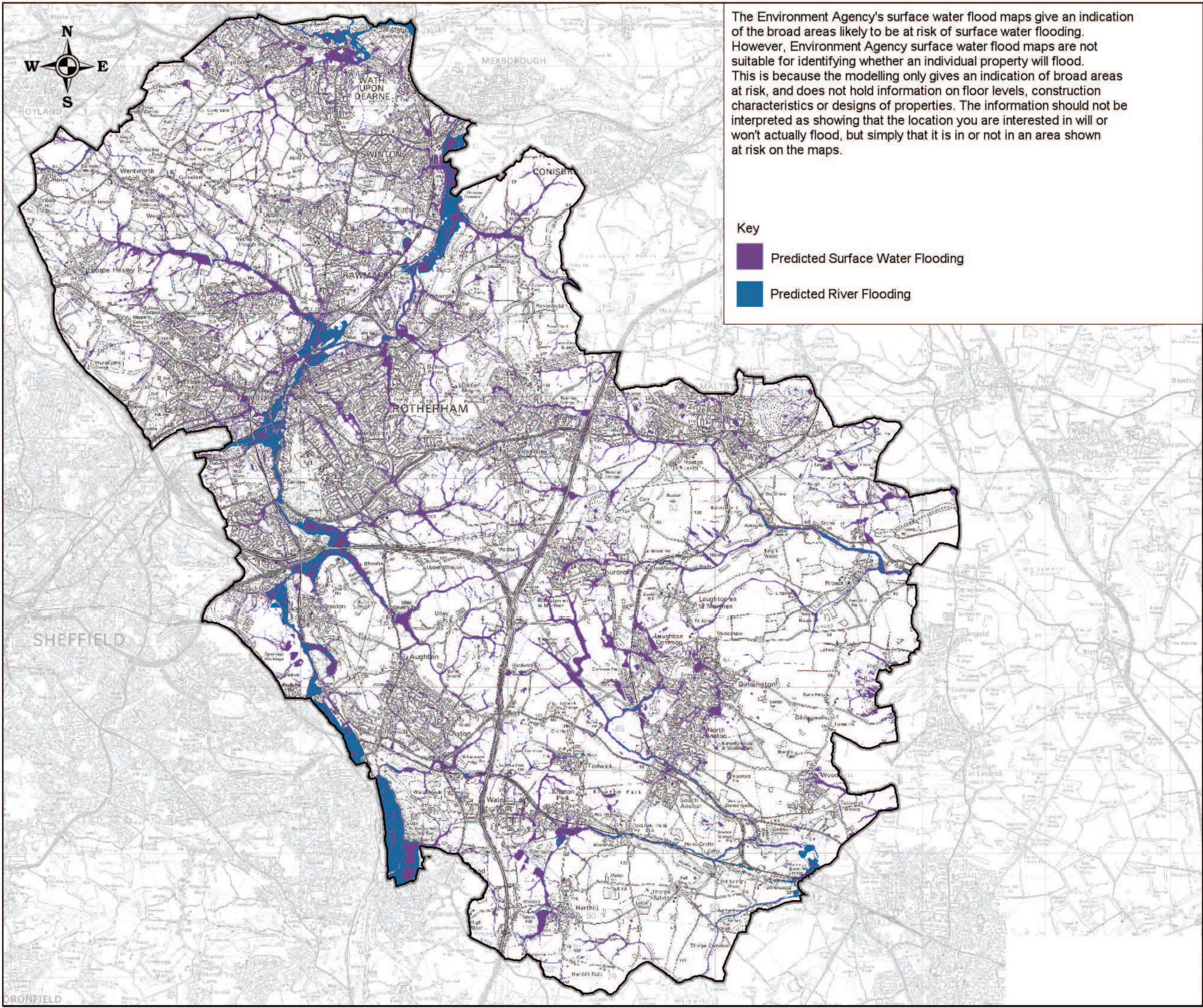
13.1	Equality Impact Assessment of completed strategy	The process will be in line with the guidance from the Equality and Human Rights Commission. An Equality Analysis and consultation process will be carried out in accordance with the Council's Equality Policy.	LLFA	June 2014
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Objective 14 - Promote buy-in by stakeholders by consulting during Strategy preparation and on completed Strategy

14.1	Consultation	Consultation will be carried out in 2 stages. The primary consultation will be carried out as part of the strategy development. This consultation will be targeted at stakeholders who have a major involvement with the strategy and will be carried out	LLFA	Completed
		The secondary consultation will be carried out when a draft strategy has been completed.	LLFA	Completed
		Rotherham Council has engaged with the public and Community Action Groups regarding future flood risk management, to build trust, raise awareness, and gain local knowledge.		

Objective 15 - Secure commitment from all Flood Risk Management Authorities to act in accordance with the Strategy by official acceptance by the relevant Boards, Committees, PSOC etc.

15.1	Present draft strategy to PSOC	The Strategy should be presented to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee as a draft and also on completion.	LLFA	Feb 2014
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The Environment Agency's surface water flood maps give an indication of the broad areas likely to be at risk of surface water flooding. However, Environment Agency surface water flood maps are not suitable for identifying whether an individual property will flood. This is because the modelling only gives an indication of broad areas at risk, and does not hold information on floor levels, construction characteristics or designs of properties. The information should not be interpreted as showing that the location you are interested in will or won't actually flood, but simply that it is in or not in an area shown at risk on the maps.

- Key
- Predicted Surface Water Flooding
 - Predicted River Flooding

Rotherham
Metropolitan
Borough Council



Environment &
Development Services

Strategic Director:
Karl Battersby Bsc(Hons)MPLMRTPI

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Environment & Development Services
Riverside House, Main Street,
Rotherham, S60 1AE

Client:

A	Surface Water updated with latest modelling output	May 14	PH	SL
Rev	Description	Date	Initial	Chd.
Project Rotherham Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)				
Title River & Surface Water (1:1000) Flooding				
Draw. No.	187/46/DR001	Rev	A	
Scale NTS				
Drawn	P.H.	Date	May 2014	Chd. by S.L.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetpride Service

Policy for Consents or Approval of Works Affecting and Ordinary Watercourse

Introduction

On the 6th April 2012 Defra announced a transfer of power under Floods and Water Management Act in 2010, whereby Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) have the responsibility for managing local flood risk.

It is a duty of the LLFA to determine Flood Defence Consents on ordinary watercourses, with the exception of ordinary watercourses which are the responsibility of the Internal Drainage Board i.e. in the Wath Upon Dearne area of Rotherham.

The following table defines terms set out in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 for LLFA.

Term	Definition	Source
ordinary watercourse	a “watercourse” that does not form part of a “main river”	Flood and Water Management Act 2010
watercourse	includes all rivers and streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991) and passages, through which water flows.	Land Drainage Act 1991 [section 72(1)]
main river	watercourse shown as such on a main river map. Main river maps are held by Defra and Welsh Government and copies are available to LLFAs as a GIS layer on GEOSTORE.	Water Resources Act 1991 [Section 113]
culvert	a covered channel or pipe designed to prevent the obstruction of a watercourse or drainage path by an artificial construction. There is no definition in current legislation. This definition will be added to Section 72 of the Land Drainage Act	Flood and Water Management Act 2010 Paragraph 39

Aims of determining a consent

To determine a Consent the following should apply :-

- Consents apply to the channel within the ordinary watercourse only.
- Controlling obstructions to flow on ordinary watercourses.
- No increase in flood risk upstream and downstream.

- Works are carried out in such a way as to avoid unnecessary environmental damage
- Consents can not be given to retrospective works

Works that REQUIRE a consent

- Box Culverting, (extension or removal of under Land Drainage Act 1991 Section 23 (1) (b), including trash screens Section 23 (1) (c)
- Culverts within channel (extension or removal of under Land Drainage Act 1991 Section 23 (1) (b))
- Bridge structures or pipe crossing structures within channel (under Land Drainage Act 1991 Section 23 (1)(a) if placed on bed and under Section 23 (1)(b) if above bed)
- Weirs and Dam like obstructions, this could include temporary works (under Land Drainage Act 1991 Section 23 (1)(a))
- If the structure is “likely” to impede the flow of a watercourse
- Temporary works may require consent, e.g. scaffolding, a dam, overpumping, or significant in-channel works

It is important to note that the proposed consent may require other permissions such as environmental or ecological permission, SSI sites, heritage site, IDB, Environment Agency for water quality or pollution issues etc.

Consent does not give right to go on third party land, or cause environmental harm.

Works that would normally NOT REQUIRE a consent but may require Written Approval from the LLFA

- Bank protection works (under Land Drainage Act 1991, Temporary works may require consent).
- Pipe Crossings below or above channel (under Land Drainage Act 1991 as it does not affect the watercourse – Potential temporary works consent)
- Outfalls (under Land Drainage Act 1991 as it will not act like a dam/weir or like obstruction)
- Clear span bridges (under Land Drainage Act 1991 as does not interfere with flow).

Routine maintenance of ordinary watercourses should not normally require consent, e.g. tree works, removing debris, but may require written permission from the LLFA.

For all consents or written approvals, consideration should be given to future maintenance and where necessary works should be designed to allow for extreme storm events and climate change.

Consent Process

The consent process is normally carried out in four stages and is detailed in Appendix A and Appendix B.

All Consents or written approval for all works affecting an ordinary watercourse are entered onto the LLFA Register for record purposes.

Objectives

It is a duty of the LLFA to provide adequate surface water management within its catchment area. The main aims for works on ordinary watercourse are to provide maintenance of the watercourse, protect the environment, prevent damage to the channel and embankments and to ensure that all flows are not being impeded.

It is essential that all consents and approval are adequately recorded in the LLFA register and are in strict compliance with the Floods and Water Management Act 2010.

APPENDIX A

Consent Process

The consent process is normally carried out in four stages. Guidance on each stage is provided as follows:

1. Pre-application

- It is normally better to encourage applicants to undertake works in such a way that a consent is not required
- A clear span bridge is better than a culvert
- Scaffolding outside of the channel is better than within the channel
- Directional drilling is less disruptive to a watercourse than an open cut trench

2. Determination

When determining a consent the following should apply :-

- TWO MONTHS from the date of receiving the application, or on receipt of a fee, whichever is later
- Consultation with other relevant internal functions, particularly ecology
- Conditions can be included, but must be relevant and linked to the “timing and manner” of the works
- Always condition the time for works to be completed (e.g. 36 months maximum)
- Consent can either be granted or refused, there is no mechanism for an extension. If consent is not determined within 2 months, then it is automatically granted
- Need for decision making audit trail (e.g. for ombudsman purposes, appeals and challenges)

There are TWO types of refusal based on :-

- Insufficient information
- Design and manner

3. Design Guidance

Before any consent within a watercourse is considered the works must be designed and carried out to an approved standard. The following documents provide the necessary information and should be considered at the consent stage:

- CIRIA design manual for culverts
- EA/DEFRA guidance on trash screens
- EA can provide general information on most types of structures, such as pipe crossings, bridges, weirs and bank protection (EA Fluvial Design Guide – on-line)

Examples of work within a watercourse which WOULD require consent are as follows:

a. Weirs or Dams



b. Culverts



c. Trash Screens or Grids



d. Highway Works or Culverts



4. Appeals

Appeals are the 'last option' and should be avoided if possible. If the situation reaches the Appeal Stage then it will be necessary to provide and evidence all records, documentation, reasoning for refusing a consent. In extreme situations LLFA representatives may be required to attend a Court hearing, therefore ALWAYS seek Legal advice.

The following guidance should apply in all cases:-

- Try to resolve issues in the first instance
- If it goes to Arbitration, both parties agree an arbitrator
- An Arbitrator will look at whether consent has been unreasonably held
- Seek legal advice

Compliance

To comply with the requirements of the consents the following actions should be carried out :-

- A record should be kept of consents which have been determined

- Details of when works have commenced and completed should be kept
- Compliance checking of completed works should be undertaken, particularly high risk applications
- Recommend a data retention process, i.e. GIS, hard copies, electronic copies

Enforcement

The Land Drainage Act 1991 provides the LLFA with enforcement powers which are provided to ensure that the flows within the watercourse are not impeded. All enforcement actions taken by the LLFA will be against the riparian owner (or landowner) for failure to maintain the flows within a watercourse or for works carried out which causes the flows to be impeded.

The following is for guidance purposes:-

- Enforcement action is used to rectify unlawful or potentially damaging works, using risk based approach
- It is recommended that the following Enforcement Actions are taken:
 - a) Site visits and face to face meetings
 - b) Sending advisory
 - c) Sending warning letters
 - d) Serving notice under the relevant Section of the LDA enforce, prohibit or carry out works
 - e) Prosecution and reclaiming costs of prosecution
 - f) Remedial action plus recharge of costs of remedial action

NB – Serving Notices and Prosecution should be the last option, avoid this course of action if possible)

- Planning Enforcement action can be taken by the Planning Officer if the applicant is in breach of Planning Conditions

Enforcement Powers

The following Sections of the Land Drainage Act 1991 apply to enforcement powers which are as follows:-

Section 24 of the Land Drainage Act 1991

- Works which have been undertaken without consent

Section 25 Land Drainage Act 1991

- Where an ordinary watercourse is in such a condition that the proper flow of water is impeded
- Powers to serve notice so that the condition of the watercourse is remediated

NB – Section 23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 is NOT an enforcement action. Section 23 relates to consents only.

Ordinary Watercourse Enforcement Activities

The table below outlines the typical steps in an ordinary watercourse enforcement case. The individual circumstances of each case, both legal and factual, will inform and determine which step in the enforcement process is applicable at any one time.

Activity	Description	Suggested Action
Legislation	The Land Drainage Act 1991, as amended by the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, underpins regulation of ordinary watercourses.	<u>Land Drainage Act 1991</u> (particularly section 23) and <u>Flood and Water Management Act 2010</u> (principally paragraph 32 of schedule 2).
Training prior to carrying out enforcement	Persons undertaking an enforcement role should be trained and authorised in writing to do so. This will ensure that the required enforcement tasks are carried out safely and legally and that they have the right to lawfully enter land.	Receive training and ensure necessary authorisations in place prior to undertaking enforcement work.
Establish if an offence has been committed	A report or visual inspection of an asset may identify a problem which could be deemed an enforcement case.	Keep a record of any enforcement action taken including all relevant correspondence and telephone calls. - Seek advice from other colleagues or stakeholders with an interest in the case; - Assess whether consent has or may have been issued for problem; - Collect further information e.g. initial site visit to understand issues involved and extent of damage.

Classify risk and decide appropriate response	Carry out an initial assessment on whether the issue could cause a risk to life and property. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - criticality of location (e.g. proximity to critical assets e.g. culverts); - visible extent of damage to any assets or any water escape; - potential consequence of a failure - forecast weather conditions 	<p>If damage is considered high risk consider compiling a recommendations record. The final version forms part of any case file. Prepare for undertaking site specific enforcement action.</p> <p>If damage is considered low risk consider sending a warning letter with future monitoring to measure change.</p>
Investigate and gather evidence	Evidence is collected for a case.	Consider requirements for setting up an investigation, collecting evidence and bringing a matter before the courts, including preparation of a case file.
Choose and apply response to offence	<p>If you intend to issue a letter or legal notice you should give:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - written explanation of problem; - outline of what needs to be done and by when. <p>Where time permits, aim to serve a notice to give the offender an opportunity to rectify the problem without needing to go to court.</p>	<p>Consider issuing appropriate Notice or letter.</p> <p>! Important cases for prosecution must be presented within 6 months of the Notice lapsing. Within this period you must leave sufficient time to prepare a case. A delay could lead to a situation where no prosecution can be commenced.</p>
Review	Ongoing monitoring and review is important feedback to inform future approach and work effectively with customers.	<p>Consider raising public awareness by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - door to door visits; - letter and booklet drops; - speaking to Parish Councils or other community groups.

Appendix B

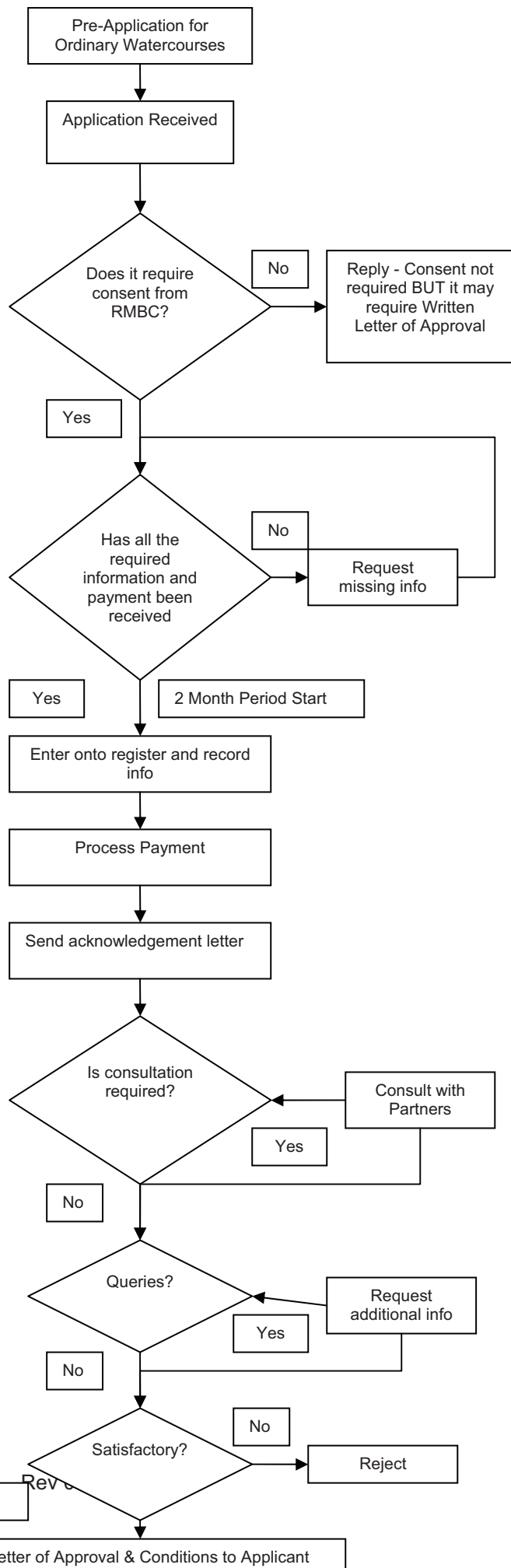
**Flow Chart for
Applications for Works
on Ordinary
Watercourses**

Payment
Location Plan
Application Form
Drawing
Method Statement
Calculations

Interaction with
other
procedures
such as
planning, water
abstraction etc.

EA
IDB
Ecologist
Natural England
WFD?
English Heritage?
See transferring of
powers Q and A re RMBC
applications

Change in end date
required?



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetpride Service

Policy for carrying out Flood Investigations as required by Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010

Lead Local Flood Authorities: Duty to Investigate Flooding

Introduction

The Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) has a duty under the Flood and Water Management Act (2010) to investigate flood events that occur within its catchment. Section 19 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 states that, on becoming aware of a flood in its area, a lead local flood authority must, to the extent that it considers it necessary or appropriate, investigate –

- a) which risk management authorities have relevant flood risk management functions.
- b) whether each of those risk management authorities has exercised, or is proposing to exercise, those functions in response to the flood.

Where an authority carries out an investigation under subsection (1) it must—

- a) publish the results of its investigation.
- b) notify any relevant risk management authorities.

The LLFA Investigating Officer will investigate the cause and publish its findings on the Council web site and notify the relevant party. Private landowners have responsibilities in relation to land drainage and riparian ownership.

The LLFA Investigating Officer will determine whether an investigation should be carried out using the Flood Investigations Guidance detailed below, taking into account the available resources and significance of the event.

Investigation under the provisions of the Flood and Water Management Act this does not include scrutiny of the emergency response to a flooding event. Investigations of this kind may take place under different provisions e.g. the Civil Contingencies Act or local authority scrutiny processes.

Flood Investigation Guidance

The Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy states that if 5 or more residential properties are flooded internally then the appropriate investigations will be carried out. The decision about whether an investigation will be carried out will usually be made within 24 hours of learning of the flood event.

The Investigating Officer(s) should consider whether there have been any reported cases of personal injury, the nature of the injury, and the number of people injured. The determining factors also include the depth and velocity of flooding and/or the source of flooding.

A minor flooding event may be worthy of consideration if it recurs frequently, causing damage or posing a public nuisance.

Critical infrastructure includes motorways, A roads, railways and railway stations, electricity sub-stations and switching centres, power generating facilities, bridges, flood defences, water treatment works, etc. and should be investigated if at high risk of flooding.

Investigation works may be required where vulnerable individuals include younger people, older people, and people with disabilities or health problems, including hospitals, care and nursing homes, schools, etc.

Where it is determined that an investigation should be carried out, the Investigating Officer will attend the location and complete an investigation to establish which risk management authorities hold relevant flood risk management functions in relation to the flood event. The response time by the Investigating Officer will depend on the circumstances and safety considerations of the flood event. The Investigating Officer will notify any relevant risk management authorities to establish if they have or are intending to exercise their function in response to the flood.

Following the investigation, the Investigating Officer will complete a report on the results of the investigation, brief appropriate internal authorities, and then publish the report on the Council's website.

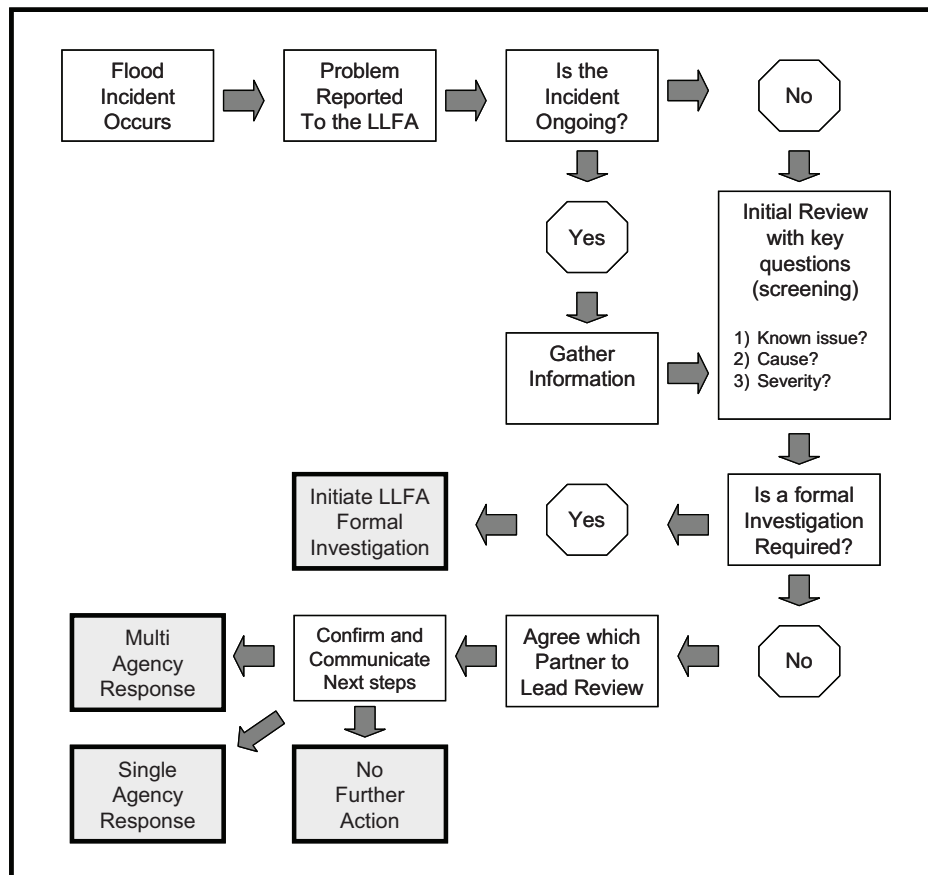
The Investigating Officer will endeavour to keep the affected customer(s) informed throughout the process. Where the determination will not result in a formal investigation the Investigating Officer will attempt to assist the customer in identifying the source of flooding and advise accordingly.

Where a number of flood events are reported simultaneously, the reports will be prioritise according to the information received. Most investigations will be carried out during normal working hours however some incidents may occur out of hours, in these cases this will be forwarded to the Council's Standby Coordinator.

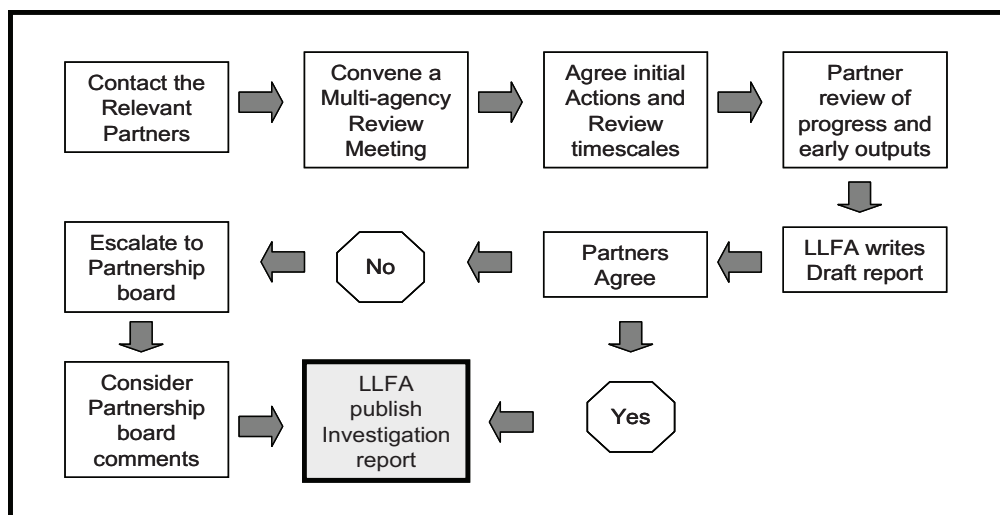
Process for Determining a Formal Investigation

The investigation of flooding often requires input from partner organisations, and it may often be more appropriate for them to lead the investigation where the cause is believed to relate to their assets or areas of responsibility.

Initial Screening Process



LLFA Formal Investigation Process



Investigating Flooding Outside the Requirements of the Act

It is important to stress that flooding which isn't formally going to be investigated can, and should, still be reviewed, logged and be considered in terms of the appropriate next steps.

Indeed, investigations that are not required to meet the formal requirements of the Act may benefit from being able to move more quickly into the solution development and implementation phase, with partner organisations finding it easier to share information and work together under less formal arrangements.

Recording of Section 19 Investigations

All investigation carried out under Section 19 of the Act shall be recorded and all relevant data be stored by the LLFA and on the LLFA database for record purposes.

The results of the investigation works shall be published on the Council web site for public viewing.

Procedure for Section 19 Flood Investigations by LLFA

For details refer to Appendix A and Appendix B.

APPENDIX A

Procedure for Section 19 Investigation of Flood Events

1. Becoming aware of a flood event

There are a number of channels where the Investigating Officer can become aware of a flood event, including telephone, e-mail and similar:

- Rotherham Connect
- Direct contact from an internal department/officer/councillor
- Direct contact from a member of the public.

All reported flood events will be recorded within the Rotherham Connect to ensure consistency of records. Where an event is reported direct it will subsequently be recorded by the Investigating Officer.

2. Investigating Officer

This is likely to be a member of the Council's Drainage Section headed by the Drainage Manager or similar.

3. Lead Officer or Manager

This will comprise of a senior officer from the Drainage Section, Emergency Planning Team, or a senior officer in EDS. The group will provide support/scrutiny of the determinations of the Investigating Officer. The group will largely operate on a virtual basis but will convene at least once a year to review the determination and flood investigation process.

4. Response Time

Normally within 4 hours, if it has been determined that an investigation should be carried out, attendance by the Investigating Officer will be as circumstances and safety considerations allow. The response time will vary for each investigation dependent on the time of day, location of the Investigating Officer when informed, number of consecutive flood events reported, the level of traffic disruption, safety considerations and local circumstances of the flood event.

5. Notification procedure

Where an investigation identifies any risk management authorities with a relevant flood risk management function in relation to the particular flood event, the Investigating Officer will notify the authority through the established method preferred by the individual authority.

6. Reporting procedure

Each investigation will be formally documented by the Investigating Officer. The report will detail the results of the investigation which will be published on the Council's website in due course, following the briefing of appropriate internal authorities.

Officer(s) should obviously take into consideration the severity of the flooding effects. External flooding in a garden area is not necessarily going to trigger an investigation, however internal flooding will usually be considered for investigation. If any vulnerable individuals are placed at risk, or if the services provided to them are disrupted, then this should warrant action.

7. Economic Disruption

It will be necessary to consider the relative impacts of flooding of commercial property. In some cases, flooding of a single commercial property could no more warrant investigation than flooding of a single residential property; but in other cases, the serious flooding of a large, single property could be extremely disruptive to the economic functioning of a community or have significant impact on a local or regional economy, and would therefore certainly trigger an investigation. Other causes of economic disruption should be covered by consideration of impacts upon infrastructure.

8. Environmental / Bio-diversity Considerations

Flooding can pose a threat to ecosystems and nationally and internationally protected habitats and species. Common causes for concern are protected or important habitats, or the threat posed to biodiversity by polluted water flooding inland areas.

9. No Clear Responsibility

The overall purpose of the statutory duty to investigate is to enable lead local flood authorities to establish which authorities have relevant flood risk management responsibilities for the flood event, and whether they have or will exercise their powers accordingly. If the cause of a flood is unknown, or the responsible authorities are otherwise difficult to identify, then an investigation should follow. It should be noted that flooding incidents will often have multiple causes and therefore responsibility may be attributable to more than one flood risk management authority.

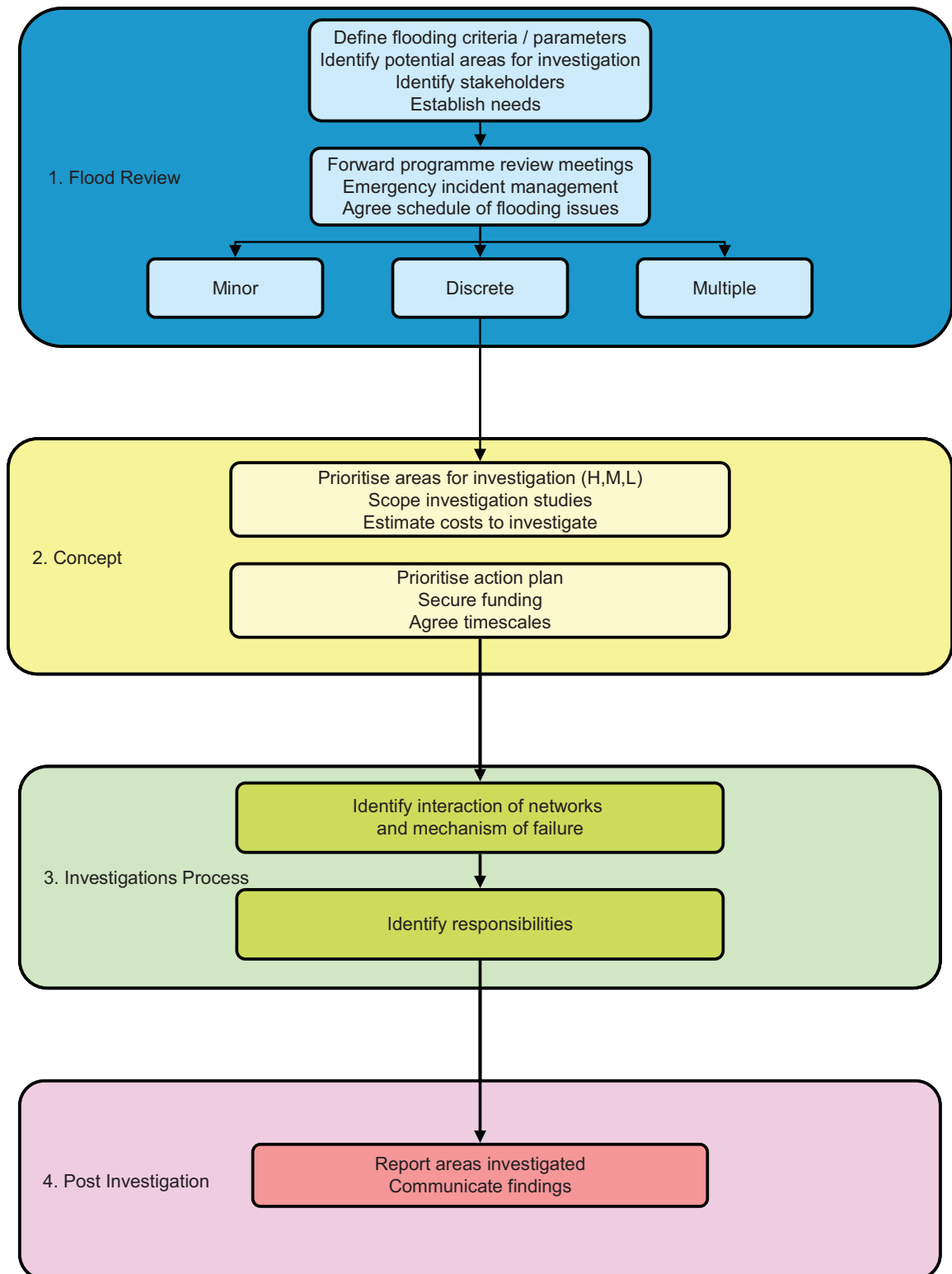
10. Investigation Request

The public interest in an investigation may be taken into consideration. If the LLFA is inundated by requests from the public for an investigation, or if there is widespread interest from councillors and local MPs then, as a democratic institution, the Council may give additional consideration to carrying out an investigation.

In all cases, officers should remember that the key purpose of an investigation is to establish which risk management authorities hold relevant functions and whether they have or are intending to exercise them in response to the flood. These guidelines should enable a consistent approach to be taken to deciding whether or not an investigation should be carried out. Taken together they comprise a framework within which a decision should be taken. The guidelines deliberately do not set numerical thresholds and/or precise triggers in recognition of the fact that all floods will be different and a certain amount of officer discretion will be required in order to implement this duty effectively.

APPENDIX B

Flow Chart for Section 19 Investigation of Flood Events



ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetpride Service

Policy for Managing Data Held for Flood Risk Management Purposes

Introduction

The exercise of Flood Risk Management (FRM) functions necessitates the use and storage of large amounts of data in various types and in various formats.

This policy should be read in conjunction with Data Protection Act 1998, the Council's Guidance Notes and the Information and Security Policy.

The purpose of this policy is to define in more detail how the FRM data will be managed to comply with the above policies and procedures.

Photographs

Ideally, information such as location, date, time, photographer and what the photograph shows should be available within the metadata, the file name or a photograph register. Photographs not taken by drainage team staff shall not be used or distributed unless explicitly approved by the photographer or photograph owner.

Where possible, photographs should not have any identifiable person/s within them, unless permission has been received by the person/s before hand (this then should be included within the notes). Any photographs taken which includes identifiable person/s should be doctored to remove them.

The organisation of any photographs will be the responsibility of all members of the Drainage Team.

Personal Data

Flood management is primarily concerned with risk to land and property, rather than individuals. Information relating to property is not covered by the data protection act and therefore where possible records should not include information relating to individuals.

Flood Records, Flood Mapping and Modelling

Data from past flood events and predicted flooding is essential for managing flood risk. As a general principle, this information should be shared as widely as possible to all who have a legitimate use for it.

In the case of residential properties in particular, there is sometimes a reluctance for flooding to be reported and recorded because owners are concerned about the value and saleability of their properties. Prediction of flood risk to properties which have not previously flooded could also have a detrimental effect on property values. Effective management of flood risk is considered by government justify the publication of results from flood modelling, despite the above concerns.

It is essential that flood records are correct and accurate. Any information on flood risk made publicly available should be accompanied by clear information about how the results have been obtained and an indication of the reliability of the results. Results should not be presented in format which suggests a greater accuracy than is achievable. For example, flood risk data is not normally sufficiently accurate to determine whether individual properties are at risk, so should not be presented on a map with a large scale map which depicts individual properties.

Other Organisations' Data

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 imposes duties on LLFAs to co-operate with other risk management authorities and powers to request information in connection with its flood management functions from another person or organisation. Reciprocal arrangements are in place with the Council's principal partners, other Risk Management Authorities, and organisations such as Environment Agency, Network Rail and the Canals and Rivers Trust, to exchange relevant information.

Where other organisation's data is held on the Council's records, it shall only be used in accordance with the licence agreement. Third party requests for access to data owned by others will be referred to the data owners.

Asset Record and Register

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 imposes a duty on LLFAs to establish and maintain a register of structures or features which it considers are likely to have a significant effect on local flood risk. Information on ownership will also be held on the register. The register will be available for inspection. The LLFA has discretion to set a local indication of "significance" to determine which assets it records on the register.

The obligation to record ownership and also to make the register public legally obliges the LLFA to make some personal data publicly available. The extent of personal data publicly available will be the minimum amount required by law and any further personal data will be restricted in accordance with usual protocols.

For further details see the Policy for Designating Flood Defence Assets.

Retention of Records

Flooding risk is dependent on topography and land profiles, which change little over the years, so flood records which are many years old are often relevant. Drains, sewers and culverts have long design lives, so construction and record drawings contain information which may be useful many decades later. Normal retention schedules are therefore not appropriate for this type of data. Only documents containing relevant information should be retained and other types of data should be disposed of in accordance with usual protocols.

The CDM Regulations require a Health and Safety File to be produced and kept for the lifetime of the asset.

Metadata should be recorded where possible to indicate the reliability of the recorded information. Most of the records are not definitive records and are not regularly updated. Everybody who has access to these records need to be aware of their status and if they are shared with third parties, a disclaimer must be attached indicating their limitations.

ROTHERHAM METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetpride Service

Policy for Designation of Flood Defence Structures and Features

Introduction

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 imposes a duty on the Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA), which in this case is the Council, to establish and maintain a register of structures or features which it considers are likely to have a significant effect on local flood risk. Information on ownership and state of repair will also be held on the register. The LLFA has discretion to set a local indication of “significance” to determine which assets it records on the register and which it designates.

Designation is a form of legal protection reserved for key structures or features that are privately owned and maintained and that contribute to the management of flood and coastal erosion risk.

Designation aims to ensure that owners do not inadvertently alter structures and features and potentially increase flood or erosion risk to themselves, their neighbours and the wider community.

The register will be available on the Council’s website and will allow local residents, communities and businesses to better understand where the significant drainage and flood management features are located.

Designation will only be used where the importance of the structure or feature to reducing flood risk justifies the time and cost of the designation process.

What is a Designation?

A designation is a legally binding notice served by the Designating Authority to the owner of the structure or feature and the notice is also a local land charge.

1. “Designating Authority” means
 - The Environment Agency
 - A local lead flood authority
 - A district council
 - An internal drainage board
- 2 “Responsible Authority” means the authority which made the designation.
- 3 “Owner” means:

- (a) the owner of the land on or in which the structure or feature is situated, or
- (b) if different, the person responsible for managing or controlling the structure or feature.

Local Land Charge

- Restriction or prohibition on land, binding on successive owners or occupiers.

What can be Designated?

4 A designating authority may designate:

- (a) a structure, or
- (b) a natural or man-made feature of the environment

This definition includes a wide range of structures and features from garden walls and other artificial structures to raised areas of land, embankments and other natural features

All candidates for designation will serve a flood or coastal erosion risk management purpose, although they may not have necessarily been designed or constructed for that purpose.

Conditions for Designation

- 1: The existence or location of the feature reduces a flood risk.
- 2: The Designating Authority manages the risk affected
- 3: Structure or features is not already designated by another authority.
- 4: Owner is not a Designating Authority

All four of the above conditions must be satisfied.

Effect of designation

- 5 (1) A person may not alter, remove or replace a designated structure or feature without the consent of the responsible authority.
- (2) A designation is a local land charge.

The power to designate is permissive and the assessment of significance is at the discretion of the Designating Authority.

Procedure For Designation

Stage 1 Identify Need for Designation

- Decisions on designation are for the authorities concerned.
- Consider a risk and needs based approach with decisions based upon:
 - Legal conditions
 - Flood risk
 - Local circumstances and needs
 - Costs and benefits
 - Likelihood of changes to the feature
 - Number of owners
- Consequences of flooding or costal erosion if feature is damaged.
- Likelihood of damage to feature.
- Likelihood that damage will cause flooding or erosion.

Stage 2 Consultation

- Establish ownership and confirm
- Contact owner and informally discuss proposal to designate
- Explain what designation means
- Be prepared to answer questions.

Stage 3 – Provisional Designation

- Send Provisional Designation Notice to owner (28 days minimum and 35 days maximum recommended).

Stage 4 – Designation Notice

- Send legal notice confirming the designation
- Notice must be sent within 60 days of the issue of the provisional notice

Stage 4 - Completion

- Allow 28 days in case of appeal
- Record the designation on the Local Land Charge Register
- Keep a record of the designation and enter onto Asset Register
- Notify any other designating authority which may have an interest in the designation or cancellation.

Structures and features owned by responsible authorities.

Structures and features owned by designating authorities cannot be designated. It is assumed that these organisations will protect and maintain flood defence assets. Assets maintained by directorates or services in the Council which do not deal with flood risk management may not be aware of their significance or in the case of culverts, even their existence. Such assets will therefore be recorded onto the same system as those that have been formally designated. Mirroring of parts of the designation process, such as discussions with the asset manager and assessment of the risks, without the formal action, and will be considered as appropriate in each case.

SuDS Adopted by the SuDS Approving Body (SAB).

SuDS Adopted by the (SAB) will be designated as part of the adoption process and will be included on the register.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet
2.	Date:	18th June 2014
3.	Title:	Firsby Reservoir. Ward 14 Silverwood
4.	Directorate:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

To seek approval for a range of further works at Firsby Reservoir following on from the urgent works in December 2012.

6. Recommendations

That:

- i. **Approval is given for Firsby Reservoir to be retained in its current form (subject to any required minor works) and certification to be sought to have the reservoir ‘discontinued’ under the Reservoirs Act 1975.**
- ii. **Approval is given for the appointment of a Qualified Civil Engineer to formally approve the further works required for the ‘discontinuance’ of the reservoir.**
- iii. **Approval is given for the minor works required and for a range of mitigation works associated with the discontinuance and for works to improve access, to remove silt from the reservoir, and other minor associated works.**
- iv. **Approval is given for a maximum of £125,000 of expenditure to fund items i) to iii) above. The associated borrowing costs of £25,000 of this expenditure to be met by the Service, using the identified savings, and the associated borrowing costs of up to £100,000 expenditure to be met corporately.**
- v. **A further report be brought to Cabinet should early contractor involvement indicate any significance variance in the estimated cost of the further works becomes apparent.**

7. Background, Proposals and Details

Background.

Firsby Reservoir is actually two connected reservoirs, one significantly larger than the other, and had been under exceptional inspection and observation since concerns over the dam's integrity were raised late in 2011.

On Monday 8th October subsidence was found in the dam crest. Subsequent emergency pumping and the creation of a notch in the main dam, protected by concrete on its base and sides were undertaken in poor weather conditions primarily during November 2012.

Due to the expiration of dates set down in the 2011/12 section 10 report (under the Reservoirs Act 1975) for completion of 'matters in the interest of safety' and the possibility of notices and/or enforcement action by the Environment Agency in respect of this report, a new section 10 report was called for. This superseded the previous report and therefore prevented any enforcement action or notices, and gave an initial insight into any further works that would be required to supplement these interim emergency works.

The reduced water level of the reservoir took its capacity to below 25,000 m³ and by virtue of such, the reservoir can be considered for 'discontinuance'. This means that it can be removed from the Register of Large Raised Reservoirs and not subject to inspection under the Reservoirs Act 1975 or enforcement by EA. This will yield savings of approximately £1,500 in inspection fees and charges – approximately 30% of the annual inspection cost, which will be used to part fund the borrowing costs in relation to the required capital expenditure. Discontinuance could be certified in essentially in its current form (with the smaller lake effectively dry and therefore only one lake remaining) or could be in the form of further works to remove completely the dams and lake(s).

The new section 10 report (2013) outlines the two options available to the Council, namely discontinuance and rehabilitation. Options for rehabilitation include a complete rebuild of the main dam, or a lesser scheme aimed at removal of the connection between the main dam and the smaller dam, such that the smaller dam can be allowed to refill. Should either rehabilitation scheme be implemented, then previous recommendations in respect of 'matters in the interest of safety' are repeated in the new section 10 report, namely the spillway chute needs to be refurbished and the disused valve chamber in filled or refurbished. Other significant works would clearly be required to achieve the rehabilitation, whatever its form. Rebuilding the main dam returns the site to its previous form with maximum potential for wildlife. The discontinuance option facilitated by the interim emergency works but retaining a water body is likely to require further smaller scale works to the areas of the main dam showing seepage holes and depressions previously and leaves the reservoir in essentially its current form.

Details

During 2013 the reservoir has continued to spill over the new lowered spillway. The extensive drying out of the reservoir in previous years has not been seen, presumably due to the reservoir water level now being below the level of the seepage holes previously observed. The reservoir now has a volume of approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ and a water area of $\frac{1}{2}$ of that before the emergency works. These levels therefore appear sustainable. The site's Local Nature Reserve status declaration is linked to the presence of open water. A discontinuance that involves the complete removal of the water body is therefore not recommended; this is also likely to be more expensive than a discontinuance in the form of 'retaining what has already been achieved' following the emergency works.

The site has developed naturally over the summer of 2013 and the new shoreline areas have been colonised by vegetation.

Proposals

It is proposed therefore that the site is discontinued in its current form. This option is the least expensive in terms of capital expenditure and has minimal ecological impact. In considering what mitigating ecological works need to be included to bring the site back into a good ecological status, the site recovery indicates that wetland planting is not necessary. However, a range of other measures are proposed, linked, to a greater or lesser extent to the lowered water level following the emergency works, and conversely to a greater or lesser extent to lack of recent maintenance, but all helping to reassure users of the site of Council's continued commitment to the site as well as minimise ecological impact. These include:

- Scalping of the shoreline of the larger lake to create opportunities for wading birds.
- Importing large boulders to the downstream area of the new spillway to help protect the spillway sides and the receiving watercourse, and also to prevent quad bikes and similar from damaging the spillway sides and gaining general access to the site.
- Eradication of self set willows from around both reservoirs and the dams.
- Removing developing scrub on acid grassland below the small dam which will assist with future access to the dam crest.
- Thin developing alder and oak on the water body margins and at the upstream areas of the site where the watercourses enter.
- Hedgerow management especially along footpaths
- Screening especially along north eastern edge of larger reservoir to lessen disturbance to loafing wildfowl, particularly Teal, in winter.

The above measures together with associated management in the long term will create a new ecological mosaic of habitats that will support a good range of bird species and other wildlife. Despite a small number of breeding bird species likely to be lost due to the reduction in open water area, the new layout will support existing and new species.

Discontinuance of the reservoir in this form will mean that health and safety legislation in respect of open water bodies will still need to be complied with. The majority of the structures associated with the reservoirs will also be retained and will need to be maintained (in regard to the bridges) and kept visible with restricted public access (in regard to spillway and channel walls with drops behind).

Other Matters Requiring Action or Consideration

Access Issues.

Access to a field to the south of the small reservoir via the connecting channel bridge is claimed by the owners of Reservoir Cottage, the cottage being adjacent to the site. This is being checked by estates and legal officers but is believed to have foundation. Alternative access is available via the stock entrance on Garden Lane, the small reservoir dam structure, and the spillway bridge. This route will need to be supplemented by some minor earthworks to ensure its usability for farm vehicles in future.

Conisborough Conduit and Related Issues.

The Conisborough Conduit drains land to the east of the reservoir site and previously flowed through the two dams and then into the 'High Level Conduit' linking Firsby Reservoir to Thrybergh Reservoir. This latter conduit is affected by back falls due to mining subsidence.

The Conisborough Conduit through the dams was lost as part of the emergency works; flows were diverted via an existing alternative channel direct to Firsby Reservoir. This has helped to ensure the water levels in Firsby have been maintained.

The contribution of the High Level Conduit (HLC) to Thrybergh Reservoir is uncertain. Thrybergh's catchment is small and has in recent years suffered from lack of inflow causing reducing water levels. Inflow from the HLC has been very sporadic and only occurred at time of exceptional rainfall. The Conisborough Conduit contribution to the flow in the HLC has now been lost. The other contributor is the unnamed watercourse inflowing to the smaller reservoir at Firsby; this can be diverted by hand at the head of the reservoir to the HLC. Much of this control structure has been buried beneath silt, but was partially re-exposed during the emergency works and utilised in order to reduce the inflow to the reservoir and therefore the pumping required. Some inflow to Thrybergh Reservoir was witnessed.

It is therefore considered prudent to remove the silt from around this structure and undertake any associated works required to ensure that this control structure is re-established. This will offer control over this stream flow should Thrybergh Reservoir require supplemental inflow at times of low rainfall.

A further supplement to flows to Thrybergh Reservoir to replace the loss of the Conisborough Conduit is the provision of a new grip to the rear of Gulling Wood Drive in Thrybergh. This area currently suffers flooding from run off from adjacent land around the former Silverwood Siding belonging to Network Rail. Network Rail have indicated agreement in principle to the provision of this grip, which will link to

Silverwood Brook and then on to Thrybergh Reservoir. Small capital works of the kind envisaged will solve both the flooding problems and supplement Thrybergh Reservoir in flows and therefore water levels, and are therefore considered worthwhile.

Agricultural Land and Drainage Tribunal.

Prior to the emergency works at the end of 2012, claims were made Mr C Cooper regarding the situation to the main reservoir and it's affect on flows in Firsby Brook and ultimately that this causes flooding to his land that adjoins the reservoir site. It was anticipated that the Firsby emergency works would alleviate – with time – this situation as the lower water level resulted in a larger differential head between the Firsby Brook where it entered the reservoir and the reservoir water level. Mr Cooper approached the tribunal through his solicitors and in response to the tribunal the Council has made them aware of other factors having an influence on the alleged flooding, most notably the local topography and the lack of evidence of any land drainage. However, the expert appointed by the tribunal has essentially found in favour of Mr Cooper and recommended *'that an order made for ditching works to be carried out.....into and extending through the silted area of Firsby Reservoir'*. The report continues that *'the creation and retention of the channel through the upper reaches of the reservoir will be difficult as the silts are very unstable. Some dewatering may be required and a channel (will need to be) formed using geo-textile to give bank stability'*.

The Council has been invited to make a response to the expert. The Council has accepted the report (which does also acknowledge the topography issues and that Mr Cooper's land may still flood) and has asked that time be allowed for the works be undertaken in the summer to reduce likely costs and ecological impact. The formal tribunal order is expected imminently.

The requirement for significant earthworks in the silted area - effectively an extensive marshland type of environment/habitat is clearly an additional complex element of engineering works and will require professional advice and appropriate contracting expertise although the lower water level achieved through the emergency works assists with both the complexity of the works and the access.

Qualified Civil Engineer (QCE)

The Council is required to appoint a Qualified Civil Engineer to oversee and certify either the discontinuance works (further smaller scale works to the areas of the main dam showing seepage holes and depressions previously) or the rehabilitation. The QCE has confirmed that any works to the upper reaches of the reservoir to recreate the ditch in the silted area are not part of his jurisdiction and do not require certification by the QCE.

8. Finance

Expenditure on the elements above is extremely difficult in the absence of data on similar works and the uncertainties and risks of what is involved, e.g. depth and

stability of the silt in the marshy ground at the head of the reservoir. It is likely that works will have to be procured on a cost reimbursable basis.

Budget figures are as follows:

Appointment of QCE	£5,000
Discontinuance	£10,000 to £30,000
Discontinuance Mitigation	£10,000 to £20,000
Access improvements	£10,000 to £20,000
Railway Drainage	£5,000 to £10,000
High Level Conduit	£5,000 to £10,000
Tribunal Works	£10,000 to £30,000.

It is therefore proposed to seek up to an additional £125,000 to undertake the above works. The use of the Midlands highway Alliance (MHA) framework contract is being considered as a procurement option due to the emphasis on early contractor involvement and the uncertainty regarding the scope of the works that will ultimately be required. The borrowing costs associated with £25,000 of this expenditure will be met by the service using the identified £1,500 per annum savings. The remaining annual borrowing costs of £5,500 will be met corporately.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The discontinuance option chosen – ‘retain as existing’ incorporates the use of the emergency scheme completed at the end of 2012. These works were described as ‘limited lifespan’ but have not shown any deterioration in the 15 months since completion.

The further works are primarily earthworks and ground conditions for works and access are uncertain in many cases. Earthworks will be vulnerable to any extreme weather conditions. It is intended to reduce this to a minimum by undertaking the works in summer, which will also reduce the risk of any significant ecological impact.

The discontinuance works will be undertaken under the supervision of the All Reservoirs Panel Engineer and in line with the requirements of the Reservoirs Act 1975. Failure to undertake the discontinuance work will mean enforcement action by the Environment Agency.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposal seeks to ensure reservoir safety and allows the reservoir site to continue to act as a site safe for the public to visit, which contributes to the following Corporate Plan outcomes:-

- More people are physically active and have a healthy way of life
- People enjoy parks, green spaces, sports, leisure and cultural activities

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Minute number 51 of the Cabinet Member for Regeneration and development Services, 15th October 2012.

Contact Name: David Phillips, Transportation and Highways Projects, Streetpride Department, ext, 22950, david.phillips@rotherham.gov.uk

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