

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES' SERVICES

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

Date: Wednesday, 15th January, 2014

Time: 9.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for absence.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11th December, 2013. (Pages 1 - 5)
6. Minutes of a meeting of the Children, Young People and Families' Partnership held on 20th November, 2013. (Pages 6 - 11)
7. National Children and Adult Services Conference, 2014.
8. Thurcroft Infant School expansion - final determination. (Pages 12 - 14)
9. Brampton the Ellis Infant and Junior School amalgamation - Pre-statutory consultation. (Pages 15 - 18)
10. Budget Monitoring to 30th November, 2013. (Pages 19 - 24)
11. White Rose Update - Officer to report.
12. Young Carers' Commissioning. (Pages 25 - 26)

13. Exclusion of the Press and Public.

The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and the 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 of any particular individual (including the Council)).

14. Short Breaks Commissioning. (Pages 27 - 29)

15. Date and time of the next meeting: -

- Wednesday 22nd January, 2014, to start at 12.00 noon in the Rotherham Town Hall.

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES'
SERVICES
11th December, 2013**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair) and Councillor Roche.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ahmed and Beaumont

D67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No Declarations of Interest were made.

D68. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 13TH NOVEMBER, 2013.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services held on 13th November, 2013, were considered.

Resolved: - That the minutes of the previous meeting be agreed as an accurate record.

D69. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT TO 31ST OCTOBER, 2013.

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Finance Manager (Financial Services, Resources Directorate), which provided a financial forecast to 31st March, 2014, based on actual income and expenditure to 31st October, 2013.

Overall, the Directorate was projecting a £1.345million over-spend outturn position at the end of the 2013/2014 financial year. This overspend represented an increase of 2.9% on the total revenue budget allocation. The projected overspend had improved by £88,000 since the September Budget Monitoring report.

The forecast overspend was largely due to the continuing pressures in Safeguarding Children and Families' Services due to the needs-led nature of the budget relating to out-of-authority residential and fostering placements. The report provided an update on the main areas of variance and outlined the main pressures and areas of underspend and/or underspend for each Service.

The management actions taken for the Services for Looked After Children included a drive to recruit more in-house foster carers, prevention and early intervention strategies including an increased use of Special Guardianship Orders, and the Invest to Save Programme in Fostering and Adoption Services.

A number of continuing budget management actions were being taken to avoid costs: -

- Proactive management actions continued to concentrate on avoiding costs relating to placements for looked after children, the fostering framework and through block commissioning of placements;
- The Multi-Agency Support Panel was continuing to make efficient multi-agency management actions and decisions, and continuing to avoid costs wherever possible;
- Agency costs had increased compared to the same period in the previous year;
- Non-contractual overtime for Children and Young People's Services had increased compared to the same period in the previous year;
- Consultancy costs had decreased compared to the same period in the previous year.

Discussion ensued and the following issues were raised: -

- The Adoption Reform Grant received in 2013/2014 would cease at the end of this financial year, currently there had been no announcement about whether it would be continued. This was a risk to the Service as the Grant had been used to achieve service improvements and efficiencies.

Resolved: - That the latest financial projection against the budget for the year based on actual income and expenditure to the 31st October, 2013, be noted.

D70. PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE BADSLEY MOOR INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS BY THE CLOSURE OF THE JUNIOR SCHOOL AND EXPANSION AND CHANGE OF AGE-RANGE OF THE INFANT SCHOOL TO CREATE A 'THROUGH' PRIMARY SCHOOL - FINAL DETERMINATION.

Further to Minute No. D42 (Proposal to amalgamate Badsley Moor Junior and Infant Schools by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion of the age-range at the Infant School) of 18th September, 2013, where permission was given to enter into statutory consultation, a report had now been submitted outlining the outcome of that process.

The Principal School Organisation and Risk Management Officer (School Admissions, Organisation and Special Educational Needs Assessment Service, Schools and Lifelong Learning, Children and Young People's Services) reported that the proposal had been subject to a public notice and consultation period. No formal objections had been received. It was therefore recommended that the proposal be approved by the Cabinet Member and notified to the Department for Education.

The leadership arrangements in place for the amalgamated school had been secured and had been endorsed by Her Majesty's Inspectors working with the School relating to the Ofsted category at the Junior School.

The new amalgamated school would be known as Badsley Primary School with effect from 1st January, 2014.

Resolved: - (1) That, in the absence of any formal objections, the proposal to amalgamate Badsley Moor Infant and Junior Schools by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion and change of age-range of the Infant School be approved.

(2) That the Secretary of State for Education be informed accordingly of this decision.

D71. LOCAL AUTHORITY GOVERNOR APPOINTMENTS.

Pursuant to Minute Number C50 of January, 2000, consideration was given to nominations received to fill Local Authority vacancies on school governing bodies.

Resolved:- (1) That, with the effective date of appointment as shown, the following appointments and reappointments be made to school governing bodies, subject to satisfactory checks being undertaken:-

New Appointments: -

New Appointments: -

Mrs. S. Hudson	Anston Park Junior School	11/12/13
Mr. R. Slack	Blackburn Primary School	11/12/13
Ms. K. Rudman	Bramley Sunnyside Infant School	11/12/13
Mrs. C. Kirkman	Brinsworth Howarth Primary School	11/12/13
Mr. J. Coe	Brinsworth Manor Junior School	11/12/13
Mrs. S. Mahmood	Broom Valley Community Primary School	11/12/13
Ms. J. Blaker	Kilnhurst Primary School	11/12/13
Mr. L. Adams	Maltby Lilly Hall Primary School	11/12/13
Mr. K. Wright	Rawmarsh Ryecroft Infant School	11/12/13
Mr. R. Slack	Rockingham Junior and Infant School	11/12/13
Miss F. England	Wickersley Northfield Primary School	11/12/13

Re-appointments: -

Cllr. K. Sims	Meadow View Primary School	06/10/13
Mr. M. Sherwood	Brampton The Ellis CE Infant School	06/10/13
Mr. B. Cottam	Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Dinnington)	07/10/13
Cllr. A. Buckley	Brinsworth Whitehill Primary School	09/10/13
Mrs. M. Wesley	Swinton Queen Primary School	29/10/13
Mr. G. Allan	Herringthorpe Infant School	29/10/13
Cllr. G. Whelbourn	Rawmarsh Ashwood Primary School	17/11/13
Mrs. H. Whitworth	Thorpe Hesley Junior School	24/11/13
Cllr. C. Read	Swinton Queen Primary School	24/11/13
Mr.D. Moorhouse	Kiveton Park Meadows Junior School	24/11/13
Mr. I. Jones	Blackburn Primary School	24/11/13
Mrs. E. Cummins	The Willows School	24/11/13
Mr. M. Beech	Anston Brook Primary School	06/12/13
Mr. M. Beech	Thurcroft Infant School	06/12/13

D72. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Resolved: - That the following item be considered in the absence of the press and the 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 of any particular individual (including the Council)).

D73. APPROVAL OF TENDER FOR THE WATH CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL'S CLASSROOM EXTENSION.

Consideration was given to the report presented by the Principal Capital Projects Manager (Corporate Property Unit, Internal Audit and Asset Management, Environment and Development Services Directorate) that outlined the outcomes of the competitive Your Build tender exercise that had taken place in relation to the extension of Wath Church of England Primary School (Minute No. D63 of 13th November, 2013, refers).

The extension project related to the addition of four classrooms, internal refurbishment works, asbestos removal and refurbishment of the School's library. The additions would be carried out in a sympathetic manner to the existing building, which was 150 years old.

The Cabinet Member requested a break-down of the structure of the management and professional fees within the overall cost.

Resolved: - That the tender submitted by George Hurst & Sons Ltd. dated 11th November, 2013, be accepted.

D74. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING: -

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services take place on Wednesday 15th January, 2014, to start at 9.00 a.m. in the Rotherham Town Hall.

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP
Wednesday, 20th November, 2013

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Steve Ashley, Clare Burton, Sara Graham, Shafir Hussain, Martin Kimber, Julie Mott, Rachel Nicholls, David Polkinghorn, Clair Pyper, John Radford, Emma Royle, Dorothy Smith, Kevin Stevens, Joyce Thacker, Sarah Whittle, Sue Wilson and Chrissy Wright.

Apologies for absence were received from Jason Harwin and Janet Wheatley.

235. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th September, 2013, were considered and approved as a correct record.

Further to Minute No. 228 (CAMHS), it was reported that a meeting had taken place with regard to issues raised at the last Partnership meeting. A letter had been drafted for submission setting out the concerns.

Further to Minute No. 229 (Youth Cabinet), it was noted that Kate Tufnell and Dr. Russell Brynes to be invited to the Youth Cabinet to discuss suicide

236. ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Looked after Children's Council

- Voice and Influence training and development sessions being held weekly at the MyPlace building
- Regular meetings on weekends and evenings to prepare presentations and complete high profile project work
- In preparation for a visit to Portugal in April, 2014, the group had engaged in activities specifically designed to raise their awareness of the country and asked to learn basic Portuguese phrases to enable them to converse with the local people
- 6 Looked After and Leaving Care young people had volunteered at the Rotherham Show on the Voice and Influence mobile bus
- 12 young people had attended the Kingswood Activity Centre during the October half term
- A number of young people had attended the Remembrance Service on 10th November

Child Sexual Exploitation

- Alexis Jay had been appointed to undertake the independent review of CSE in Rotherham
- The diagnostic review undertaken by the Chair of the Safeguarding Board was well underway with all the interviews having been completed and hoping to meet with some young people. Whilst there was still work to be done, there were a lot of positives emerging. The

- review would be completed by the beginning of December
- The Barnardos Review had been completed and was to be launched on 11th December. It would be submitted to the 18th December Cabinet meeting
 - The HMIC review had been completed. Consideration would be given to any issues/implications for the Council. 3 issues raised were the Maltby location, caseload/workload management and data system compatibility

Sarah Champion, MP

- There had been announcement that Sarah Champion was to undertake an open inquiry with Barnardos regarding CSE. There was a call out for documentary evidence and a series of questions many of which centred around the criminal justice system and the appropriateness/effectiveness of legislation to tackle modern day CSE

237. COMMISSIONING/DELIVERY OF EMERGENCY HORMONAL CONTRACEPTION TO YOUNG GIRLS AGED 14-16 YEARS

In accordance with Minute No. 224 of 17th July, 2013, John Radford, Director of Public Health, submitted a further report on the progress to-date on the development of care pathways and safeguarding reporting mechanisms for all young people accessing Sexual Health Services in Rotherham.

Care pathways would be developed to allow for the extension of the Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) service in Pharmacies to young women aged 14 to 16 which would include an automatic referral for all under 16 year olds to a named team within Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS). Public Health would work with both IYSS and Pharmacy representatives to agree the necessary protocols and pathways prior to the extension being agreed.

An electronic recording system, similar to that already in use for supervised consumption of drugs at Pharmacies, was to be introduced which would immediately alert any Pharmacist to the pathway that would allow for accurate monitoring.

Protocols in relation to under 16 year olds attending the Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) and Contraceptive and Sexual Health (CaSH) already included screening for sexual exploitation but they would be developed to raise the profile of CSE to enhance the capture of concerns in relation to possible sexual exploitation and contain appropriate referral mechanisms. GUM and CaSH were moving to an integrated service where the protocols and referral criteria would be harmonised and work was taking place on protocols and an algorithm for referral to the newly appointed Sexual Exploitation Nurse.

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised:-

- Historical evidence showed that it was a very low number of females seeking emergency contraception but there was a need for an easily accessible route
- The young female would be automatically referred to the IYSS - what happened if they chose not to attend?
- Would an “automatic” referral deter a young person from seeking emergency contraception for fear of it being brought to their parents’ attention and result in a rise of teenage pregnancies?
- GPs would be far more challenging than a pharmacist - pharmacists would need support and training and a clear audit trail
- GPs had a duty of care – fear that the protocol gave duty of care to the organisation and not the individual
- Investigation of a number of Serious Case Reviews had revealed numerous referrals to GPs/health sector that had not raised alerts
- If there was no automatic referrals, strong reassurance was required of the process to be followed
- Proposed drop-in service offered at many pharmacies
- The pharmacist would inform the young person that they would be referred to the IYSS and that there may be some form of follow up
- The sub-group that had been set up to consider a protocol had included a pharmacist. The young person would be encouraged to see their GP as part of safeguarding advice advised that emergency contraception was only a temporary solution
- It had to be a referral even on the first occasion – how could you be certain that the young person had not attended a pharmacy somewhere else in the County before

Resolved:- That further work take place on the protocol and submitted to a future meeting.

238. YH HWB IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN

Further to Minute No. 232 of 18th September, 2013, Sue Wilson, Performance and Quality Manager, submitted the revised Action Plan, which considered ways to improve health outcomes for children within Rotherham was considered.

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

239. ROTHERHAM REPORT CARD 2012/13

Further to Minute No. 200 of 20th March, 2013, Clare Burton, Commissioning Officer, submitted the proposed Rotherham Report Card which was intended to inform Elected Members, colleagues and the public on how Services and outcomes for children, young people and their families were being improved in Rotherham. The Card would also raise the profile of Children and Young People’s Services, give the public a snapshot of the services that were delivered, how they were viewed and how well they performed.

The Card had been developed based on the Adult Services Local Account, a document that all local authorities were required to publish annually to inform citizens of how well Adult Social Care had performed, the challenges faces and plan for improvement to Services.

It had taken into account feedback from consultation with the Children and Young People's and Families Partnership, the Safeguarding Children and Families Services and the Schools and Lifelong Learning Service.

It was noted that the information contained within referred to the 2012/13 financial year rather than the academic year and, therefore, some of the information relating to educational establishments may be out of date. There would be a footnote stating that further updates could be found on the Ofsted website.

Resolved:- That the Rotherham Report Card be approved for publication.

240. HEALTH PROFILES 2013

John Radford, Director of Public Health, presented the Health Profile 2013 for Rotherham as published on 24th September, 2013. The headlines were:-

- The health of people in Rotherham was generally worse than the England average
- Deprivation was higher than average – approximately 11,500 children lived in poverty
- Life expectancy was 10.2 years lower for men and 6.4 lower for women in the most deprived areas of Rotherham than in the least deprived areas
- All cause mortality rates had fallen over the last 10 years – the early death rate from heart disease and strokes and fallen but was worse than the England average
- In Y6, 20.5% of children were classified as obese
- Levels of teenage pregnancy and breast feeding were worse than the England average
- Estimated levels of adult 'healthy eating', smoking and obesity were worse than the England average together with rates of sexually transmitted infections, smoking related deaths and hospital stays for alcohol-related harm
- The rate of road injuries and deaths, statutory homelessness and violent crime were better than average

Resolved:- That the report be noted.

241. MULTI AGENCY REVIEW OF SERIOUS CHILD NEGLECT CASES

Kevin Wilson, RLSCB/RMBC Quality Assurance Officer, reported, that as a result of an Ofsted recommendations following the unannounced Child

Protection Inspection in June, 2012, a multi-agency audit had been undertaken of 59 cases (59 children in 41 families) in order to address the following outline terms of reference:-

- Key trends/themes that emerge in relation to the management of cases of long term serious neglect
- Gain an understanding of what should be done to affect safe and timely case management and planning
- Identify potential impact changes to improve practice
- Identify the factors and circumstances that negatively influence decision making and risk assessment

Based upon initial findings, 2 of the most serious and long term cases were then subjected to a multi-agency case mapping exercise which were utilised in different partnership forums to share the findings of the review at an early stage. The findings had identified a number of themes:-

Risk Assessment

- Development of a Rotherham Risk Assessment Model - the lack of an adequate Risk Assessment Framework across Children's Services was a weakness and its omission had been criticised within Serious Case Reviews and Ofsted inspections.
- Consideration of the Strengthening Families Model for Child Protection Conferences
- Use of Graded Care Profile – fundamental tool to aid the assessment of need and risk
- Use of multi-agency chronologies on cases of significant concern

Care Planning

- Development of inhouse resources that clarified SMART principles and aid practitioners to incorporate them into their practice
- Establish a Task and Finish Group to review and develop a new more appropriate template for Child Protection and Children in Need plans
- Refresh the multi-agency training "Case Conferences and Core Groups" to ensure practitioners were fully understand their individual responsibilities, the process of professional challenge and the function of core group

Supervision

- The Social Work evidence was reflective - Team Managers to action learning sets, establish whether it was felt that there was an issue with the of recording of action

Consistency in Cases

- The number of changes of allocated Social Workers to children and their families should be minimised and become a Local Safeguarding Children Indicator
- The introduction of an allocation system to CP Conference Chairs to families continues and also becomes a Local Safeguarding Children

Indicator

Resolved:- (1) That it be noted that 60% of all Rotherham children subject to a Child Protection Plan had Neglect as the main category, however, prevalence was actually higher as Neglect was a co-feature of other categories (e.g. Physical Abuse).

(2) That future commissioning of Services take account of the increasing number of children who were neglected and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment would be key to understanding the assessed needs of the Rotherham child population.

242. YOUTH CABINET

The minutes of the Youth Cabinet held on 26th September, 2013, submitted for information, were noted.

243. ROTHERHAM'S LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD

The minutes of the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board, held on 14th June, 2013, were noted.

244. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to report.

245. DATE AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:-

Resolved:- That a further meeting be held on Wednesday, 15th January, 2014, commencing at 2.00 p.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children, Young People and Families' Services
2.	Date:	15th January 2014
3.	Title:	Proposal to expand Thurcroft Infant School
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

Proposals to expand Thurcroft Infant School have stood from 24th July 2013 including the Statutory Notice Period of 22nd November to 20th December 2013 and, in the absence of any objections, the matter can now be determined by the Cabinet Member.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 1) In the absence of any formal objections, that the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Family Services approves the proposal to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Thurcroft Infant School from 60 to 75 in FS2 / Reception from 1st September 2014 and subsequent FS2 / Reception cohorts thereafter.**
- 2) The Secretary of State for Education be informed accordingly, by the School Admissions, Organisation and SEN Assessment Service.**

7. Proposals and Details

The Cabinet Member and Advisors have previously agreed to consult on the proposals as follows:

Cabinet Member to agree to pre statutory consultation	24 th July 2013
Pre statutory consultation period Including meetings with governors, Staff and families etc.	September / October 2013
Report to Cabinet Member	13 th November 2013
Publication of statutory notice	22 nd November 2013
4 week period for representations and objections closes	20 th December 2013
LA decision	15 th January 2014
Implementation	1 st September 2014

There are no other 'linked proposals to consider.

8. Finance

The costs associated with the building expansion programme have been arranged prior to consultation via the CYPS Capital Projects Programme.

Initial School funding to support the additional pupil places has been identified via School Forum (Contingency for Pupil Growth Fund) to cover the September 2014 - March 2015 period as previously reported.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

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

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

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Report to Cabinet Member and Advisers of the 24th July 2013.

Report to Cabinet Member and Advisers of the 13th November 2013.

Minutes of the meetings and correspondence with:

School Governors

Staff and union representatives

Parents and carers

Elected Members

Neighbouring Schools and other consultees.

Public notice period of 22nd November to 20th December 2013.

Contact Name:

Helen Barre (Service Leader – School Admissions, Organisation and SEN Assessment Service)

Tel: 01709 822656

Email: Helen.barre@rotherham.gov.uk

Dean Fenton (Principal Officer - School Organisation and Risk Management)

Tel: 01709 254821

Email: dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisors for Children, Young People and Families' Services
2.	Date:	15th January 2014
3.	Title:	Proposal to amalgamate Brampton the Ellis Junior and Infant Schools by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion and change of age range of the Infant School
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

It is proposed to commence pre statutory consultation on proposals to amalgamate Brampton the Ellis Infant and Junior Schools. This will be by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion and change of age range of the Infant School.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Family services approves the commencement of pre statutory consultation on the proposal to amalgamate Brampton the Ellis Infant and Junior Schools by the closure of the Junior School and the expansion and change of age range of the Infant School from 3-7 to 3-11. A further report will be brought to Members detailing the outcome of the consultation in due course.

7. Proposals and Details

This proposal is also linked to the proposals to expand Cortonwood Infant School from a published Admission Number (PAN) of 40 to 50 with effect from 1st September 2017 and expand Brampton the Ellis Junior School from a Published Admission Number of 70 to 80 by 1st September 2014 to accommodate rising feeder school numbers and to 90 in due course (2020/21 academic year) to accommodate rising pupil number cohorts following the expansion of Cortonwood Infant School.

The proposed 'through' School would have 120 infant places (40 X 3 = 120 FS2/Reception to Y2) and 280 Junior places (70 X 4 = 280 presently, rising to 80 X 4 = 320 WEF 1st September 2014 and eventually 90 x 4 = 360). The school would

have a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 40 for the Infant School and 80 (rising to 90 for the Junior School).

The principal objectives of amalgamation are:

- 1) to provide a continuous primary entitlement across the key stages; and
- 2) to provide a unified management structure with a single school ethos which will be more efficient and make more effective use of resources.

8. Finance

The proposed amalgamation will allow the Headteacher and Governing Body to structure financial resources to best support a through school ethos across the Infant and Junior sites.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Advantages and Disadvantages

The principal ADVANTAGES of amalgamation arise from the continuous primary education entitlement:

- removal of the school transfer at the end of Key Stage 1;
- provision of a whole school curriculum across the primary age range;
- a unified management structure with a single school ethos;
- the potential to organise and arrange the staffing structure and to safeguard the staffing establishment when pupil numbers change across the key stages;
- a whole school approach to staff development across the primary phase;
- more efficient and effective use of resources, especially accommodation, when numbers fluctuate across the infant and junior phases.

The principal DISADVANTAGES of amalgamation are:

- potential difficulties in bringing together two different sets of working practice;
- possible fear of and resistance to change amongst staff, governors and parents;
- in some (but by no means all) cases, a lack of staff expertise in teaching and management across the two key stages.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'. The principle advantages of amalgamation arise from the continuous primary education entitlements which are:-

- Removal of the need for formal school transfer processes at the end of Key Stage1
- Provision of a whole school curriculum across the primary age range
- A unified management structure with a single school ethos
- A whole school approach to staff development across the primary phase
- More efficient and effective use of resources

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The School Organisation (prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007.

Proposed consultation timeline

Cabinet Member to agree to consultation	15 th January 2014
Pre statutory consultation period Commences including meetings with governors, Staff and parents etc.	
Report to the Cabinet Member seeking approval to commence Statutory Consultation	12 th March 2014
Publication of statutory notices and notification to DfE of proposals	21 st March 2014
6 week period for representations and objections closes	2 nd May 2014
Report to Cabinet Member and final Determination of proposals and notification to Secretary of State for Education	21 st May 2014
Implementation	2 nd June 2014

Consultation meetings should be undertaken with the Governing Bodies of both Schools, Staff and Trade Unions, Parents (families) of pupils at the schools, local Councillors, any local Parish Council and the local MP.

Additionally consultation will also need to be undertaken with the Governing bodies of any other school that may be affected plus the Diocese of any school likely to be affected.

These proposals are linked to the proposals to expand Cortonwood Infant School from a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 40 to 50 from 1st September 2017 and proposals to expand Brampton the Ellis Junior School from a Published Admission Number Pan of 70 to 80 from 1st September 2014 and 80 to 90 from 1st September 2020. These proposals are currently under pre statutory consultation following the initial report to Cabinet Member on 24th July 2013.

Contact Name:

**Helen Barre – Service Lead School Admissions, Organisation and SEN
Assessment Service (SAO SENAS)**

Tel: 01709 822656

Email: Helen.barre@rotherham.gov.uk

Dean Fenton – Principal Officer School Organisation (SAO SENAS)

Tel: 01709 254821

Email: dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
--

1	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services
2	Date:	15th January 2014
3	Title:	Children and Young People's Service Revenue Budget Monitoring Report to 30th November, 2013
4	Directorate :	Children and Young People's Service

5 Summary

This Budget Monitoring Report provides a financial forecast for the Children and Young People's Services Directorate to the end of March 2014 based on actual income and expenditure to the end of November 2013.

The Directorate is currently projecting an overspend outturn position of £1.241m (2.7%) principally as a result of continued pressures in the Safeguarding, Children and Families Service. This has improved by £104K since the October monitoring report.

6 Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member receives and notes the latest financial projection against budget for the year based on actual income and expenditure to the end of November 2013.

7 Proposals and Details

7.1.1 Considerable, concerted proactive management actions to contain and where possible reduce the projected outturn position are continuing. So far, within this financial year, it is estimated that these actions will have helped the service avoid £580K of costs that would otherwise have been incurred. Further detail on the actions is presented at 7.1.5.

7.1.2 The table below summarises the forecast outturn against approved budgets for each service division:

Division of Service	Net Budget	Forecast Outturn	Variation	Variation
	£000	£000	£000	%
Directorate Wide Costs	1,963	1,954	-9	-0.5
Schools and Lifelong Learning Service Wide	110	111	1	0.9
School Effectiveness	862	833	-29	-3.4
Special Education Provision	2,341	2,380	39	1.7
Early Years	4,915	4,778	-137	-2.8
Integrated Youth Support	4,391	4,176	-215	-4.9
Specific Grant Support	0	0	0	0
Traded Services	82	74	-8	-9.8
Safeguarding, Children & Families Service Wide	3,057	3,142	85	2.8
Child Protection Teams	1,027	1,028	1	0.1
Children in Need Social Work Teams	5,917	6,022	105	1.8
Looked After Children	18,382	19,737	1,355	7.4
Disability Services	3,061	3,114	53	1.7
Total Children and Young People's Services	46,108	47,349	1,241	2.7

7.1.3 Presented below is an analysis of the main variances and the underlying reasons beneath them:

School Effectiveness (-£29K)

Rockingham PDC is achieving £1K of income above its £33K income target & the School Effectiveness Service has had delays in filling vacancies resulting in a £28K underspend.

Special Education Provision (+£39K)

Forecast overspends on Education Welfare (+£6k) due to loss of academy income caused by a change in legislation, SEN Assessment/Admissions Team (+£26k) due to additional hours to cover sickness & additional printing and SEN Complex Needs placements (+£37K) are all offset by staff savings from vacant posts in both Early Years ASD Support (-£7k), Learning Support Service (-£1K), children in Public Care (-£5K), Parent Partnership (-£1K) and Education Psychology Service (-£16k).

Safeguarding, Children and Families Service Wide (+£85K)

The forecast over spend on legal fees (+£108k), agency costs (+£17K) & inspection consultancy costs (£38K) is offset by staff slippage (-£78K) in Business Support.

Children in Need Social Work Teams (+£105K)

This forecast overspend is on Agency staff costs & additional staff appointments within the Children in Need North team & the Borough Wide team (+£59K) and a charge for call handling for the Out of Hours Team (+£46K).

Looked After Children (+£1,355k)

The service is forecasting an over spend mainly due to out of authority residential placements (+£1,367K), remand placements (+£180K) and independent fostering placements (+£263K). Further details of placements are below:

- The number of children in residential out of authority placements as at 30th November is 26 (an increase of 1 since October). Since 2011/12 the average number of children in OOA residential placements per week has increased from 18 to 23.3 currently. Due to the increasing complexity of children's needs that are going into residential out of authority placements & despite successful negotiations by the Commissioning team to minimise the cost of these placements, the average cost per week of these has also increased over this period from £3,022 to £3,345.
- From 1 April 2013 children's remand placements are fully funded by the Local Authority & RMBC was provided with a national grant of £78k to cover these additional costs. The current projected cost of these placements is £258k which shows that the grant was grossly inadequate. There are currently no remand placements (a reduction of 1 since October). The number of children in Independent foster care as at 31st October is 108 (a reduction of 7 since September & a reduction of 10 since the end of March 2013). The average number of children in these placements has reduced from 125 per week in 2011/12 to 108 so far in 2013/14.
- The number of children in Independent foster care as at 30th November is 106 (a reduction of 2 since October & a reduction of 12 since the end of March 2013). The average number of children in these placements has reduced from 125 per week in 2011/12 to 108 currently in 2013/14.
- The number of children in in-house fostering placements as at end of November is 153 (a reduction of 15 since 31 March 2013). Since 2011/12 the average number of children placed in in-house fostering placements per week has increased from 159 to 170 currently. The average cost per week of these has also increased over this period from £230 to £252.
- The number of looked after children was 376 at end of November, a reduction of 22 since 31st March 2013.

Additional overspends in this area are (+£28k) Consultancy costs to review health care contributions towards children's continuing health care needs, (+£6K) court ordered care package, (+£15k) agency costs in respect of Contact workers. These pressures are partially offset by projected underspends in Children's Homes (-£89k) mainly due to not staffing the Silverwood annexe, Fostering Services (-£76k) due to a forecast underspend on fostering allowances, Residence Orders & Families together placements, (-£163k) due to the re-profiling of adoption placements and the impact of this on inter-agency adoption costs & maximising grants, (-£50k) reduced use of transport for LAC children & (-£117k) in Leaving care on accommodation costs & a reduction in the number of weekly payments.

Disability Services (+£53K)

This service is now forecasting an overspend mainly due to overtime & agency costs at Cherry Tree & Liberty residential homes due to needing to cover sickness & vacancies (+£66K) and an overspend on Direct payments (+£51K) offset by staffing slippage in the Disability Team (-£64K). The overspend on Direct payments is due to providing carers to support families with children with extremely complex needs which would otherwise require OOA residential placements at a much higher cost.

Remaining CYPS Services (-£367k)

The overall CYPS overspend is also partially offset by projected under spends on Pension costs (-£7k) due to a reduction in numbers receiving pension payments, (-£137k) due to ceasing non essential spend & reallocation of funding in the Early Years service, (-£215K) staff cost savings, ceasing non essential spend & maximising grants in the Integrated Youth Support Service and a further contribution from the Education Catering Service (-£8K).

7.1.4 Prevention and Early intervention strategies

These include:

- Increased use of Special Guardianships (77 as at the end of November, an increase of 8 since 31st March 2013) and Residence Orders (130 as at 30th November an increase of 10 since 31st March 2013). There is a continuing push to secure permanency for some children via this route rather than becoming or remaining looked after children. This seeks to reduce the LAC numbers but also provides better outcomes for the children and young people.
- The investment received in Fostering & Adoption is showing results. The service is projecting to have 30 new adopters by the end of March 2014 which is 9 above the invest to save target. The Adoption Service has been helped by the governments, one year only, Adoption Reform Grant. The service is projecting to be on target for the recruitment of new foster carers at the net gain of 21.

7.1.5 Impact of Management Actions

Considerable, concerted proactive management actions to contain and where possible reduce the projected outturn position are continuing – within 2013/14 to date, it is estimated that these actions have helped the service avoid £580K of costs that would otherwise have been incurred:

- Reduction in placement costs of £454K through renegotiating contracts with external providers;
- The Fostering Framework has achieved £74K of reductions on standard fostering placements
- The Block contract has achieved £52K savings on complex fostering placements
- The continued effectiveness of the multi-agency support panel from which through efficient multi agency management actions and decision making, continues to avoid costs wherever possible.

7.1.6 **Agency Costs**

Total expenditure on Agency staff for Children and Young People's Services for the 8 month period ending 30th November 2013 was £541K. This compares with an actual cost of £257K for the same period last year.

The increase in agency costs is a result of the need to cover vacant social worker and team manager posts; the Interim Director of Safeguarding, Children & Families; and sickness and maternity leave in residential care.

We have appointed to the vacant social worker & team manager posts in the localities. All staff have started or are about to start imminently. A further round of social work recruitment is currently taking place to address the regular turnover of staff. We have also appointed to the vacant post of Team Manager for Looked After Children and the successful candidate will start in the new year. Recruitment is under way to fill the Fostering Team Manager post which is currently being covered by an interim manager.

Two extra posts, over establishment, have been recruited to, that are peripatetic with the intention of providing cover for emergent vacancies rather than using agency staff. The costs of the agency employed interim Director will also have an effect on these figures pending the recruitment of a permanent post holder.

In children's residential care there has been an unprecedented level of sick leave and maternity leave in three of the five homes, resulting in the use of high levels of agency staff to cover posts to ensure the required staff ratios are met. A number of those staff are on phased returns to work; recruitment to fill vacancies caused by turnover has taken place, and a further recruitment round will start in January.

There have also been six children in the Orchard Centre with high levels of need requiring additional staff to care for them safely; these children would otherwise have had to be placed in out of authority residential placements.

7.1.7 **Non contractual Overtime**

Actual expenditure to the end of November 2013 on non-contractual overtime for Children and Young People's Services (excluding schools) is £84K which is mainly in Residential units, compared with expenditure of £49K for the same period last year.

OfSTED requirements are that, if possible, agency staff are not used to cover vacancies, hence the reliance on overtime in the short term pending recruited staff taking up position.

7.1.8 **Consultancy Costs**

Total expenditure on consultancy costs to the end of November is £140K compared to £204K for the same 8 month period last year.

The majority of these costs are in the School Effectiveness Service and externally funded areas. School effectiveness is funded by a combination of Revenue, Dedicated Schools Grant and other income & within external grant funded services.

The actual costs of agency, non contractual overtime & consultancy are included within the financial forecasts.

8. **Finance**

Finance details are included in section 7 above.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties**

Principal risks and uncertainties relate to the 'needs led' nature of budgets for looked after children.

The recruitment of in house foster and adoptive carers remains a challenge and we must always ensure a high quality of placements.

Our decisions to place children with independent fostering agencies and in residential out of authority establishments will always be in the context of the best interests of our children. The budget need can only be an estimate given its volatile nature. For example, one out of authority residential placement for a child with very complex needs can now cost up to £364,000 per annum.

10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget within the limits determined by Council in March 2013 is vital in achieving the objectives of the Council's Policy agenda. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the council's overall performance.

The expenditure in the Children and Young People's Service continues to be mitigated by constantly reviewing budgets and the continuation of a moratorium on spending within the Directorate.

11. **Background Papers and Consultation**

- Report to Cabinet on 6 March 2013 – Proposed Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2013/14.

This report has been discussed with the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Service and the Director of Finance.

Contact Name: Joanne Robertson, Financial Services - Finance Manager (Children and Young People's Services), *ext: 22041, email:*
joanne.robertson@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

	Meeting:-	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services
	Date:-	Wednesday 15th January 2014
	Title:-	Young Carers Service Commissioning
	Directorate:-	NAS

5. Summary

The Young Carers service for Children & Young People in Rotherham is commissioned from Barnardo Services Limited until 31 March 2014 at a contract value of £42,300 per annum.

The Young Carers service is only part funded by RMBC Children and Young Peoples Services, with the remaining monies coming from the charitable arm of Barnardo Services Limited.

Due to the low value of the contract and part financing by Barnardo Service Limited, previous tendering exercises have resulted in only Barnardos coming forward with a tender.

It is proposed that, whilst we continue to have a contract and specification in place with the provider, the service be exempt from a competitive tendering process. This is on the basis of cost effectiveness and that there is only one external provider that can undertake this work.

6. Recommendations

Cabinet Member is asked to:

- 6.1 Waive (in accordance with Standing Order 49 - Tender invitation and receipt of tenders) for the delivery of the Young Carers Service in Rotherham.

7. Proposals and Details

Many Young People within Rotherham are helping to care for a parent or sibling. The person being cared for may have mental health difficulties, a physical, sensory or learning impairment, a long term illness or they may have difficulties relating to substance misuse.

Rotherham Young Carers service, which is currently commissioned from Barnardo Services Limited until 31 March 2014, works with young people aged 8-18 years, and offers the young people guidance and support around issues they face as a young carer. They also offer the young people activities during the school holidays, giving young carers a break and a chance to get together as a large group. The service also provides training and advice to other services and schools in contact with young carers.

The service is part funded by RMBC Children and Young Peoples services, with the £42,300 annual allocation funding the 1.5 WTE workers within the service and some of the activity costs. The frontline administration, training, travel, premises and management costs are picked up by Barnardo Services Limited through their charitable arm at a value of £16,120 per annum.

When the service was last tendered in 2012, only Barnardo Services Limited came forward. It is the view of commissioners that tendering for the service by other providers is not an attractive proposition, as the contract value only covers staffing costs and an element of activity costs i.e. with the TUPE of staff to a new provider, there would be no monies for service overheads and management costs.

We are seeking a waiver from Standing Orders to not undertake a competitive tendering exercise on the basis of cost effectiveness and that there is only one external provider that can undertake this work.

8. Finance

The Young Carers service is funded at a recurrent value of £43,200. The current contractual allocation to Barnardos, is primarily to cover staff costs.

Barnardos Services Limited contribute the remaining £16,120 to meet the overall service running cost of £58,970.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

That if we were to go out to tender we would not attract submissions from providers other than Barnardos Services Limited.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Work to support Young Carers is a high profile service area both locally and nationally. All services for Young Carers should be consistent with the CYP Plan and Health and Wellbeing Board priorities.

Contact Names: Chrissy Wright, Strategic Commissioning Manager
Tel: 822308 Email: chrissy.wright@rotherham.gov.uk

Document is Restricted