

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

Date and Time :- Tuesday, 17 September 2019 at 5.30 p.m.

Venue:- Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.

Membership:- Councillors Atkin, Beaumont, Buckley, Clark, Cusworth (Chair), Elliot, Fenwick-Green, Hague, Ireland, Jarvis (Vice-Chair), Khan, Marles, Marriott, Pitchley, Price, Senior and Julie Turner

Co-opted Members – Ms. J. Jones (Voluntary Sector Consortium), Mrs. A. Clough (ROPF – Rotherham Older People’s Forum) for agenda items relating to older peoples’ issues

This meeting will be webcast live and will be available to view [via the Council's website](#). The items which will be discussed are described on the agenda below and there are reports attached which give more details.

Rotherham Council advocates openness and transparency as part of its democratic processes. Anyone wishing to record (film or audio) the public parts of the meeting should inform the Chair or Democratic Services Officer of their intentions prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

There will be a pre-briefing for all members of the Improving Lives Select Commission at 4.00 p.m.

1. Apologies for Absence

To receive the apologies of any Member who is unable to attend the meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th July, 2019 (Pages 1 - 11)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th July, 2019, as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of interest from Members in respect of items listed on the agenda.

4. Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during consideration of any part of the agenda.

5. Questions from Members of the Public and the Press

To receive questions relating to items of business on the agenda from members of the public or press who are present at the meeting.

6. Communications

To receive communications from the Chair in respect of matters within the Commission's remit and work programme.

7. Counter Extremism in Schools (Pages 12 - 20)

To understand steps being taken in schools to address counter extremism.

8. Presentation - Children Missing from Education, Care and Home (Pages 21 - 52)

To seek assurance that children missing (from Care, Home, Education and Children excluded from schools) are being effectively safeguarded

9. Elective Home Education (Pages 53 - 58)

To seek assurance that children who are elective home educated are being effectively safeguarded/educated.

10. Work Programme 2019/20 (Pages 59 - 65)

To receive an update on the 2019/20 Work Programme.

11. Urgent Business

To consider any item(s) the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.

12. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission will take place on Tuesday, 29th October, 2019 commencing at 5.30 p.m. in Rotherham Town Hall.



Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

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9th July, 2019

Present:- Councillor Cusworth (in the Chair); Councillors Beaumont, Clark, Elliot, Ireland, Khan, Pitchley, Price, Senior, Julie Turner, Atkin and Jarvis.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillor Marriott and Joanna Jones (Co-optee Children and Young People's Voluntary Sector Consortium).

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at:-

<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items requiring exclusion from the press or public.

13. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

There were no questions from members of the public or the press.

14. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair reported on the latest meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel and referred to the report Judith Badger, Strategic Director, had presented on the proposals for the Looked After Children's population in terms of the budget.

Consideration had also been given to the revised capital spend for extensions and adaptations to homes and the larger review that has been ongoing that Councillors Cusworth, Elliot, M. Elliott and Jarvis had been working on. This review would be considered at the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel in October and would also be circulated to Improving Lives Select Commission Members.

15. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11TH JUNE, 2019

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission, held on 11th June, 2019, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

Further to Minute No. 6 (Regional Schools Commissioner) the Regional School Commissioner had written to clarify an issue in respect of Census Day and the national funding formula and whether it would include any changes to current arrangements for funding for pupils who arrived part way through a school year. He confirmed that at this moment in time there were no plans to make changes to the 'census day', but consideration was being given to an element to the national funding formula to reflect pupil mobility. This was dependent upon the expected spending review in the near future. The letter received would be circulated to all Commission Members.

16. ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP: MULTI-AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN

The Chair welcomed Christine Cassell, Independent Chair of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board, and Phil Morris, Business Manager, along with Jon Stonehouse, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, Sue Cassin, CCG, and Una Jennings, Chief Superintendent, South Yorkshire Police, who introduced the report and how it presented the Rotherham Multi-Agency Arrangements for Safeguarding Children.

These arrangements were developed, in accordance with statutory guidance, by the three safeguarding partners in consultation with the wider partnership and would become effective from September 2019.

By way of a presentation the Independent Chair and Strategic Director provided a summary about the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements for Rotherham which would replace the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board.

The reason for this change was as a result of the removal of the requirement for Safeguarding Children Boards as they currently existed, but replaced with a requirement for a new partnership.

The presentation using PowerPoint highlighted:-

- Children Act 2004 amended by Children and Social Work Act (2017).
- Working Together 2018 stated that local safeguarding arrangements must be published by June 2019, implemented by September 2019, and include:-
 - Arrangements for the safeguarding partners to work together to identify and respond to the needs of children in the area.
 - Arrangements for commissioning and publishing local child safeguarding practice reviews.
 - Arrangements for independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the arrangements.
 - Who the three local safeguarding partners are, especially if the arrangements cover more than one local authority area.

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- Geographical boundaries (especially if the arrangements operate across more than one local authority area).
 - The relevant agencies the safeguarding partners will work with; why these organisations and agencies have been chosen; and how they will collaborate and work together to improve outcomes for children and families.
 - How all early years' settings, schools (including independent schools, academies and free schools) and other educational establishments will be included in the safeguarding arrangements.
 - How any youth custody and residential homes for children will be included in the safeguarding arrangements?
 - How the safeguarding partners will use data and intelligence to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help.
 - How inter-agency training will be commissioned, delivered and monitored for impact and how they will undertake any multi-agency and interagency audits.
 - How the arrangements will be funded.
 - The process for undertaking local child safeguarding practice reviews, setting out the arrangements for embedding learning across organisations and agencies.
 - How the arrangements will include the voice of children and families.
 - How the threshold document setting out the local criteria for safeguarding interventions aligns with the arrangements
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- Membership of the Chief Officers' Group.
 - Membership of the Executive Group.
 - Delivery Groupings.
 - Wider Safeguarding Partnership.
 - Independent Chair /Scrutiny Role - Working Together 2018:-
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- Provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. This independent scrutiny will be part of a wider system which includes the independent inspectorates' single assessment of the individual safeguarding partners and the Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAs).
 - Safeguarding partners should ensure that the scrutiny is objective, acts as a constructive critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement.
 - Should consider how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership and agree with the safeguarding partners how this will be reported.

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- The published arrangements should set out the plans for independent scrutiny; how the arrangements will be reviewed;
 - Safeguarding partners should also agree arrangements for independent scrutiny of the report they must publish at least once a year.
- Independent Chair / Scrutiny:-
 - Chairing of Chief Officer Group
 - Chairing of Executive Group
 - Chair / facilitate wider partnership meetings.
 - Meets with chairs of other Partnership Boards.
 - Meets with Leaders and Officers relating to specific issues across the Partnership.
 - Agree with Safeguarding Partners how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership.
 - Scrutinise the work of the delivery groups and the progress of the business plan.
 - Scrutinise the Annual Report developed by the Safeguarding Partners.
 - Acts objectively as a critical friend to promote reflection and drive continuous improvement.
 - Leads challenge sessions in relation to organisations' safeguarding children arrangements (Safeguarding Self-Assessment).
 - Engages with community groups or community representatives.
 - Has access to relevant (single and multi-agency) performance data and quality assurance information to effectively challenge practice and poor outcomes for children.
 - Has an influencing role within and across the partnership with regard to multi-agency practice and outcomes for children.
 - Participate in reviews by Inspectorates when required, including JTAs. Holds partners to account for Improvement Plans arising from Inspection and Peer Review activity.
 - Is alerted to serious safeguarding cases, incidences of whistleblowing relating to safeguarding matters and acts as a point of escalation when safeguarding partners are unable to find a resolution within the partnership.
 - Seeks assurance and scrutinises decision making in relation to Serious Case Reviews(SCRs).
 - Has a line of sight to frontline practice and outcomes for children – where appropriate is able to observe practice, engaged with practitioners, children and their families with regard to their experience of the safeguarding system?
 - Communicates with external local/regional/national organisations and governmental departments where appropriate in relation to safeguarding matters impacting on partnership working and outcomes for children.

The Commission were also advised that as the National Crime Agency was such an important partner they had been added to the Group. The Partnership had also decided to continue having an Independent Chair and ensure that scrutiny was truly objective and act as a constructive critical friend.

Scrutiny should therefore, consider how effectively the arrangements were working for children and families as well as for practitioners and require the arrangements for published arrangements to be published at least annually.

The Chair thanked those present for their very informative presentation and welcomed the decision to retain an Independent Chair.

Councillor Watson, Deputy Leader, also reiterated the positivity of the three lead agencies working together to develop the new arrangements and how they had expertly been facilitated in that work by the Independent Chair.

The strength of the new arrangements were recognised and the work that had gone into building the foundations in ensuring they would continue to be strengthened going forward.

A discussion and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised and clarified:-

- Child Death Overview Panel and its function.

The Child Death Overview Panel had moved out from the Department of Education into the Department of Health. However, in Rotherham it was felt strongly that the Partnership working had made a huge difference locally at looking at preventable deaths so this had been maintained within the structure of the new Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The Director of Public Health would continue to chair and would be scrutinised by partners in either Sheffield or Barnsley or the rest of South Yorkshire to look at themes and trends. For example, Rotherham had noticed an issue with safe sleeping and this had also been highlighted in Sheffield. With enough data this allowed investigation into specific areas and whilst there may still be one or two deaths due to unsafe sleeping each year, it allowed relevant organisations to look at how these circumstances can be prevented.

- As with Serious Case Reviews would the findings of the Child Death Overview Panel be available.

An Annual Report would continue to be provided, but this would be widened out across the South Yorkshire area so that themes and trends would become more apparent and could be acted on accordingly.

The distinction was highlighted between child deaths which were overseen by the Child Death Overview Panel and serious incidents which were overseen by the Child Practice Review Panel.

- With the plans to continue with an Independent Chair what other extracts of the Regulations were Rotherham pursuing outside of those prescribed by the Regulations.

The new arrangements allowed for local determination, but some of the regulations were specifically prescribed in terms of their role, remit composition etc.

Not every area would have a Chief Officers Group, but in Rotherham this demonstrated core agencies were taking full responsibility for multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. This would provide a clear audit trail of accountability to the three organisations and with the Independent Chair demonstrated a real strength in terms of sub-regional arrangements.

There was some degree of some flexibility in the arrangements and local areas could tailor these to meet their own priorities whilst ensuring certain requirements were met.

One of the subtle shifts in the new arrangements was the emphasis on the role as Chair to scrutinise and challenge what key partners were delivering locally.

The new arrangements were welcomed along with the recognition that Rotherham was a child friendly borough and work was taking place with young people. However, it was suggested that any acronyms be kept to a minimum.

- In terms of the different groups would organisations be challenging each other and how would this work to ensure transparency.

Partners challenging one another was fundamental whether this was at a casework level where people were coming together to discuss a plan for a child and family or at a manager level.

For example, in the Quality Assurance and Performance Group information was distributed amongst partners and each asked to scrutinise different aspects. This gave people the opportunity to ask one another about performance. Challenge sessions were also organised where partners from across the wider partnership looked at one another's quality assurance and challenged by way of questions.

The Chief Nurse representing the CCG and Chief Superintendent Una Jennings also commented on the changes and the processes for positive challenge between partners. From experiences elsewhere, the arrangements were robust and collectively partners would benefit from the legacy that had been left by the outgoing Chair and her level of investment in ensuring that Rotherham was left in a very good place from the activity, relationships and mature conversations between practitioners.

There would be a prominent place within the work programme for each of the partners to present performance and quality reports, informed by case audits and statistics.

- What encouragement had there been to schools to sign up to this voluntary process and could their involvement be enforced.

It was hoped Rotherham would not be in a position of forcing a school to comply. The Safeguarding Forum was for all schools which was very well attended and would build on the Safeguarding agenda. The responsibilities as a Local Authority were very clear and this applied to all schools so any Safeguarding issues and referrals that came to the Local Authority would continue regardless of the status of schools.

- Whilst schools were included regardless of their status, what would be the process for a Free School and could this be enforced?

In setting out these arrangements all educational establishments had been named as this effectively gave the key partners the power to require people to engage around Safeguarding. Whilst it was hoped it would not come to the point where a school was obliged to comply, the power was there should it be necessary.

Rotherham had a very strong Safeguarding Forum and schools participated. There was value in engaging and undergoing the self-assessment around Safeguarding and certainly in their best interests. Compliance would give schools strength in terms of responding to any Ofsted inspections.

- In terms of firm counter-extremism what facility was in operation for the various agencies to raise issues and what capacity was there to respond to concerns?

Extremism was probably more of a role for the Safer Rotherham Partnership, but these issues should be discussed and shared proactively with schools and other organisation so there was a clear referral process and to fully what support was available to them.

The Council had very clear Prevent responsibility and the Safeguarding Children Board had asked for information on Prevent to be shared so partners could fully understand how well vulnerable children were supported to avoid exploitation, being coerced or introduced to any kind of radicalisation.

- Could there be more clarification on the role of the MAPPA Board.

The Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) were generally led by the Probation Services and it was their role to protect the public from particular individuals within the Health Service. The Mental Health Team sat on the MAPPA Board and this was overseen by the Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure responses were appropriate. There were other agencies represented on the Board whose purpose it was to make sure the package for an individual living in the community was robust.

- Was there a robust information sharing protocol between the three key partners again in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)? Were there any plans to circulate any information on this issue.

There were very clear messages about what information could and could not be shared if there was a serious Safeguarding issue. The statutory Working Together guidance outlined clear information sharing protocols.

The Caldecott Guardians had been heavily involved in the development of information sharing within a clear set of principles.

Different organisations had different viewpoints on information sharing, so it would be valuable to have a set of bullet points that may help some of the smaller voluntary organisations to prevent any blockages to information.

Work had taken place with some smaller organisations where it was unclear whether to make a Safeguarding referral to the MASH or not. Advice had been to talk through the scenario with a MASH representative on an anonymised basis rather than risk a breach in data protection.

- Reference was made in the report about child exploitation and was this based on current child exploitation or historical data.

Learning from historic cases and cases that were currently being investigated would ensure an effective response to exploitation. The Group had been changed to Exploitation because children could be exploited in a number of different ways. The focus would continue on sexual exploitation, but the work would be closely monitored within the new partnership arrangements.

- The arrangements moving forward were more positive and would build on the success that had already been achieved.

Through that wider Partnership it was hoped to obtain a better dialogue with schools and this would be strengthened with a representative from Education on the Board. It was hoped that the wider Partnership would operate in such a way that more people could discuss their views through the operation of a conference or cabaret-style meeting. This would facilitate a much better exchange of information within a wider group of people particularly with the education sector.

- A wider range of voices would be heard and this was a positive change from the former system.

If anyone did not feel that that message had been received then this would be given priority and, as the new arrangements were introduced in September, changes could be made.

- For the first year of the Rotherham Safeguarding Partnership the funding formula would stay the same, but had any agreement being reached yet about future contributions from partners.

Consideration was being given to the support arrangements going forward, but more work was required before any changes could be finalised to the current arrangements. The Council was confident an agreement could be reached.

- It was clarified that the meetings that currently took place between the Chair of the Local Children's Safeguarding Board, the Adult Safeguarding Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Young People's Transformation Board and the Safer Rotherham Partnership would continue going forward.

Continuation of these meetings around safeguarding issues were written into the new arrangements.

The arrangements supported a good level of assurance that the systems and processes that were in place going forward were based on the robust challenge of the former and new Independent Chair. The annual reports should still be presented to the Select Commission to ensure it had oversight of the implementation and transition.

The Chair and the Commission wanted to formally thank the retiring Chair for her investment in the Local Children's Safeguarding Board and for her support and the openness in her discussions.

Resolved:- (1) That the decision of the Cabinet to endorse the development and publication of the Multi-Agency Arrangements for Safeguarding Children be noted.

(2) That the future scrutiny of these arrangements continue and the Annual Report be presented to this Commission.

(3) That an update be provided in six months following the implementation and transition to the new process.

17. PRESENTATION - CHILDREN MISSING FROM EDUCATION, CARE AND HOME

This item was deferred and would be included on the agenda for the September meeting.

18. IMPROVING LIVES WORK PROGRAMME 2019

Consideration was given to the Improving Lives Work Programme where it was reported that meetings had been held with the Commission plus input from Strategic Director Link Officers and also the Cabinet Member.

The programme set out meeting by meeting agenda items. There would also be items arising from the Sub-Groups and these would feed into the Commission in due course.

There would also be regular updates in terms of issues to be scheduled and also a summary of the recommendations to inform any future work.

Members would be contacted by e-mail seeking expressions of interest for the Sub-Groups, initially with the Performance Sub-Group. Expressions of interest would also be sought to be part of a group to look at post-abuse support and holiday hunger. The post-abuse support review would commence shortly and the holiday hunger review would be undertaken in late summer/early autumn.

Resolved:- (1) That the contents of the report and the Work Programme detail be noted.

(2) That updates be provided to each meeting of this Commission on the progress of the work programme and further prioritisation as required.

19. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business to report.

20. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday, 17th September, 2019 at 5.30 p.m.

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| BRIEFING PAPER FOR IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION |
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| 1. | Date of meeting: | 17th September 2019 |
| 2. | Title: | Counter Extremism work with schools |
| 3. | Directorate/Agency: | Assistant Chief Executive's |

4. Introduction

- 4.1 This briefing paper highlights the work Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council are undertaking in schools and colleges across the Borough to counter extremist narratives and build the resilience of young people to reject extremism, intolerance and hatred.
- 4.2 The distinction between Counter Extremism (CE) and Counter terrorism (PREVENT) is a difficult one to make. They are however distinct policy areas. PREVENT is a safeguarding process for individuals vulnerable to radicalisation like any other safeguarding process whereas Counter Extremism is about working with communities rather than individuals, challenging extremist narratives and building resilience within communities to reject hatred.
- 4.3 Extremism is defined by government as the vocal or active opposition to our fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs. Extremists seek to promote hatred of the other or “othering” as academics describe it, thereby undermining community cohesion. It is therefore important that the council are proactive in challenging extremism and promoting the values of mutual respect and tolerance in and between communities and that vulnerable young people and adults do not become radicalised to commit violent acts of terrorism. Counter extremism work is not counter terrorism as it is often mistaken but is about working with communities to promote community cohesion and to build resilience to the narratives that promote hatred.
- 4.4 The following are the key pieces of work being undertaken with schools and colleges to counter extremism. As a brief summary this includes:
- Holding the “Harms of Hate” event for schools and developing teaching resources which have been recognised nationally as good practice.
 - Delivery of assemblies on extremism in secondary schools.
 - Delivery staff training on the current far right threat.
 - Delivery of work with primary schools.
 - Work with partners to develop CE projects including some delivered in schools.
 - Development and sharing of teaching resources to challenge extremism.

Each area of business is covered in more detail later in this report.

5. Background and context

- 5.1 The Government published its Counter Extremism Strategy in 2015 and the Counter Extremism unit was set up within the Home Office. As a part of the strategy central government identified the local authorities most at risk from non-violent extremism and offered funding for Community Coordinators to support the delivery of counter extremism (CE) work locally. Rotherham was offered funding and Ian Stubbs was appointed in September 2017, employed by RMBC and based in the Assistant Chief Executive's department. There are a total of 40 Community Coordinators nationally each working in their own local authority areas to tackle the harms of extremism.
- 5.2 It should be noted that whilst there are overlaps, the work of CE is distinct from PREVENT which is a part of the government counter terrorism strategy and is governed by a separate department within the Home Office. Fulfilling obligations under PREVENT legislation is a statutory requirement managed within the council by Community Safety under the Head of Service, Sam Barstow and governed through the Safer Rotherham Partnership.
- 5.3 Nationally Counter Extremism work has become a priority for government. An independent commission has been established with Sara Khan appointed lead commissioner in 2018. A Special Interest Group on Counter Extremism (SIGCE) jointly funded by the Home Office and LGA and chaired jointly by Leeds and Luton councils has been established to share good practice and learning nationally. Rotherham's community coordinator is a member of the national delivery group of the SIGCE and also a member of a working group set up to look into the far right threat.
- 5.4 Delivery of the government Counter Extremism Strategy is managed through the local delivery team at the Home Office under the "Building a Stronger Britain Together" or BSBT programme. This includes grant funding opportunities for voluntary sector organisations as well as funding for the Community Coordinators. To date nationally over 230 VCF sector organisations have been funded to deliver CE work under the BSBT programme including three in Rotherham namely Rotherham United Community Sports Trust, Remedi and Stop Hate UK.
- 5.5 Nationally the overall threat from Islamist extremists remains high. However there has been a significant increase in the threat of far right terrorism with 40% of terrorism arrests in 2018 reported as being far right related. The murder of Jo Cox MP and the recent New Zealand attacks being the most high profile incidents. In 2016 National Action became the first ever far right group proscribed under counter terrorism legislation for promoting violent acts of terrorism in the UK.
- 5.6 There has been a mainstreaming of far right narratives in the past 12 to 18 months with increasing public support as highlighted in a recent "Hope not Hate" report entitled "Modernising and Mainstreaming: The Contemporary

British Far Right”. They report “By analysing the rhetoric espoused at a series of major far-right events across 2018 and comparing it to societal polling it becomes evident that large parts of the contemporary alt-right’s platform - namely anti-Muslim politics, co-option of the free speech debate and an anti-elite populism - has widespread public support.”

- 5.7 Anti-Muslim sentiment is increasing nationally. Tell MAMA a national organisation founded to measure anti-Muslim hatred report a significant increase both online and offline. Between January and June 2018 Tell MAMA recorded 608 verified reports that were anti-muslim in nature and report an overall increase of 111% in just two years. The far right narrative has moved to a less overtly racist and more anti-muslim stance. “Punish a Muslim day” in 2018 is an example of the impact of this narrative and one that had a significant impact on Muslim Communities across the country. Far right groups seek to exploit issues for their own agenda including CSE in order to further their anti-muslim rhetoric.
- 5.8 A recent report “State of Hate 2019” by Hope Not Hate identified contact between people from different cultures as a key driver of acceptance. A recent (July 2019) academic paper identified three key components of challenging extremism: Dialogue, Education and exposure to alternative narratives. The work being undertaken across the Borough under the BSC strategy aims to address all these issues.
- 5.9 Working with young people and schools in particular to challenge extremism is a priority for RMBC and a key aspect of this work. Rotherham does not benefit from DfE funding for PREVENT education officers (PEO’s) who would ordinarily undertake a lot of the work described. Therefore this important work is being undertaken by a combination of the Community Coordinator, the Community Safety team and CYPS.
- 5.10 A recent case from Mexborough highlights the need for knowledge and confidence amongst staff to effectively safeguard young people at risk of radicalisation from the far right in our communities. This was a young man who lived in Mexborough and was 17 years old at the time of his arrest. His bedroom was wallpapered in Nazi memorabilia and he posted pictures online of himself wearing a Nazi SS uniform. During 2017 he built a viable pipe bomb in his bedroom and was arrested and convicted under counter terrorism legislation. He was a member of National Action and had been radicalised to hold white supremacist views. The point being that there may have been opportunities to safeguard this young man before he was radicalised to this point had professionals had the knowledge and confidence to have those difficult conversations needed. This case brings home the importance of this work locally.

6. Key issues

- 6.1 The Building Stronger Communities Strategy (BSC) was adopted by the Council in May 2017. It sets out the Council’s long term commitment to community cohesion and how it will work with residents and partners to deliver

better outcomes for Rotherham people and communities. The roll out of the Thriving Neighbourhoods Strategy and improvements around community safety including hate crime reporting have helped to make Rotherham a safer and better place to live. Recent guidance from the Local Government Association cite both Rotherham's 'Building Stronger Communities Strategy' and 'Rotherham's Neighbourhood Strategy' as good practice as well as the Council's work to improve hate crime reporting. There is also a strong correlation between the BSC action plan and the actions covered in the government's Integrated Communities strategy. This would seem to indicate that the approach in Rotherham is in line with government thinking and national good practice. Effective communication, community engagement and protecting vulnerable people from extremism are all identified as priorities within the BSC strategy. The work aims to bring people together in order to build understanding and to raise awareness of different cultures and beliefs.

6.2 Over the past two years a key aspect of the work of the Community Coordinator has been developing relationships with schools and colleges as well as the voluntary sector and faith organisations. Internally strong links have been developed with the Community Safety team and Neighbourhood team as well as statutory partners through the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

6.3 Working with young people to develop critical thinking skills and build resilience to extremist narratives is important and key to challenging those narratives that seek to divide our communities. The aim of the work is to empower young people to think differently about some of the issues facing society today and to reject hatred and intolerance. One approach of the council is to work with schools and support the delivery of the British Values aspect of the national curriculum.

6.4 **Safeguarding**

6.4.1 PREVENT is a safeguarding process for those considered at risk of being radicalised and committing acts of violent extremism. The most recent figures show an increase of 36% nationally in the past year of far right referrals into PREVENT alongside a 14% reduction in Islamist referrals. There is no reason to suggest that the situation in Rotherham does not follow the national trend.

6.4.2 The safeguarding of vulnerable young people and adults at risk from exploitation by extremist narratives is a priority for the council. Where there are concerns about an individual they should be reported through the following referral pathways.

For young people this is the Rotherham Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01709 336080 and for adults the Single Point of Access on 01709 822330.

6.4.3 If you see or hear anything that could be terrorist related you can report directly to the national confidential Anti-terrorist hotline on 0800 789321

There follows a more detailed report into each of the areas of work the council are undertaking with schools and colleges on the Counter Extremism agenda.

6.5 Harms of Hate

6.5.1 In September 2018 RMBC organised a Harms of Hate event at Magna. The event reflected on Hate, Extremism and Terrorism through the lived experience of survivors. Its aims were to empower young people to challenge hate narratives and support them to think critically about important issues affecting society today. The event was attended by 400 young people from 10 schools and colleges across the Borough and was extremely well received.

6.5.2 A video was commissioned to cover the event which has been viewed over 55,000 times on Facebook. The video gives a real flavour of the event. Quotes from students on the day show the impact of the event and included;

“Today was such a powerful day”

“Educating young people on what is happening around the world will help them develop as a person in later life”

“It really hits home. Its spreads the message around the community”

A link to the video is here

<https://www.facebook.com/StrongerRotherham/videos/1979086985531526/>

6.5.2 A total of 20 students from Rawmarsh Community School attended a follow-up event at Manchester Metropolitan University in February where they took part in a workshop looking at the wider harms of extremism.

6.5.3 At the request of schools a further Harms of Hate event is planned for 15th October 2019 during hate crime awareness week. To date over 550 students from 15 schools and colleges are booked to attend. This event will focus on religious intolerance and extremism as well as hate.

6.5.4 The event has created an opportunity for RMBC to work with schools and colleges to challenge extremism. Feedback from those schools which took part was extremely positive and resulted in requests for the event to be repeated. M&C Saatchi were commissioned by the Home Office to film the event and also produce a series of educational resources linked to the national curriculum. These have been made available online to every school and college.

6.5.5 Harms of Hate has been recognised through the SIGCE network nationally as good practice. A number of other local authorities have or are following the lead of RMBC.

6.6 Assemblies

- 6.6.1 The Community Coordinator has developed two linked assemblies, the first on the harms of extremism and the second on fake news. These have been delivered at Oakwood, Thrybergh, Swinton, Maltby and Brinsworth with further sessions planned at St Bernards, Dinnington, Aston, Wingfield, Wales, Winterhill and Clifton schools.
- 6.6.2 South Yorkshire Police hate crime Coordinator, PC Chris Nicholson delivers assemblies across the Borough on a regular basis around the theme of hate crime.

6.7 Staff Training

- 6.7.1 The case highlighted in 5.11 shows the importance of recognising the threat extremists pose to young people and the need for effective safeguarding through the PREVENT programme.
- 6.7.2 The training the council has developed aims to raise awareness of current extremist threats and empower staff to recognise this and have the confidence to effectively challenge extremist narratives and thus safeguard young people more effectively.
- 6.7.3 The Community Coordinator has been delivering staff training workshops on the current far right threat. To date these have been delivered at Dinnington High School, Thomas Rotherham College, Eastwood Grange School, and Ferham Primary school as well as sessions for some voluntary and community sector organisations including RUCST and Target Housing who work with vulnerable young people. Further workshops are planned at Brinsworth Academy and for school safeguarding leads. The offer has been made to every school and college across the Borough.
- 6.7.4 Outside of schools these sessions have been delivered to the PREVENT partnership group as well as a session planned with South Yorkshire Police PREVENT champions and Rotherham CCG.
- 6.7.5 Small Steps training consultancy delivered a half day training event to over 100 Early Help staff and teachers at Rockingham centre in October 2018. This was jointly funded by the SRP and the Community Coordinator grant. Small Steps are a Home Office accredited specialist intervention provider for countering the far right.
- 6.7.6 CYPS through the Rotherham Safeguarding Childrens Partnership (RSCP) also provide WRAP (raising awareness of PREVENT) training for school staff.
- 6.7.7 CYPS run quarterly school safeguarding leads forum meetings where there is periodic input on extremism, challenging extremist narratives

and safeguarding young people/children who may be vulnerable to being drawn into extremism.

6.8 Work with primary schools

- 6.8.1 An offer of support around the CE agenda has been made to all primary schools via the periodic newsletter to head teachers.
- 6.8.2 Workshop sessions around culture, identity and extremism have been delivered to Y6 students at Wales and Ferham primary schools. These resources were developed with help from PREVENT education colleagues in other local authority areas through the coordinator network.

6.9 Work with partners

- 6.9.1 SRP funding has been secured to commission Small Steps Training to deliver two intensive courses in schools for a cohort of young people vulnerable to far right narratives. The first course will be delivered in September and October.
- 6.9.2 Rotherham United Community Sports trust obtained £50K funding through the Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) programme, which was also partly match funded by the English Football League to run a CE project bringing young people together as part of the Peace Jam international programme. Through sport the young people complete a social action project in their own community exploring issues of culture and identity and challenging extremist narratives.
- 6.9.3 Remedi obtained BSBT funding to deliver 50 Counter Extremism workshops in schools across South Yorkshire. The Community Coordinator has supported them to develop the resources and a number of these workshops will be delivered in schools in Rotherham.
- 6.9.4 Stop Hate UK obtained BSBT funding to deliver a hate crime ambassador programme in two schools in Rotherham. These will be delivered in the new school year.

6.10 On-Line and other resources

- 6.10.1 The SRP have developed a section of their website where educational resources are maintained linked to PREVENT, extremism and hate crime making resources easily accessible for schools and colleges. The link to the site is here <https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/srp/resources>
- 6.10.2 In the past 12 months Rotherham Creative Learning Centre has engaged with 1885 families sharing educate against hate's leaflet "protecting your child against extremism."

- 6.10.3 The Safer Rotherham Partnership is developing a hate crime strategy and an element of this will be joint work with schools. For example, the Head teacher of Coleridge Primary school is developing and implementing an innovative policy, inclusive of staff, parents, pupils and curriculum resources, aimed at promoting integration and preventing hate. The policy will be offered as a model to other schools.
- 6.10.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner YOYO project delivered in schools also includes hate crime as a theme. YOYO (You're only young once) utilises videos and podcasts produced by school students in South Yorkshire to educate young people on the consequences of getting involved in activities that could cause them harm. Themes include alcohol awareness, bullying, county lines, CSE, domestic abuse, drug abuse, fire safety, guns, gangs and knives, hate crimes, healthy relationships, road safety, safe strangers, sexting.

7. Next steps

7.1 Planned Activity

- 7.1.1 Harms of Hate 2019 event will be held at Magna on 15th October 2019.
- 7.1.2 The Community Coordinator will continue to deliver assemblies and staff training workshops on the far right threat.
- 7.1.3 The Community Coordinator will develop links with the DfE PREVENT Education Officer regional network to ensure that Rotherham benefits from the collective knowledge and good practice of PEO's around the region.
- 7.1.4 CYPS and the Community Coordinator will deliver a far right awareness workshop for school safeguarding leads at Rockingham Centre.

7.2 Challenges/Risks

- 7.2.1 The council have a hate incident reporting process with schools which is non-statutory. A number of the reports relate directly to incidents of racism and extremism. Whilst some schools engage with the process and report incidents others do not with some never reporting an incident. One of the challenges is to improve engagement of schools with this process in order to ensure that we have a representative picture.
- 7.2.2 The Community Coordinator is actively engaged with 13 of 16 secondary schools. Three schools have to date not utilised the support available.

- 7.2.3 The Community Coordinator post is currently funded until March 2020. The council is awaiting a decision from the Home office on further funding for 2020/21.

8. Conclusions

- 8.2 Rotherham Council is in a strong position to lead on CE work. There is a strong correlation between the council BSC action plan and actions covered in the government integrated communities strategy indicating that the approach in Rotherham is in line with government thinking. The BSC and thriving neighbourhoods strategies are both recognised in recent LGA reports as good practice.
- 8.3 The current national climate is such that the extremism risk, especially from the far right is unlikely to change in the foreseeable future. Anti-Muslim sentiment is increasing and becoming more mainstream and accepted. It is therefore increasingly important to educate young people and provide them with the resilience and critical thinking skills to reject the extremist narratives.
- 8.4 The council is in a strong position to continue the work that has been started with schools. In the main positive relationships have been developed with schools and colleges across the Borough. Further investment needs to be made where this is not the case. There is a programme of work which is effectively challenging extremism and being recognised as good practice nationally in the case of "Harms of Hate". Partners are also delivering against this agenda and will continue to do so.
- 8.5 Countering extremism is a key priority for national government with significant investment being made through both the Building a Stronger Britain together programme which includes funding for Community Coordinators as well as the development of the SIGCE network and the establishment of an independent commission led by Sara Khan.

9. Actions arising

10. Name and contact details

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|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| <h1>BRIEFING</h1> | TO: | Improving Lives |
| | DATE: | 17th September 2019 |
| | LEAD OFFICER: | Rebecca Wall - Head of Safeguarding Quality and Learning rebecca.wall@rotherham.gov.uk Dean Fenton - Head of Access to Education dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk |
| | TITLE: | Missing Children: Home, Education and Care and those excluded from school |

1. Background

The Purpose of this report is to provide assurance that; Children missing from Care, Home, Education and Children and Young People excluded from schools, are being effectively safeguarded.

The legislative context for children who go missing from home or care is covered in the Statutory guidance on Children Who Go Missing From Home or Care (Jan 2014) under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970.

This complimented by:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- The Missing Children and Adults Strategy (2011)
- Child Sexual Exploitation; Definition and a guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children from child sexual exploitation (February 2017)
- The Children Act 1989

For Children Missing from Education:

Section 436(A) of the Education Act requires that Local Authorities make arrangements to establish the identities of children residing in their area who are not registered as receiving suitable education.

The Local Authority has responsibility to ensure that Children Missing from Education (CME) are identified, reported and tracked, so that efforts are robust to locate children and where appropriate, suitable educational providers can be found.

The term CME refers to children of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll, and who are not receiving a suitable alternative education. A suitable education can be approved via alternative provision such as home tuition or appropriate Elective Home Education.

The Access to Education Service has responsibility to ensure that protocols are adhered to when a child is known to have left a Rotherham school and the child or a destination

school cannot be tracked. The CME Lead officers, as well as Early Help Attendance Leads, have a responsibility to support schools with the identification of children missing in education and to take appropriate steps to locate the child.

The current process

All children missing from home or care are reported missing by the Police to Rotherham's Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). An alert is then sent through to the Missing Team, based within the RMBC EVOLVE Team, to make them aware. Once the young person is returned, a Return Home Interview (RHI) is arranged to explore the push and pull factors around why the young person went missing. This includes exploring any safeguarding concerns. (Appendix 1. Flow Chart)

For those children and young people not known to Social care the process remains the same and consideration is given if a referral is needed to Early Help or Social Care. The vast majority of young people who go missing are known to social care. For example in June 2019 20% of the young people were not known to RMBC with an additional 13% linked to another Local Authority (Appendix 2).

The Return Home Interview, once completed, is shared with their allocated worker so they can develop a bespoke 'Find Me Plan'. This plan includes a Risk Assessment around what 'missing' means for this child or young person and includes key information around friends or family, vulnerabilities to harm or exploitation and what agreed steps need to be taken to support increasing the safety for that child or young person.

For children and young people who go missing more than once the 'Find Me Plan' will be reviewed each time and provides information for the police around;

- Where the child or young person may go
- their known associates and
- what the level of risk may be

If a young person is missing for more than 24 hours or for three episodes in a four week period a multi-agency Strategy Meeting is held, where actions are agreed to find the child or young person. This includes a multiagency review around where any child or young person should be returned to.

Missing Advocates within the EVOLVE service carry out RHIs for all young people placed within a 40 mile radius of Rotherham. This provides a level of consistency for children and young people and where there is a need to commission an alternative agency to carry out a RHI, this is quality assured by the EVOLVE Team Manager.

If a young person is missing overnight and they are subject to a Child Protection Plan (CP) or a Looked After Child (LAC), the Need to know alert system is used. This ensures that senior management, including the Director of Children's Services (DCS) are made aware that children are missing and what steps are being taken to find and return the young person.

To support effective multiagency working and to ensure all elements of missing information are reviewed, there is a weekly Operational Missing Group, chaired by one of the Missing Advocates. This group comprises of CYPS, Police, Health, Education (Children Missing from Home and Education) and the Youth Offending Team. The purpose of the meeting is to ensure that missing cases are reviewed and that action is agreed across the partnership.

The Operational Missing group is overseen by the Strategic Missing Group. This comprises of a group of senior managers from across the council and key partners to meet on a six weekly basis to consider key themes and issues arising in relation to missing activity. This is now being chaired by the Service Manager responsible for EVOLVE, Child Protection and Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO). This group

also reviews the key messages from the RHIs and seeks to explore any children linked across the missing from home or care, CME or exclusion data sets.

Given the different elements of missing that sit in different services, the Strategic Missing Group ensures that when a child is missing from home, care or education that all relevant services and agencies are aware. Careful consideration is also given as to whether the child or young person is at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).

Where there are significant concerns around the level of harm and risk of an individual, a referral to the Multi Agency Vulnerability Panel (MAVP) is made. The MAVP is chaired by the Director of Children's Services, with equivalent representation from across the partnership in attendance. The meeting allows for critical reflection, discussion and agrees actions to ensure there is a robust response agreed to find young people, disrupt any criminal activity, reduce risk and increase safety.

A Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Missing Performance report is shared at the Children & Young People's Services (CYPS) Performance meeting on a bi-monthly basis. This report provides an overview of the recent data and a summary of key themes and areas for development. Chaired by the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Children's Services & Neighbourhood Working, this meeting offers a clear line of sight on Missing Children and young people.

The Children Missing Education (CME) scorecard (Appendix 3) is developed on a quarterly basis and shared with CYPS Departmental Leadership Team (DLT), Education Senior Management Team (ESMT), Access to Education Team and the Strategic and Operational Missing Groups.

Exclusion data (See Appendix 4) is available quarterly and shared with the CYPS DLT, the ESMT, the Virtual School Governing Board, the Strategic Missing Group and Head Teacher Forums.

What's Working Well?

The Missing Team is now on a permanent footing with a dedicated Team Manager. This will support the number of Return Home Interviews being offered increasing from the 2018/ 2019 year end figure of 89%. The aim remains to maintain and improve upon the conversion rate to successful interviews (82%). The team are small, but remain committed to ensuring they continue to work to engage young people in RHIs and will work with other practitioners and the team around the child to support the interview and planning.

There is a Missing from Home and Care Scorecard is produced monthly and provides a clear understanding around our Missing Cohort and identifies patterns and trends. With information from EVOLVE, the Children Missing from Education Team and Elective Home Education, the scorecard allows us to consider different elements of the young person's world and to make sure that information is triangulated to support a more holistic assessment of vulnerability and resilience.

There are strong established links with a range of internal and external partners in relation to CME, in addition to the CYPS internal working arrangements, there are established working links with Council Tax and Housing and external links which include other Local Authorities both Regionally and Nationally, NHS, Benefits Agencies and Border Agencies.

Often the intervention that supports missing reducing is an exploration of the 'push and pull factors', a review of family contact and ensuring that the young person's voice is heard around their care plan and placement. The success in reducing the number of children missing from care reflects this way of working and is becoming increasingly embedded in practitioners' day to day working.

The overall number of young people missing from home or care last year steadily reduced (Appendix 2) due to excellent multiagency partnership working and communication.

There has been clear direction from the Head of Service for Children in Care to residential settings about working with Rotherham to define what missing means for each young person in light of their age and needs using the 'find me plan'. This ensures there is a clear expectation around what role the placement has in identifying and supporting immediate action around issuing episodes.

Due to the level of oversight we have around missing we are easily able to identify the young people who have periods of regular missing. For our looked after population we know there are often a number of repeat incidents and we want to further reduce these repeat episodes.

The system works well when we are told a child is missing from home or care and this can be more of a challenge with children who are placed out of area. The purpose of individualised 'Find Me Plans' is to support making roles and responsibilities clear and visible with residential setting and foster carers out of area.

At the end of the reporting period there were 160 active cases that remained open to CME which highlights a 24% reduction from Quarter One.

There were 166 resolved cases in Quarter Four, which shows a significant increase on Quarter One when 120 cases were resolved in the period. Cases of CME need to remain open until the child is found or until all enquiries have been exhausted and this can mean that cases remain open for extended periods.

In relation to exclusions we currently have the invalidated data for 2018/2019. The data (Appendix 4) reflects a stabilisation in permanent and fixed term exclusions in secondary settings; whilst in primary settings fixed terms exclusions have stabilised, there has however been an increase in permanent exclusions.

More detailed locality information and data continues to be added to the Quarterly Scorecard by Early Help colleagues which details localities across the Early Help 0-19 reach areas and provides a richer picture of the child and young person.

2. Key Issues

2.1 What are we Worried About?

We are currently experiencing a seasonal increase in the number of young people missing as the lighter nights are here and for June this led to a dip in the number of RHIs being completed. (Appendix 2).

After the Looked After population, the largest Missing group is children and young people who are not currently known to services. This is a key group of young people where the Return Home Interview offers a clear opportunity to explore why the young person went missing and to sign post potentially to services to support reducing future missing episodes.

In Quarter Four there were 171 children (from 85 families) classified as new CME referrals which highlights an increase when compared with the previous Quarter (143 children/112 families). Of the 171 children that opened in Quarter Four, 72 children (42.1%) have been known to have previous episodes of CME that were closed, which again shows a declining trend from last quarter. This highlights that some children have recurrent issues with CME. Evidence suggests that this recurrence is largely due to families being transient and then returning to Rotherham intermittently rather than key

concerns related to vulnerability and/or safeguarding issues.

21.3% of children within the CME cohort were eligible for Free School Meals.

85 of the open CME cases at the end of Quarter Four relate to Primary School age children and 75 relate to Secondary School age children, highlighting an even split. This split is consistent with quarters two and three.

The 2018/2019 Year end reporting in relation to young people who went missing reflects that the biggest cohort remains children who are currently Looked After. They account for just over half of all the recorded missing episodes and are more likely to go missing if they live in a placement within 20 miles of their home. They are also more likely to go missing on a repeated basis.

Of the newly identified cases of CME, 39.2% of children were from the Central area of Rotherham at the time of the referral. The Central locality of Rotherham has consistently higher rates of CME and this is largely due to the mobile and transient nature of families living in the central locality and those in particular from Eastern Europe and this is associated with travelling back to, or back and forth from, the country of origin to the UK and also relocation within the UK.

This has a financial impact on both schools and council services due to the additional resource required to support CME. Schools are funded following a census each October and this dictates their 'per capita' spend for the following year. When a school has high numbers of CME that are not present or 'On Roll' at the time of the census they are awarded reduced settlements, only to find that their CME children can return weeks later. This occurrence does not then attract further funding and schools need to work within the finances allocated for the rest of the year.

The majority of children CME were classified by ethnicity as Roma by their parents (44%) and a further 33% were unclassified. Parents do not have to complete ethnicity as a mandatory declaration and many choose not to do so which is their right. Schools report anecdotally that perceived stigma associated with the Roma ethnicity has been reported by some parents as being a reason for declining to provide ethnicity information. Previous negative articles in the national press are potentially associated with this standpoint.

An optional information form regarding ethnicity remains available for completion by parents at the time of application for a school place. An increasing number of applications are now submitted online.

3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1 Next Steps (What are we going to do about it?)

An Inclusion Performance Scorecard is currently under development and expected to be in place for October 2019. We are able to cross reference child level data with the current Missing Scorecard (Appendix 2). In Quarter 4 of last year the cross referencing of data enabled us to identify that there was one young person excluded from school, who was also known to our Missing service and CSE team.

We continue to work closely with South Yorkshire Police (SYP) to strengthen our joint responses to young people missing out of the Rotherham area. There is a planned joint review in September 2019 for some of our most worried about young people so that we can maximise our response to missing episodes and focus on preventative action. This will culminate in a shared 'Find Me Plan' for each individual young person.

It has also been agreed that the SYP lead on the Regional Missing protocol. The aim

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| | <p>would be to ensure that the SYP Regional Missing Protocol is in line with the College of Policing recommendations. This will support a consistency of response for young placed within the South Yorkshire region. SYP have commenced this work and a meeting will be arranged in October 2019.</p> |
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| | <p>An electronic Optional Information form, regarding ethnicity, has been made available for completion by parents at the time of on line application for a school place. However, as ethnicity cannot be asked on an application form when applying for a school place this will remain a supplementary form.</p> |
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4. Recommendations

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| | <p>It is recommended that Elected Members note the current position and progress made in relation to 'missing children'.</p> |
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APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Missing from Home and Care flowchart

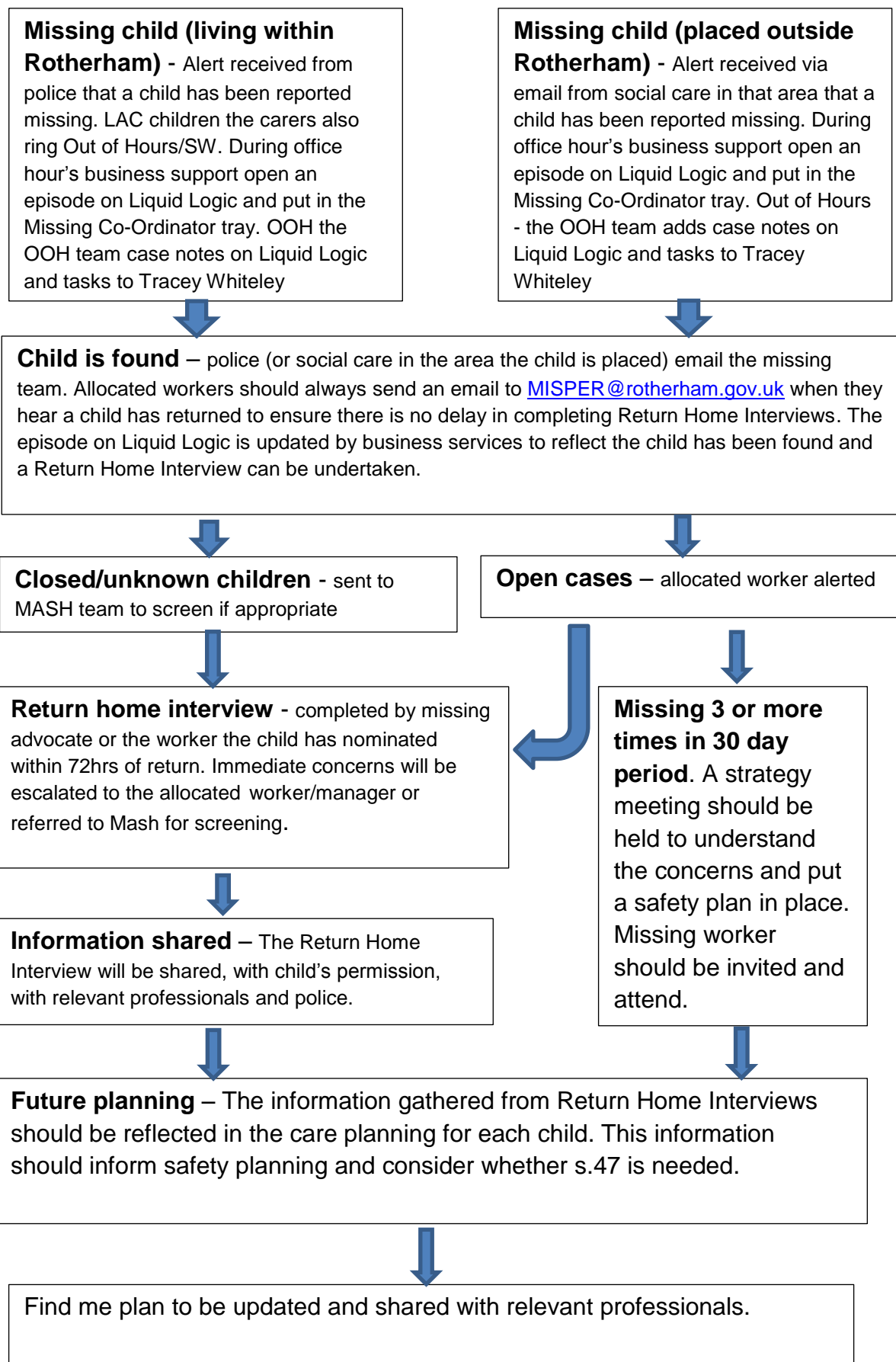
Appendix 2: Missing from Home and care Monthly Scorecard

Appendix 3: Children Missing From Education Scorecard (CME)

Appendix 4: School Exclusions Data set 2018/2019

Appendix 5: Missing Governance 2019

Missing flowchart



Children Missing from Home/Care Monthly Performance Report

Reporting Month: June 2019

Document Details

Status: Issue 1 (abridged version)

Date Created: 06/08/19

Created by: Performance & Quality Team

Contact: cyps-performance@rotherham.gov.uk

Missing Person Episodes 2018/19

Date sourced from Liquid Logic as at: 18/07/2019

| REF NO. | INDICATOR | 2019/20 | | | | Comments |
|----------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|---|
| | | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 | YTD | |
| 1 | All Episodes | | | | | There has been a slight decline in the numbers of children reported missing. This is, in part, due to the work being completed with placements that LAC children are being placed in around when to report children missing. |
| 1.1 | Number of Missing Episodes - all | 129 | 130 | 116 | 375 | |
| 1.2 | Involving; Number of individual children - all | 57 | 68 | 53 | 104 | |
| 1.3 | Number of children with 3 or more episodes in reporting period | 9 | 9 | 10 | 20 | |
| 2 | Looked After Children (by missing episodes) | | | | | There has been a decline in overall LAC children going missing. This is as a result of the communication with placements to ensure children reported missing are appropriate and that there are safety plans in place, |
| 2.1 | Number of Missing Episodes - LAC | 75 | 87 | 74 | 236 | |
| 2.2 | Involving; Number of individual children - LAC | 20 | 33 | 28 | 40 | |
| 2.3 | Number of children with 3 or more episodes in reporting period | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | |
| 3 | Child Sexual Exploitation (by missing episodes) | | | | | There has been an increase in the figure here. There have been new cases allocated to Evolve where "missing" is a key indicator. Work is being undertaken to reduce this. |
| 3.1 | Number of Missing Episodes - CSE risk is known to be medium/high | 17 | 16 | 28 | 61 | |
| 3.2 | Involving; Number of individual children - CSE risk is known to be medium/high | 12 | 10 | 9 | 17 | |
| 3.3 | Number of CSE Medium/High cases with 3 or more episodes in reporting period | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | |
| 4 | Number of days missing | | | | | The children who are missing more than two days are known. Need to know are completed by the social work team and appropriate strategy meetings are help. The missing advocates are being invited to more strategy meetings and this helps with a coordinated approach. |
| 4.1 | 0 (same day return) | 49 38% | 61 47% | 53 46% | 163 43% | |
| 4.2 | 1 day | 59 46% | 55 42% | 53 46% | 167 45% | |
| 4.3 | 2 days | 12 9% | 5 4% | 2 2% | 19 5% | |
| 4.4 | 3 days | 4 3% | 3 2% | 2 2% | 9 2% | |
| 4.5 | 4 days | 0 0% | 3 2% | 2 2% | 5 1.3% | |
| 4.6 | 5 days | 0 0% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 1 0.3% | |
| 4.7 | More than 5 days | 5 4% | 2 2% | 4 3% | 11 3% | |
| 4.8 | Still missing (as at the end of each month) | 2 2% | 0 0% | 0 0% | | |

| REF NO. | INDICATOR | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 | YTD | Comments |
|----------|---|-----------|------------|-----------|--------------------------|--|
| 5 | Return Home Interviews | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Return Home Interview appropriate and offered <i>(not inc. No & N/A)</i> | 98 84% | 115 94% | 85 77% | 298 85% | There has been a combination of factors to the decline in these figures, There has been issues with the timeliness of some missing being put on in a timely manner and there has been one of the advocates requiring time off of work. |
| 5.2 | Return Home interview accepted (of those offered) <i>(not inc. N/A)</i> | 93 95% | 109 95% | 71 84% | 273 92% | |
| 5.3a | Return Home interview completed in 3 working days (of those accepted) | 65 70% | 94 86% | 49 69% | 208 76% | |
| 5.3b | Return Home interview not completed in 3 working days (of those accepted) | 28 30% | 14 13% | 21 30% | 63 23% | |
| 6 | Breakdown of social care status (by missing episodes) | | | | | |
| 6.1 | Early Help | 5 4% | 13 10% | 9 8% | 27 7% | There has been an increase in the number of "not a Client" being reported missing. This children are also screened by Mash and any referral following the return home interview identifying a need is made. |
| 6.2 | CIN | 10 8% | 11 8% | 5 4% | 26 7% | |
| 6.3 | CPP | 11 9% | 2 2% | 5 4% | 18 5% | |
| 6.4 | LAC | 75 58% | 87 67% | 74 64% | 236 63% | |
| 6.5 | Care Leaver | 1 1% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 1 0% | |
| 6.6 | Not a client | 27 21% | 17 13% | 23 20% | 67 18% | |
| 6.7 | Of those 'Not a Client', number of children who were 'Other Local Authority' | 12 9% | 6 5% | 15 13% | 33 9% | |
| 7 | Breakdown by Gender (by missing episodes) | | | | | |
| 7.1 | Female | 51 40% | 58 45% | 63 54% | 172 46% | Figures around males vs females continue to be similar, with this month there being more girls, but this may change in July. There is no significant change that needs to be considered. |
| 7.2 | Male | 78 60% | 72 55% | 53 46% | 203 54% | |

| REF NO. | INDICATOR | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 | YTD | Comments | |
|----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 8 | Breakdown by Ethnicity (by missing episodes) | | | | | | |
| 8.1 | A1 - White British | 65 50% | 73 56% | 97 84% | 235 63% | In relation to ethnicity there has been an increase in White British and a reduction in everything else. | |
| 8.3 | A3 - Any other White background | 1 1% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 2 1% | | |
| 8.5 | A5 - Gypsy / Roma | 24 19% | 27 21% | 4 3% | 55 15% | | |
| 8.6 | B1 - White and Black Caribbean | 1 1% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 1 0% | | |
| 8.7 | B2 - White and Black African | 0 0% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 1 0% | | |
| 8.8 | B3 - White and Asian | 0 0% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 1 0% | | |
| 8.9 | B4 - Any other mixed background | 12 9% | 10 8% | 1 1% | 23 6% | | |
| 8.1 | C2 - Pakistani | 1 1% | 4 3% | 2 2% | 7 2% | | |
| 8.11 | C4 - Any other Asian background | 1 1% | 4 3% | 0 0% | 5 1% | | |
| 8.12 | D2 - African | 5 4% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 5 1% | | |
| 8.14 | E2 - Any other ethnic group | 0 0% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 2 1% | | |
| 8.15 | E4 - Not obtained / recorded | 19 15% | 8 6% | 11 9% | 38 10% | | |
| 8.16 | Total BME | 45 35% | 49 38% | 8 7% | 102 27% | | |
| 9 | Breakdown by Age (by missing episodes) | | | | | | |
| 9.1 | Under 10yrs | 1 1% | 1 1% | 1 1% | 3 1% | | Most children continue to go missing from the age of 13 plus. The missing advocates are planning to do so sessions in existing youth groups to try to support these children. |
| 9.2 | 10yrs | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | | |
| 9.3 | 11yrs | 3 2% | 2 2% | 4 3% | 9 2% | | |
| 9.4 | 12yrs | 16 12% | 22 17% | 7 6% | 45 12% | | |
| 9.5 | 13yrs | 6 5% | 11 8% | 15 13% | 32 9% | | |
| 9.6 | 14yrs | 23 18% | 27 21% | 32 28% | 82 22% | | |
| 9.7 | 15yrs | 27 21% | 25 19% | 21 18% | 73 19% | | |
| 9.8 | 16yrs | 20 16% | 18 14% | 26 22% | 64 17% | | |
| 9.9 | 17+yrs | 33 26% | 24 18% | 10 9% | 67 18% | | |

| REF NO. | INDICATOR | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 | YTD | Comments |
|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|--|
| 10 | LAC CYP - Placement distance (at time of episode) from home in miles | | | | | |
| 10.1 | 10 miles or under | 16 21% | 20 23% | 37 50% | 73 31% | The missing advocates offer RHI (face to face) to all children within a 40 mile radius. To children placed further afield a RHI is offered in several ways, this can be by Skype (which is being accepted), by the allocated social worker if they have a visit planned or by a keyworker if this is requested by the child. |
| 10.2 | 11-20 miles | 28 37% | 27 31% | 17 23% | 72 31% | |
| 10.3 | 21-30 miles | 1 1% | 2 2% | 3 4% | 6 3% | |
| 10.4 | 31-40 miles | 24 32% | 27 31% | 2 3% | 53 22% | |
| 10.5 | 41-50 miles | 0 0% | 5 6% | 6 8% | 11 5% | |
| 10.6 | 51-60 miles | 0 0% | 1 1% | 0 0% | 1 0% | |
| 10.7 | 61-70 miles | 3 4% | 3 3% | 1 1% | 7 3% | |
| 10.8 | 71-80 miles | 1 1% | 0 0% | 2 3% | 3 1% | |
| 10.9 | 81-90 miles | 0 0% | 0 0% | 1 1% | 1 0% | |
| 10.10 | 91-100 miles | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | |
| 10.11 | 101+ miles | 2 3% | 2 2% | 5 7% | 9 4% | |
| 10.12 | Not recorded | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | 0 0% | |

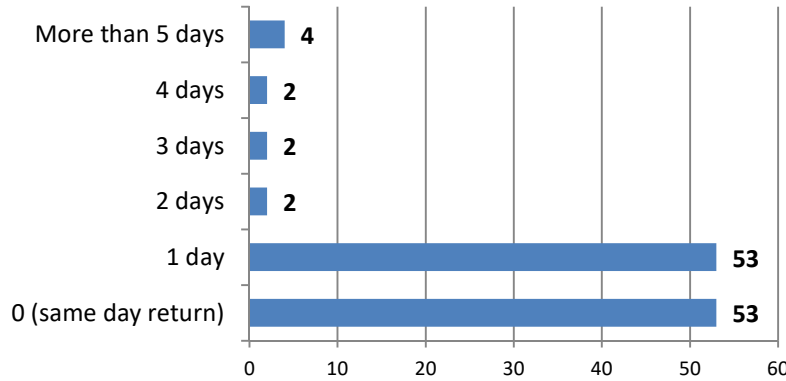
Missing Profile (in Month)

Reporting Month: June 2019

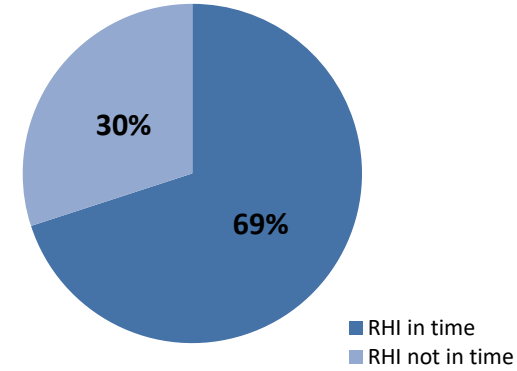
116 Episodes
of which
74 - LAC
28 - at CSE Risk

53 Children
of which
28 - LAC
9 - at CSE Risk

Number of Days Missing



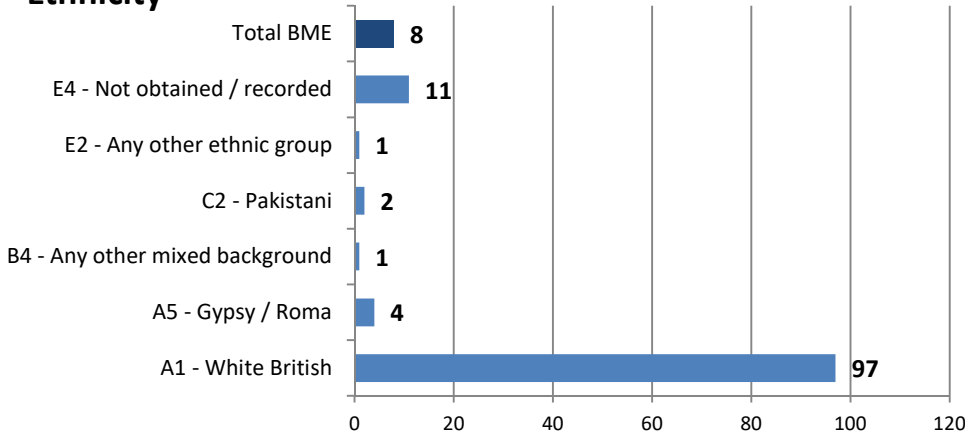
RHI's Completed in Time



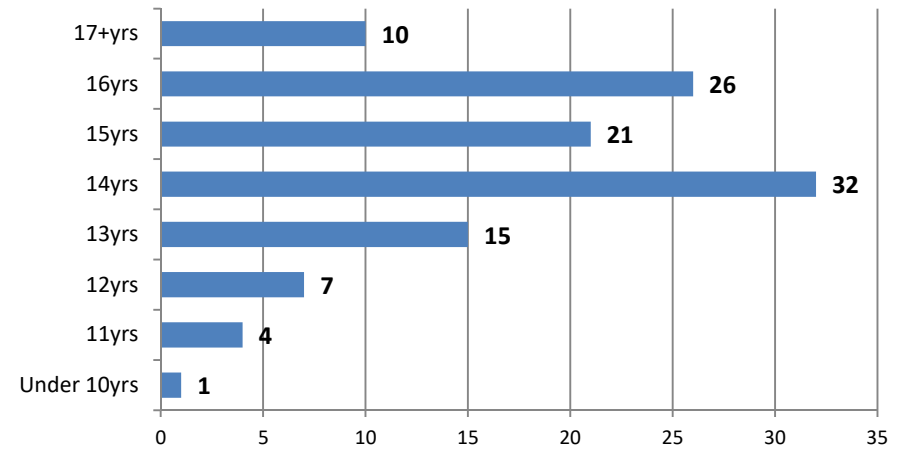
77%
of Children
offered a RHI

84%
of RHI's offered,
were accepted

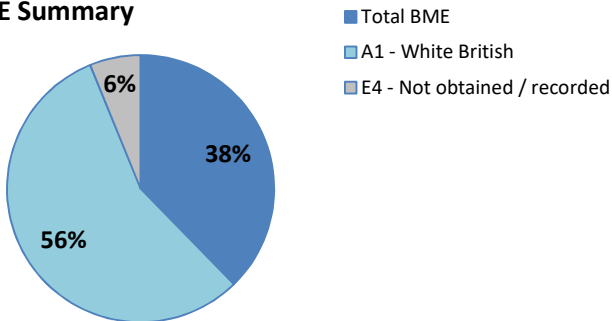
Ethnicity



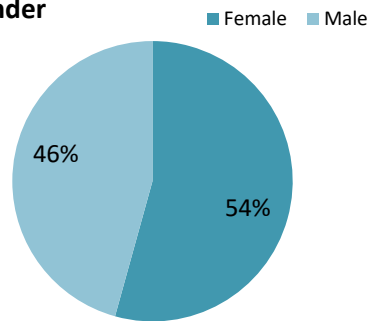
Age



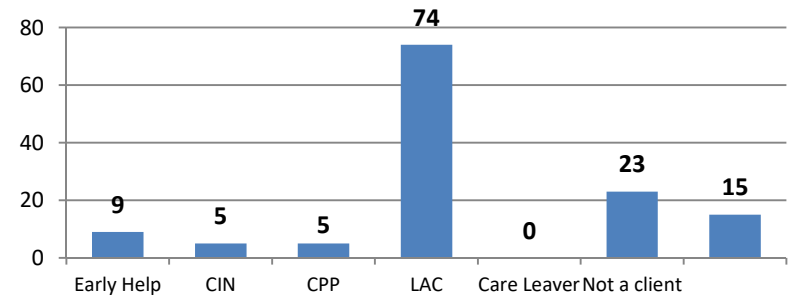
BME Summary



Gender

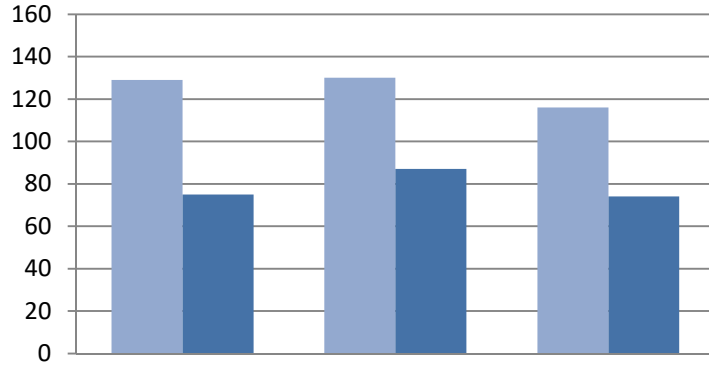


% By Case type



Missing Trends

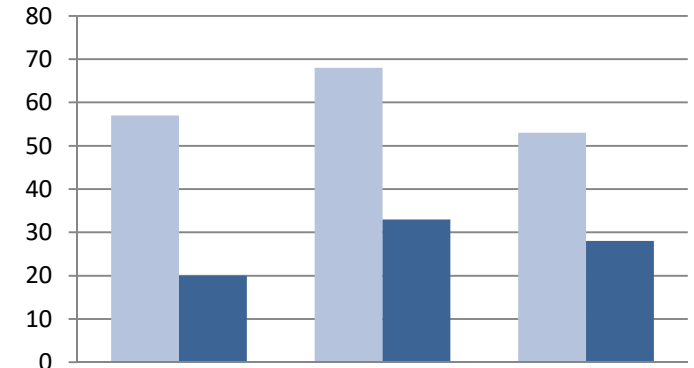
No. of Episodes



| | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| No. Episodes (All) | 129 | 130 | 116 |
| No. Episodes (LAC) | 75 | 87 | 74 |

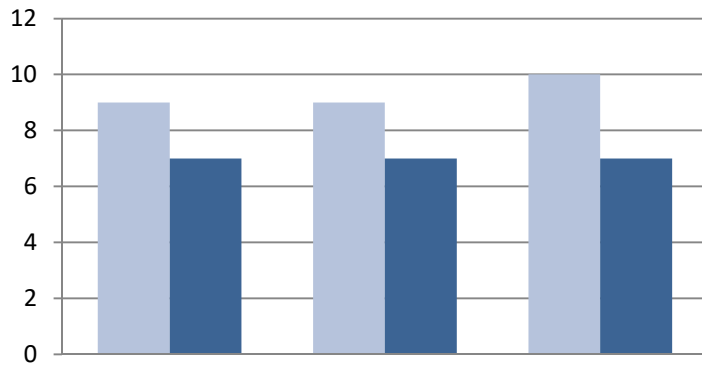
Reporting Month: June 2019

No. of Children



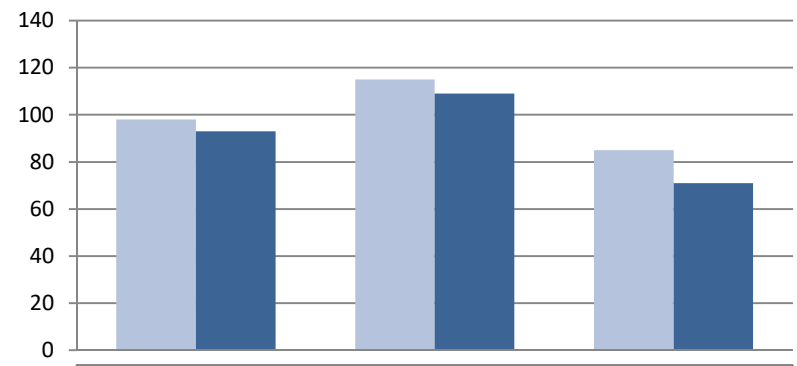
| | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 |
|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| No. Children (All) | 57 | 68 | 53 |
| No. Children (LAC) | 20 | 33 | 28 |

No. Children with 3+ Episodes in Period



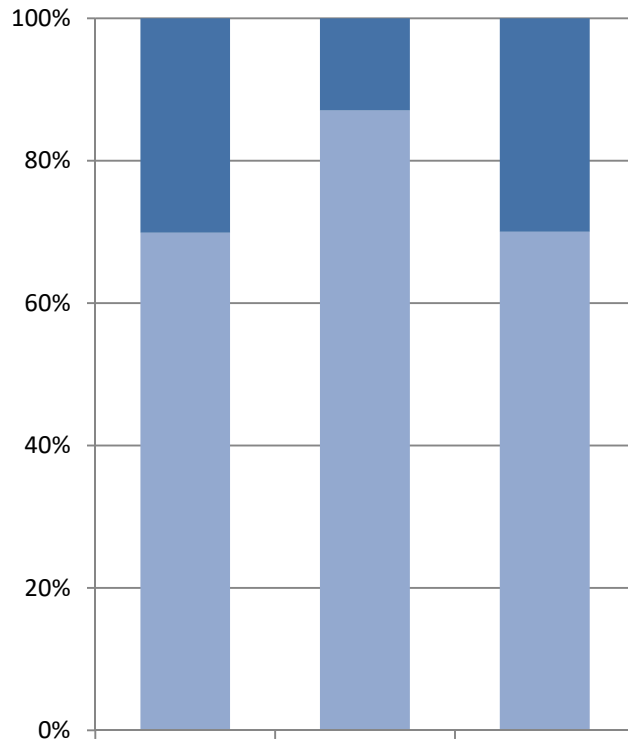
| | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 3+ Episodes (All) | 9 | 9 | 10 |
| 3+ Episodes (LAC) | 7 | 7 | 7 |

Return Home Interviews



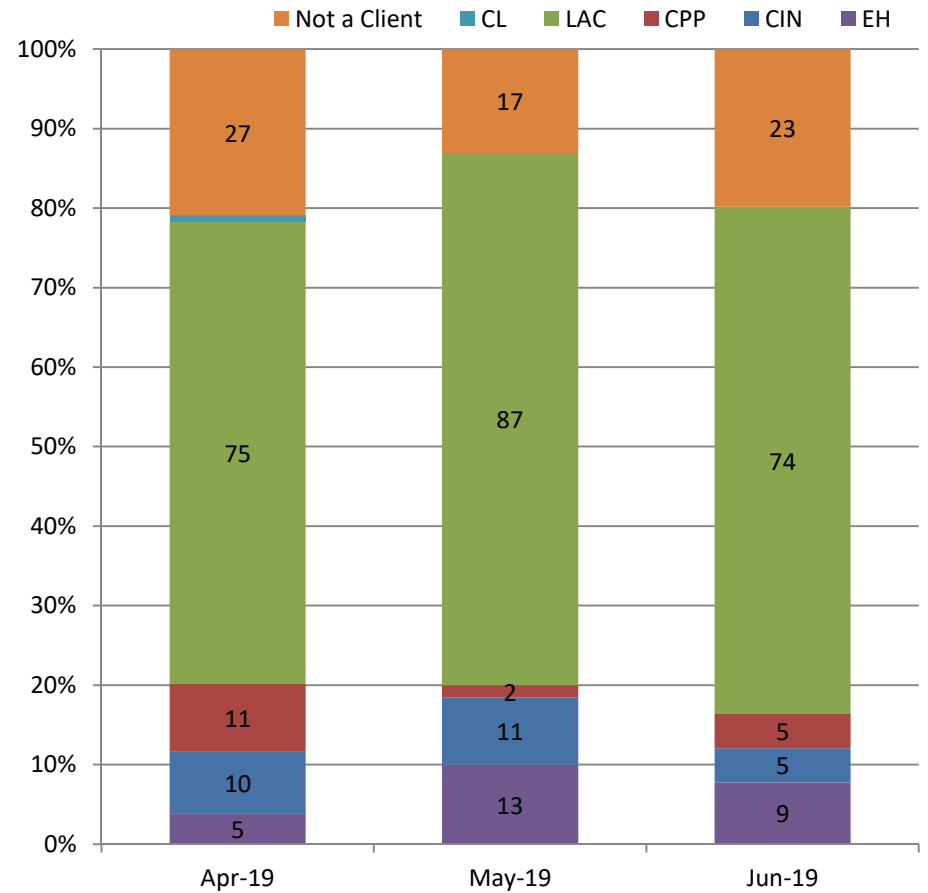
| | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Offered | 98 | 115 | 85 |
| Accepted | 93 | 109 | 71 |

RHI Complete within 3 Working Days



| | Apr-19 | May-19 | Jun-19 |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| RHI Not Completed in Time | 28 | 14 | 21 |
| RHI Completed in Time | 65 | 94 | 49 |

% by Case status



| | | |
|---|------------------|-------------|
| DEFINITION | Current Position | Dean Fenton |
| <p>In quarter 4 there were 171 children (from 85 families) classified as new CME referrals which highlights an increase when compared with the previous quarter (143 children/112 families.) Of the 171 children that opened in quarter 4, 72 children (42.1%) have been known to have previous episodes of CME that were closed, which shows a declining trend from last quarter (55.2%). This however highlights that some children have recurrent issues with CME. Evidence suggests that this recurrence is largely due to families being transient and then returning to Rotherham intermittently. The Central locality of Rotherham has consistently higher rates of CME and this is largely due to the mobile and transient nature of families living in the central locality and those in particular from Eastern Europe and this is associated with travelling back to, or back and forth from, the country of origin to the UK. At the end of the reporting period there were 160 active cases that remain open to CME which highlights a 24% reduction since quarter 1. There were 166 resolved cases in quarter 4, which shows a significant increase on quarter one when 134 cases were resolved in the period. NB Cases of CME need to remain open until the child is found or until all enquiries have been exhausted and this can mean that cases remain open for extended periods. 21.3% of children within the CME cohort were eligible for Free School Meals.</p> | | |

DOT - Direction of travel represents the direction of 'performance' since the previous month with reference to the polarity of 'good' performance for that measure. Colours have been added to help distinguish better and worse performance. Key Below:-

- ↑ - increase in numbers (no good/bad performance)
- - stable with last month (no good/bad performance)
- ↓ - decrease in numbers (no good/bad performance)

| NO. | INDICATORS - EARLY HELP BOROUGH WIDE PERFORMANCE | GOOD PERF IS | DATA NOTE (Monthly) | 2018/19 | | | | | DOT (Month on Month) | RAG (in month) | Target and Tolerances | | | YR ON YR TREND | |
|-----------|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|--------------|----------------|---------|
| | | | | Quarter 1 April-June 2018 | Quarter 2 July-Sept 2018 | Quarter 3 Oct- Dec 2018 | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 2019 | DATA NOTE | | | Red | Amber | Target Green | 2016/17 | 2017/18 |
| 1a | Number of referrals opened during the reporting period | Number of children | Info | Number | 188 | 177 | 143 | 171 | | ↑ | | | | 510 | 585 |
| | | Number of families | Info | Number | 116 | 97 | 112 | 85 | | ↓ | | | | | |
| 1b | Number of 1a (children) that have been opened this quarter as CME and have also had previous episode(s) of CME recorded | Info | Number | 110 | 92 | 79 | 72 | | ↓ | | | | | 354 | |
| 2 | Gender breakdown of children reported as CME in the period (new referrals) | Male | Info | Number | 91 | 87 | 78 | 88 | | ↑ | | | | 269 | 291 |
| | | Female | Info | Number | 97 | 90 | 65 | 83 | | ↑ | | | | 241 | 294 |
| 3 | New CME referrals by locality | North | Dalton/Thrybergh/Rawmarsh | Info | Number | 16 | 10 | 5 | 3 | | ↓ | | | 33 | 30 |
| | | | Wath/Swinton | Info | | | Number | 12 | 7 | 5 | | | | | |
| | | South | Aston/Brinsworth | Info | Number | 25 | 9 | 4 | 0 | | ↓ | | | 49 | 85 |
| | | | Maltby/Wickersley | Info | | | Number | 9 | 3 | 6 | | | | | |
| | | | Wales/Dinnington | Info | | | Number | 9 | 6 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | Central | Clifton | Info | Number | 146 | 46 | 52 | 32 | | ↓ | | | 427 | 464 |
| | | | Oakwood/Town Centre | Info | | | Number | 21 | 9 | 10 | | | | | |
| Wingfield | Info | | Number | 1 | | | 1 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| | No Locality Registered/Outside Area | Info | Number | 1 | 17 | 20 | 89 | | ↑ | | | | 1 | 6 | |
| 4 | New CME referrals by school | Primary | Info | Number | 107 | 89 | 71 | 94 | | ↑ | | | | 306 | 334 |
| | | Secondary | Info | Number | 81 | 88 | 72 | 77 | | ↑ | | | | 204 | 251 |
| 5 | Ethnicity Profile of new CME referrals | White British | Info | Number | 33 | 32 | 24 | 22 | | ↓ | | | | 47 | 62 |
| | | Asian Pakistani | Info | Number | 9 | 21 | 16 | 12 | | ↓ | | | | 31 | 30 |
| | | Asian Indian | Info | Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | | ↑ | | | | | 1 |
| | | Any other Asian Background | Info | Number | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | | ↓ | | | | 4 | 9 |
| | | Black African | Info | Number | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | | ↑ | | | | 3 | 5 |
| | | Any other Black Background | Info | Number | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | ↓ | | | | | 5 |

New CME cases

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-----|----|----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | Gypsy/Roma | Info | Number | 69 | 40 | 50 | 84 | | ↓ | | | | 175 | 179 | |
| | | Not Known | Info | Number | 64 | 55 | 28 | 23 | | ↓ | | | | 184 | 263 | |
| | | Any other white background | Info | Number | 9 | 16 | 15 | 20 | | ↑ | | | | 47 | 27 | |
| | | Any Other ethnic group | Info | Number | 0 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | ↑ | | | | 19 | 4 | |
| 6 | Total Number of active cases at the end of the reporting period | | Info | Number | 210 | 146 | 151 | 160 | | ↑ | | | | 292 | 153 | |
| 7 | Total number of resolved cases in the reporting period | | Info | Number | 134 | 256 | 120 | 166 | | ↑ | | | | 480 | 715 | |
| 8 | Total number of CME open cases where school have been authorised by the Local Authority to remove from admission roll | | Info | Number | | | | | | | | | | 49 | 0 | |
| 9 | Gender breakdown of current children reported as CME at period end | | Male | Info | Number | 104 | 76 | 87 | 87 | | → | | | 642 | 125 | |
| | | | Female | Info | Number | 106 | 70 | 64 | 73 | | ↑ | | | 497 | 116 | |
| 10 | Total number current CME cases by locality | | North | Dalton/Thrybergh/Rawmarsh | Info | Number | 12 | 1 | 5 | 1 | | ↓ | | | 38 | 11 |
| | | | | Wath/Swinton | Info | | | Number | 5 | 5 | 2 | | | | | |
| | | | South | Aston/Brinsworth | Info | Number | 15 | 4 | 1 | 0 | | ↓ | | | 61 | 25 |
| | | | | Maltby/Wickersley | Info | | | Number | 5 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| | | | | Wales/Dinnington | Info | | | Number | 1 | 4 | 0 | | | | | |
| | | | Central | Clifton | Info | Number | 182 | 40 | 69 | 18 | | ↓ | | | 903 | 205 |
| | | | | Oakwood/Town Centre | Info | | | Number | 9 | 10 | 11 | | | | | |
| | | | | Wingfield | Info | | | Number | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | | | |
| Winterhill | Info | Number | | 72 | 47 | | | 25 | | | | | | | | |
| | | No Locality Registered/Outside Area | Info | Number | 1 | 9 | 8 | 102 | | ↑ | | | 137 | 0 | | |
| 11 | Total number of current CME cases by school | | Primary | Info | Number | 104 | 52 | 50 | 72 | | ↑ | | | 453 | 127 | |
| | | | Secondary | Info | Number | 67 | 44 | 58 | 60 | | ↑ | | | 292 | 66 | |
| | | | Special/Inclusion | Info | Number | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 | | ↑ | | | 24 | 9 | |
| | | | Unknown | Info | Number | 35 | 46 | 38 | 22 | | ↓ | | | 370 | 39 | |
| 12 | Total number of cases that have been opened for | | <=6 Months | Info | Number | 150 | 134 | 130 | 145 | | ↑ | | | 469 | 324 | |
| | | | Between 7 and 12 months | Info | Number | 52 | 8 | 20 | 14 | | ↓ | | | 241 | 187 | |
| | | | Between 13 and 18 months | Info | Number | 8 | 4 | 1 | 1 | | → | | | 212 | 73 | |
| | | | Above 18 months | Info | Number | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | → | | | 217 | 91 | |
| 13 | Number of children eligible for Free School Meals | | Info | Number | | 20 | 21 | 34 | | ↑ | | | | | | |
| | | | Info | % | | 13.7% | 13.9% | 21.3% | | ↑ | | | | | | |

CME CASES BY YEAR GROUP

| | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| DEFINITION | Current CME cases by year group | Owner | Dean Fenton |
|------------|---------------------------------|-------|-------------|

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Performance Analysis | 85 of the open cme cases at the end of Q4 relate to primary school age children and 75 relate to secondary school age children highlighting an even split. The distribution across year groups is also relatively even. |
|----------------------|---|

| All cases | CURRENT CME CASES BY YEAR GROUP | | | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 18 | Quarter 2 July - Sep 18 | Quarter 3 Oct - Dec 18 | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 19 | Total to Date |
| YEAR 1 | 27 | 8 | 9 | 13 | 57 |
| YEAR 2 | 17 | 12 | 15 | 19 | 63 |
| YEAR 3 | 24 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 60 |
| YEAR 4 | 26 | 10 | 10 | 16 | 62 |
| YEAR 5 | 13 | 19 | 10 | 10 | 52 |
| YEAR 6 | 20 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 62 |
| YEAR 7 | 15 | 19 | 12 | 12 | 58 |
| YEAR 8 | 17 | 12 | 18 | 19 | 66 |
| YEAR 9 | 19 | 14 | 21 | 16 | 70 |
| YEAR 10 | 17 | 10 | 16 | 14 | 57 |
| YEAR 11 | 15 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 60 |
| TOTAL | 210 | 146 | 151 | 160 | 667 |

CME CASES BY ETHNICITY

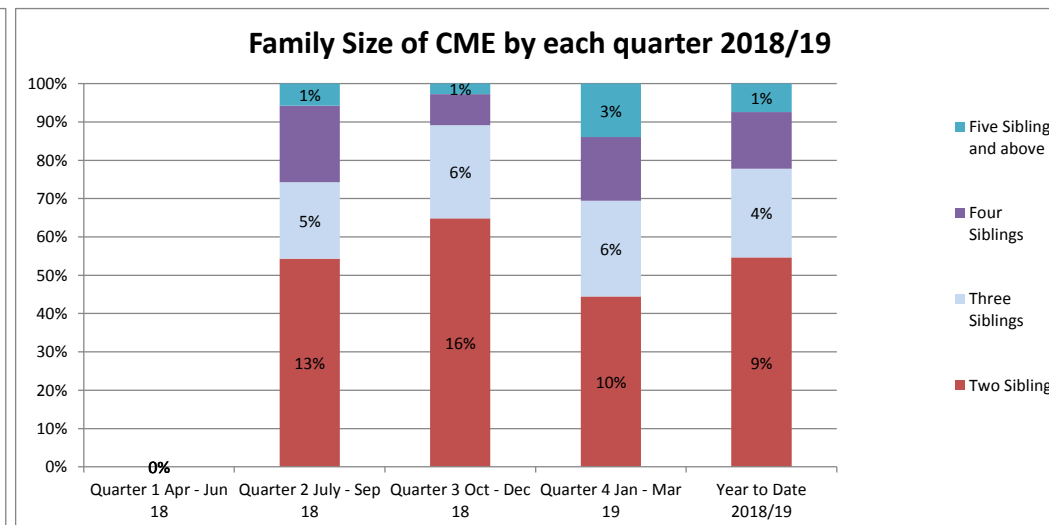
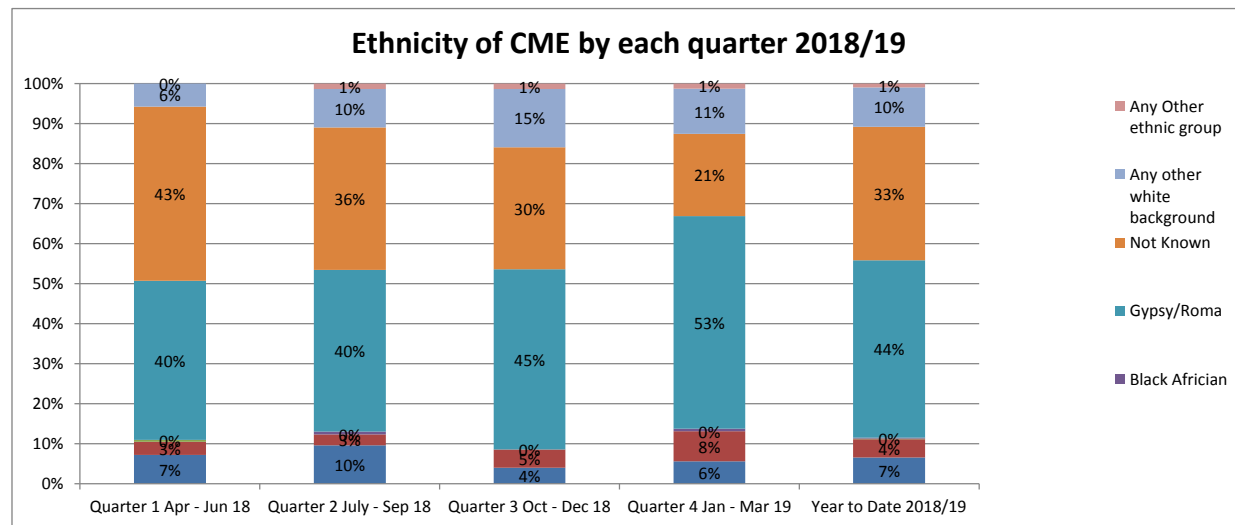
| | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------|
| DEFINITION | Ethnicity of current CME cases | Owner | Dean Fenton |
|------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------|

Performance Analysis

The majority of children CME were classified by ethnicity as Roma by their parents (53%) and a further 21% were unclassified. Parents do not have to complete ethnicity as mandatory and many choose not to do so which is their right. There were less unrecorded ethnicity classifications than in quarter three (21% in quarter to compared to 30% in quarter three). A new form has been introduced in conjunction with the School Admission Service to try and encourage more parents to complete the ethnicity information, and this was agreed by Information Governance colleagues, however notwithstanding this it is important to acknowledge that this is a voluntary aspect of applying for a place in a school. Schools report that perceived stigma associated with the Roma ethnicity has been reported by some parents as being a reason for declining to provide this information and within education there is work taking place to understand this in more detail; however recent negative articles in the national press are likely associated with this standpoint. As a means of combatting this the Early Help Service are working with colleagues in the council's Communication Team to publish good news stories about our positive work with Roma families. Families with smaller sibling groups were represented in the majority of CME cases in quarter 4.

| All cases | CURRENT CME CASES BY ETHNICITY | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| | Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 18 | | Quarter 2 July - Sep 18 | | Quarter 3 Oct - Dec 18 | | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 19 | | Year to Date 2018/19 | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| White British | 15 | 7% | 14 | 10% | 6 | 4% | 9 | 6% | 44 | 7% |
| Asian Pakistani | 7 | 3% | 4 | 3% | 7 | 5% | 12 | 8% | 30 | 4% |
| Asian Indian | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% |
| Any other Asian Background | 1 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 0% |
| Black African | 0 | 0% | 1 | 1% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 1% | 2 | 0% |
| Any other Black Background | 1 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 0% |
| Gypsy/Roma | 83 | 40% | 59 | 40% | 68 | 45% | 85 | 53% | 295 | 44% |
| Not Known | 91 | 43% | 52 | 36% | 46 | 30% | 33 | 21% | 222 | 33% |
| Any other white background | 12 | 6% | 14 | 10% | 22 | 15% | 18 | 11% | 66 | 10% |
| Any Other ethnic group | 0 | 0% | 2 | 1% | 2 | 1% | 2 | 1% | 6 | 1% |
| TOTAL | 210 | 100% | 146 | 100% | 151 | 100% | 160 | 100% | 667 | 100% |

| All cases | CURRENT CME CASES BY FAMILY | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| | Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 18 | | Quarter 2 July - Sep 18 | | Quarter 3 Oct - Dec 18 | | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 19 | | Year to Date 2018/19 | |
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Single Child | | 0% | 49 | 34% | 58 | 38% | 43 | 27% | 150 | 22% |
| Two Siblings | | 0% | 19 | 13% | 24 | 16% | 16 | 10% | 59 | 9% |
| Three Siblings | | 0% | 7 | 5% | 9 | 6% | 9 | 6% | 25 | 4% |
| Four Siblings | | 0% | 7 | 5% | 3 | 2% | 6 | 4% | 16 | 2% |
| Five Siblings and above | | 0% | 2 | 1% | 1 | 1% | 5 | 3% | 8 | 1% |
| Total number of Families | 0 | 0% | 84 | 58% | 95 | 63% | 79 | 49% | 258 | 39% |



CME CASES BY PREDOMINANT PRESENTING NEED

| | | | |
|------------|---|-------|-------------|
| DEFINITION | CME REFERRAL CASES IN PERIOD BY PREDOMINANT PRESENTING NEED | Owner | Dean Fenton |
|------------|---|-------|-------------|

Performance Analysis

Work has been carried out in Early Help to enhance the reporting on CME to enable a more meaningful data set that explores thematic findings across the cohort to establish vulnerabilities recorded at the point of referral. This has included a capture, where available at the point of referral, of the predominant presenting need to assist understanding of any issues that may be present within familial groups that become subject to CME. It is important to note that this is not necessarily assessed need, but need highlighted by schools or system checks at the point of referral. In quarter 4 a high majority of referrals showed no vulnerabilities for the child and family which is positive. 46.2% of cases had no evidence of vulnerabilities prior to referral to CME and 8.8% of referrals were noted to have neglect issues previously recorded which is a slight increase compared to quarter 3 (8%) but a significant reduction of 7.7% on quarter one. Of the 171 new referrals it has been identified that 17 (10%) were open to Children's Social Care and 13 (7.6%) were open to the Locality Early Help Team which highlights positive analysis that a large proportion of the cohort did not have additional needs at the point of referral to becoming CME.

| New Cases in period | Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 18 | Quarter 2 July - Sep 18 | Quarter 3 Oct - Dec 18 | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 19 | Total to Date |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | Missing Out | Missing Out | Missing Out | Missing Out | |
| ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE | 2 | | 3 | | 5 |
| ATTAINMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT | 5 | | 2 | | 7 |
| ATTENDANCE AND SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT | 5 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 24 |
| ASB AND CRIME | | | | | 0 |
| BEREAVEMENT | 3 | | | 3 | 6 |
| DISABILITY | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 8 |
| DOMESTIC ABUSE | 13 | 13 | 11 | 7 | 44 |
| ENGAGEMENT IN LOCAL SERVICES | | | | | 0 |
| EXCLUSION | | | | | 0 |
| EXPLOITATION | | | | 4 | 4 |
| FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS | 4 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 24 |
| HOMELESSNESS | | | | 1 | 0 |
| HOUSING CONDITIONS | | | 2 | | 2 |
| LEARNING NEEDS | 2 | 2 | | | 4 |
| MENTAL HEALTH | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| NAS | 1 | 2 | | | 3 |
| NEET | | | | | 0 |
| NEGLECT | 31 | 15 | 11 | 15 | 72 |
| NO ADDITIONAL NEEDS NOTED | 75 | 111 | 78 | 79 | 343 |
| PARENTING | 32 | 12 | 9 | 31 | 84 |
| PHYSICAL HEALTH | 3 | | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| RUNAWAYS | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| SEXUAL HEALTH | | | | | 0 |
| SOCIAL ISOLATION | | 1 | | 2 | 3 |
| VULNERABILITY TO CSE | 7 | 7 | 5 | | 19 |
| WORK AND MONEY | 2 | | 5 | 9 | 16 |
| TOTAL | 188 | 177 | 143 | 171 | 679 |

| Number of New cases in period open to: | 30th Jun 18 | 30th Sep 18 | 31st Dec 18 | 31st Mar 19 | Total to Date |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Childrens Social Care | 27 | 18 | 29 | 17 | 91 |
| Early Help Locality | 11 | 9 | 1 | 13 | 34 |
| Early Help Partners | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 38 | 27 | 30 | 30 | 125 |

TOTAL NO. OF RESOLVED/CASES CLOSED

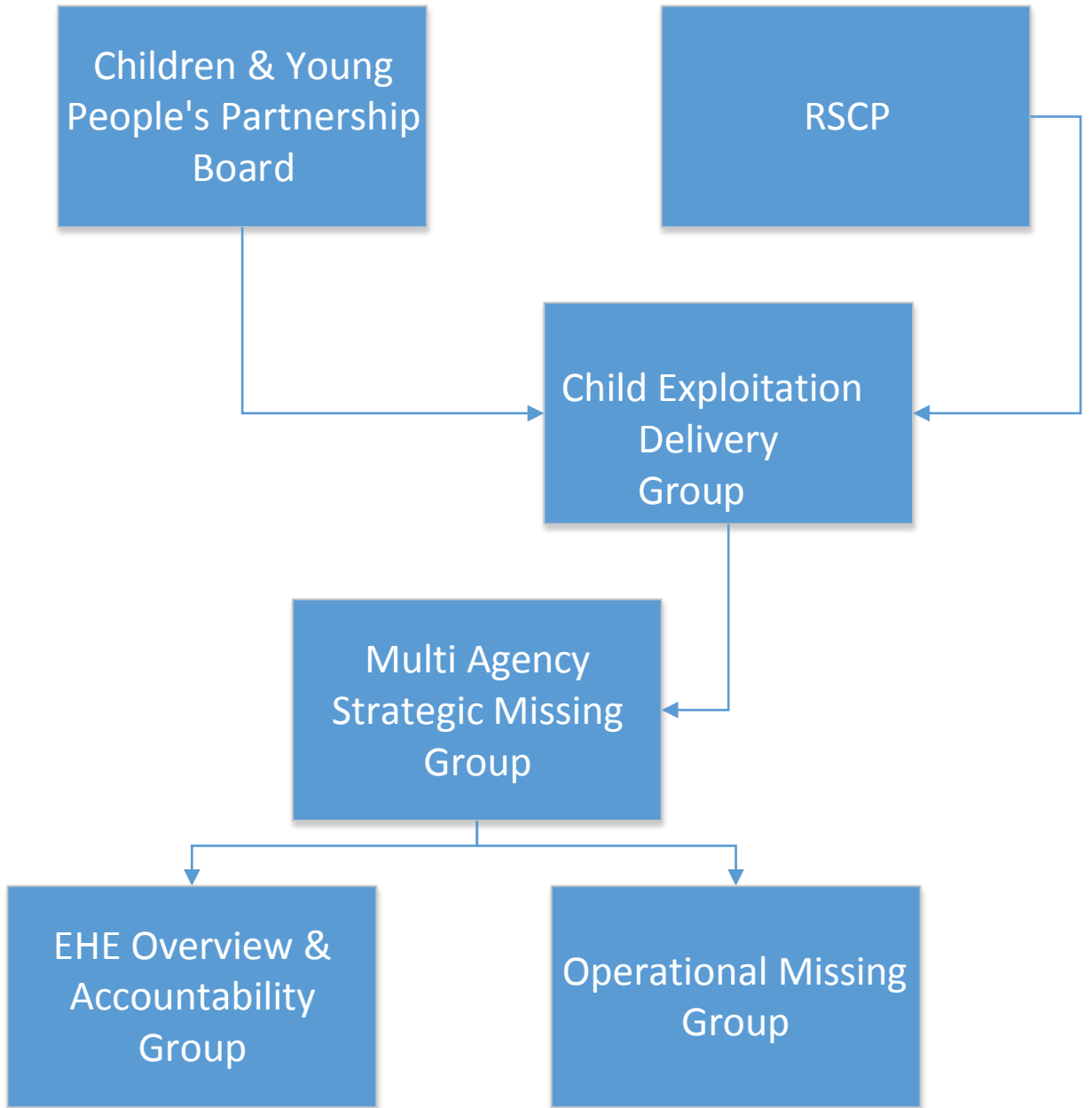
| DEFINITION | CLOSED CME CASES DURING THE PERIOD | Owner | Dean Fenton |
|----------------------|---|-------|-------------|
| Performance Analysis | As part of the work to enhance the reporting on CME the service has built in outcome codes to the recording system that were not previously available for analysis. Historically CME reporting was largely focused around open and closed cases with a lack of reporting on the different outcomes that can be apparent at closure. The service is now capturing outcomes data and as a result; of the 166 children that were closed to CME in the quarter, 9 (5.4% of children) were found and transferred to admissions and tracking (i.e. it was subsequently discovered that they were not CME but transferring school; tracking of these children is important when they leave a school role and are not on role of a new one to ensure that they take up an offered place in a new school.) 55 children (33.1%) were closed as they were found and another Local Authority subsequently accepted responsibility for them. 9 children were found in another Local Authority and 23 children (13.9%) were found in a having taken up a new place at a school in Rotherham. 26.5% of children were closed as a result of all possible enquiries being exhausted and 13.9% were verified to have left the UK. 1 child was classified as being educated at home. | | |

| CLOSED CME CASES | Quarter 1 Apr - Jun 18 | Quarter 2 July - Sep 18 | Quarter 3 Oct - Dec 18 | Quarter 4 Jan - Mar 19 | Total to Date |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| ENQUIRES EXHAUSTED | 5 | 58 | 10 | 44 | 117 |
| FOUND - ALTERNATIVE PROVISION | 1 | 0 | 0 | | 1 |
| FOUND - EHE | 8 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 11 |
| FOUND - IN SCHOOL IN OTHER LA | 21 | 21 | 20 | 11 | 73 |
| FOUND - TRANSFERRED TO A&T TRACKING | 21 | 42 | 14 | 9 | 86 |
| FOUND - TAKEN UP PLACE AT AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL IN ROTHERHAM | 19 | 29 | 16 | 23 | 87 |
| NOT RECORDED | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| OTHER LA ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY | 36 | 74 | 45 | 55 | 210 |
| VERIFIED LEFT UK | 23 | 30 | 15 | 23 | 91 |
| TOTAL | 134 | 256 | 120 | 166 | 676 |

Appendix 4: Improving Lives Missing Exclusions

| Primary | 2018/2019 (un-validated until September) | 2017/2018 | 2016/2017 |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Fixed Term Exclusions | 402 (as at 30/08/19) | 408 | 358 |
| Permanent Exclusions | 13 | 3 | 8 |

| Secondary | 2018/2019 (un-validated until September) | 2017/2018 | 2016/2017 |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|------------------|
| Fixed Term Exclusions | 3,020 (as at 30/08/19) | 3,068 | 3,116 |
| Permanent Exclusions | 36 | 41 | 30 |



Governance
Missing Children
Rotherham 2019

Missing from; Home, Care and School

Rebecca Wall – Head of Safeguarding, Quality & Learning
Dean Fenton – Head of Service, Access to Education

What guides our response to Missing

For children missing from Care and Home: Statutory guidance on Children who go missing from home or care (Jan 2014) is issued under Section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970. This complimented by:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children and related statutory guidance (2018);
- The Missing Children and Adults Strategy (2011);
- Child sexual exploitation; Definition and a guide for practitioners, local leaders and decision makers working to protect children from child sexual exploitation (February 2017)
- The Children Act 1989

For Children Missing from Education:

- Section 436(A) of the Education Act requires that Local Authorities make arrangements to established the identifies of children residing in their area who are not registered as receiving suitable education



What's working well

- A permanent Missing Team is now in place with a dedicated team manager, to support Return Home interviews for Children missing from home and care
- A 'Missing from Home and Care' scorecard is produced and available on a monthly basis to support a more holistic approach and the understanding of patterns and trends. This supports identification of repeat 'missing' episodes and actions to support future reduction
- There are strong internal and external links and partnership working
- New ways of working has become embedded in practitioners' day to day working
- Excellent multi-agency partnership working has resulted in the reduction of the overall number of young people missing from home or care
- Individualised 'Find Me Plans' ensure clarity of roles and responsibilities



What are we worried about?

- In relation to children Missing from Home and Care the largest cohort of missing children at year end of 2018/19 remains our Looked After Children (LAC). They account for just over half of all recorded missing episodes
- The other significant cohort of missing are those not known to services, or known to another local Authority. The Return Home Interview is key in understanding and signposting this cohort in an effort to reduce future missing episodes
- There has been a seasonal increase in the number of missing episodes currently and this has impacted on return home interviews
- For Children Missing from Education (CME) there was an increase in Q4 (171 children) from Q3 (143 children) of missing children, the majority of which have been known to have previous missing episodes. This is largely due to families being transient and returning to Rotherham intermittently, rather than concerns relating to vulnerability and/or safeguarding issues



What are we worried about?

- A total of 39.2% of newly identified CME episodes are children from the Central area of Rotherham, which again correlates to the highly transient nature of families and the travelling to and from the country of origin to the UK
- Although parents of Children Missing from Education do not have to report ethnicity as a mandatory declaration, 44% of parents classified their ethnicity as Roma and a further 33% were unclassified
- There is a significant financial impact on both Schools and the Local Authority due to the additional resource required to support CME

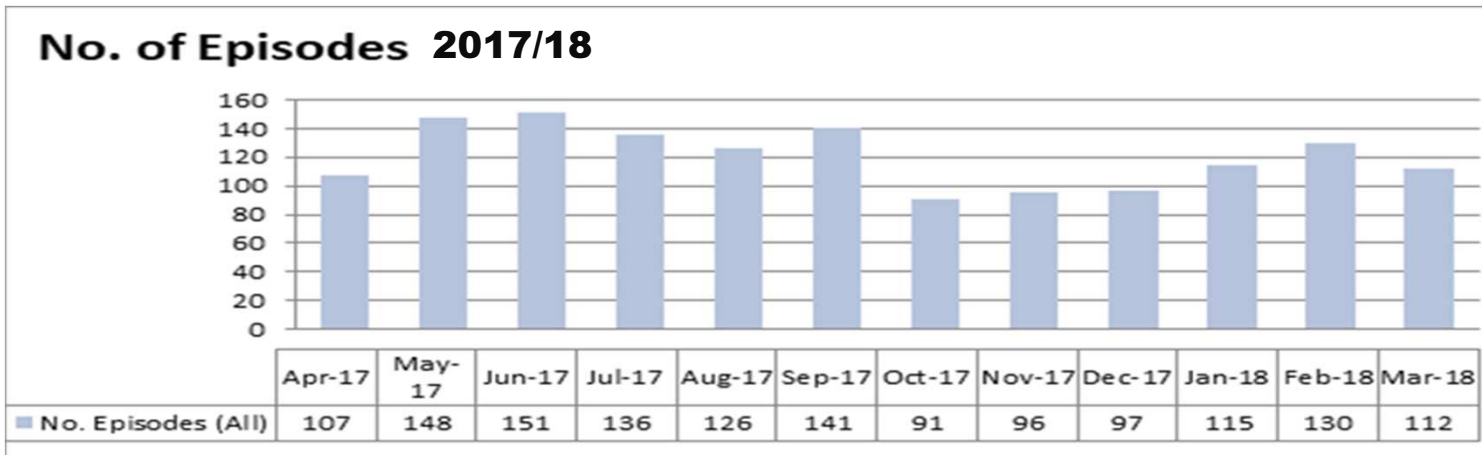


What are we going to do about it?

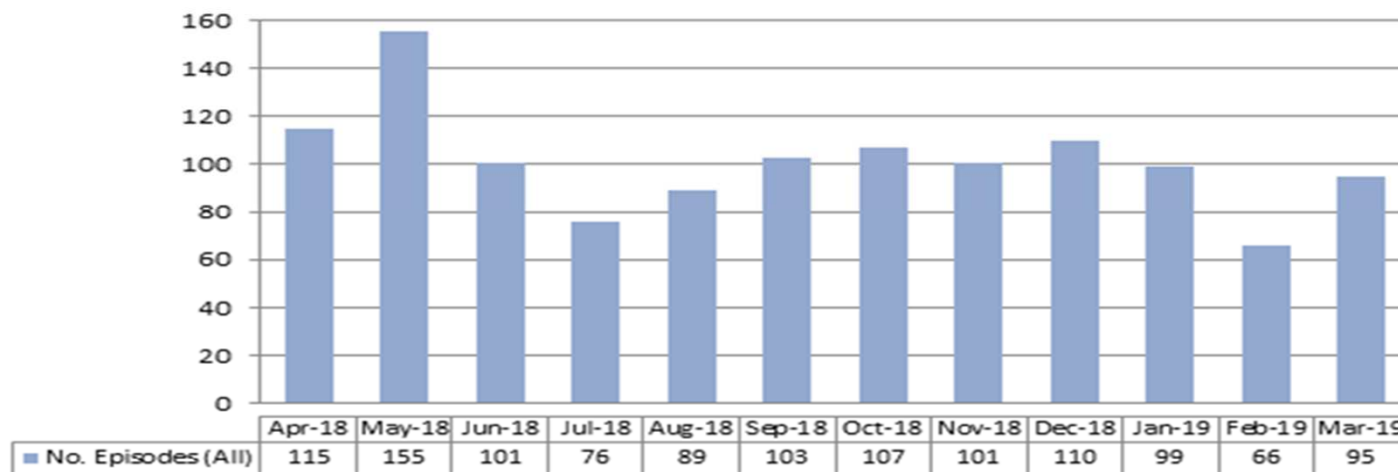
- The Inclusion Scorecard is under development and the Missing Scorecard is under review to support tracking all the strands of missing. Future developments will help to triangulate and cross reference exclusions, children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation or Child Criminal Exploitation
- Strengthened partnership working with the Police with a planned joint review of Children Missing from home and care, which will maximise responses to missing episodes and a focus on preventative action via a shared 'Find Me Plan'
- South Yorkshire Police are to lead a review of the Regional Missing Protocol which will support the Local Authority to ensure a consistency of responses for young people within the South Yorkshire region
- For CME a supplementary form has been included on the on-line application for a school place for completion by parents regarding ethnicity



Number of Missing Episodes from Home of Care

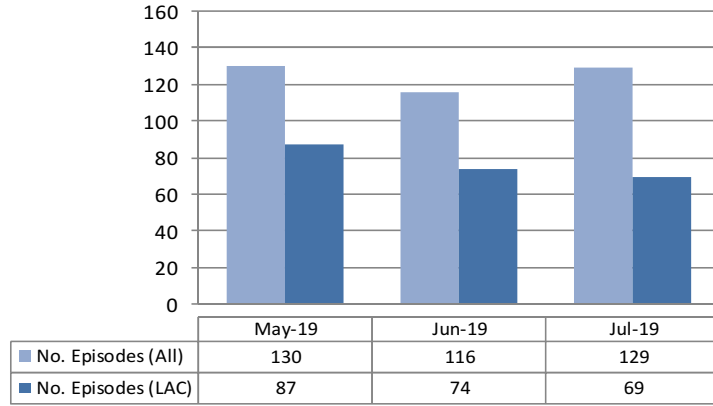


No. of Episodes 2018/19



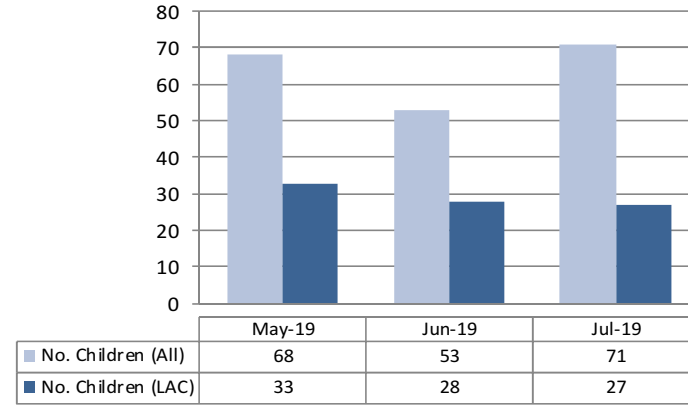
Missing Trends

No. of Episodes

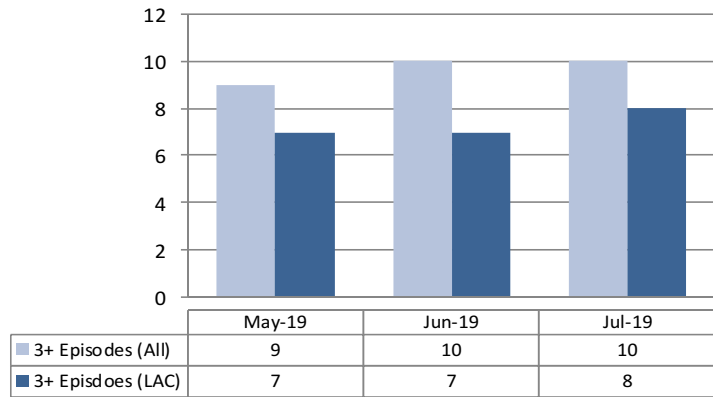


Reporting Month: July 2019

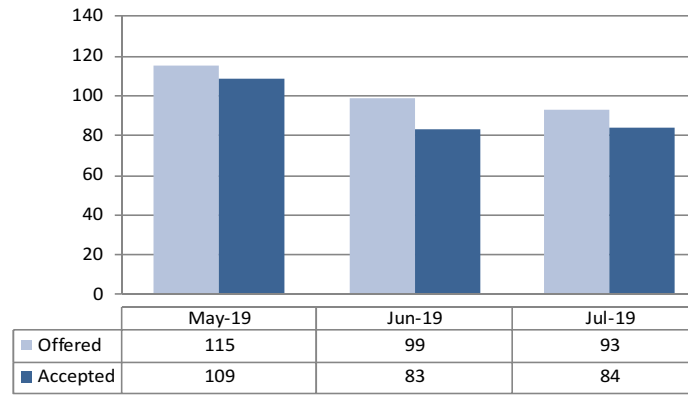
No. of Children



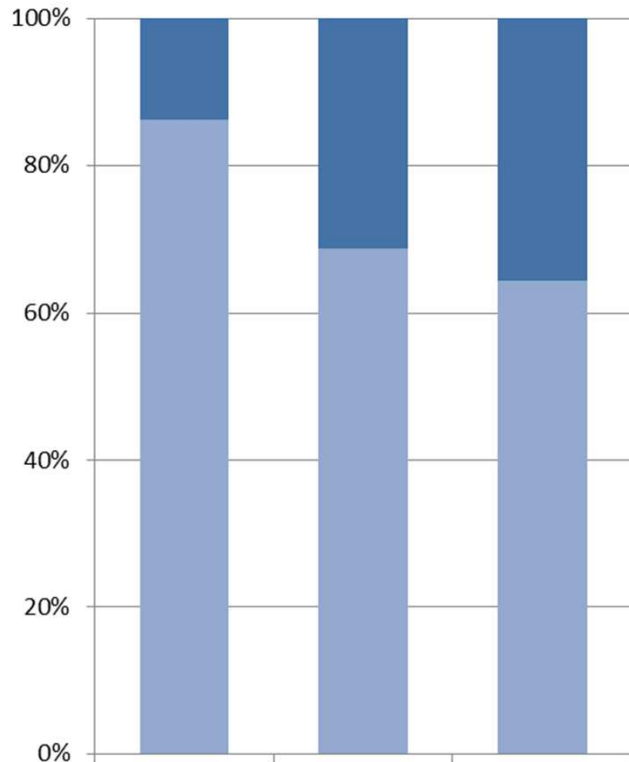
No. Children with 3+ Episodes in Period



Return Home Interviews

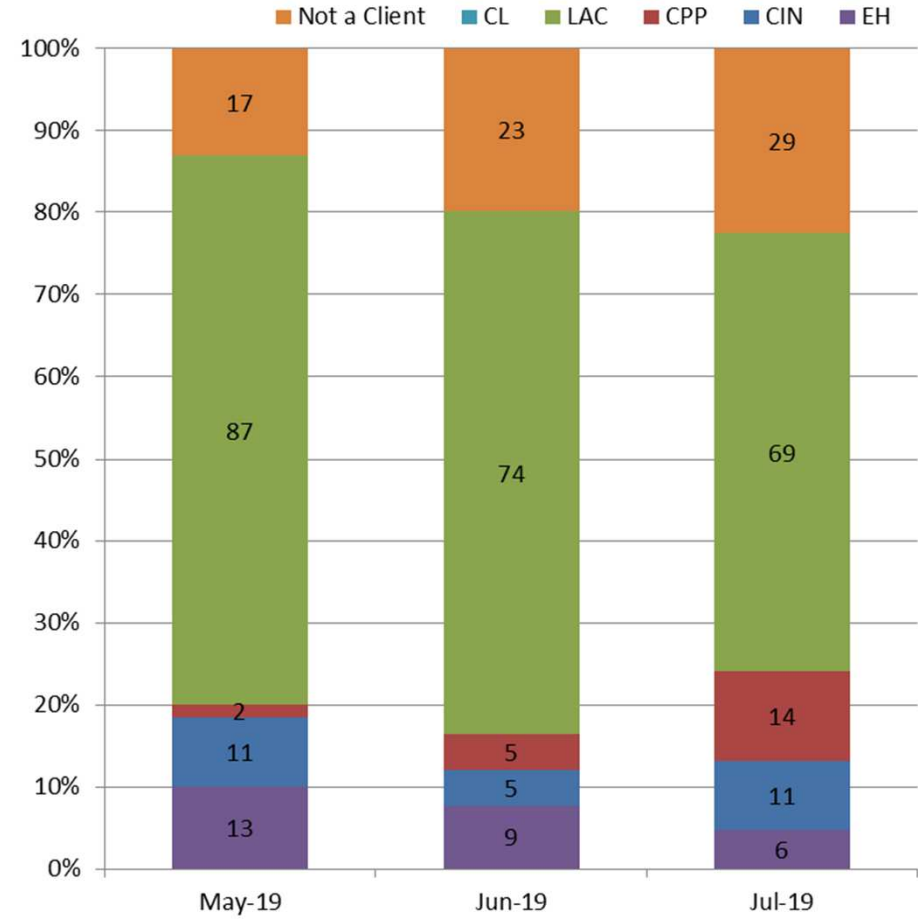


RHI Complete within 3 Working Days



| | May-19 | Jun-19 | Jul-19 |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| RHI Not Completed in Time | 15 | 26 | 30 |
| RHI Completed in Time | 94 | 57 | 54 |

% by Case status



| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---|
| <h1>BRIEFING</h1> | TO: | Improving Lives |
| | DATE: | 17 September 2019 |
| | LEAD OFFICER: | Dean Fenton – Head of Access to Education Dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk Marie Boswell Teaching & Learning Consultant/Deputy Head of Access to Education Marie.boswell@rotherham.gov.uk |
| | TITLE: | Elective Home Education |

1. Background (What's working well?)

- 1.1. Elective home education (EHE) is the term used to describe a legal choice by parents to provide education for their children at home - or at home and in some other way which they choose - instead of sending them to school full-time. This is different to education provided by a local authority (LA) otherwise than at a school - for example, tuition for children who are too ill to attend school.
- 1.2. **Department for Education (DfE) Elective Home Education (EHE) Guidance 2019** highlights that *'Parents have a right to educate their children at home, and the government wants the many parents who do it well to be supported. They devote time, financial resources and dedication to the education of their children. Most parents who take up the weighty responsibility of home education do a great job, and many children benefit from being educated at home.'*
- 1.3. **Department for Education (DfE) Elective Home Education (EHE) Guidance 2007 section 2.6** stated that: Local Authorities (LA's) have a statutory duty under section 436A of the Education Act 1996, inserted by the Education and Inspections Act 2006, to make arrangements to enable them to establish the identities, so far as it is possible to do so, of children in their area who are not receiving a suitable education. The duty applies in relation to children of compulsory school age who are not on a school roll, and who are not receiving a suitable education otherwise than being at school (for example, at home, privately or in alternative provision).
- 1.4. Following increased interest in EHE from ministers, media and a variety of professional interest groups, including the national Association of EHE Professionals (AEHEP), an attempt had been made through parliamentary processes to amend the underlying legislation related to EHE. The proposed changes, including mandatory registration of EHE children, proceeded through the House of Lords and onto the House of Commons, supported by various consultations. Unfortunately the proposal was delayed numerous times before being closed in spring 2019, due largely to more pressing parliamentary business.
- 1.5. Taking some of the issues arising through the proposal to amend legislation and consultations, in **April 2019 the Government published new guidance on EHE**. Two documents were published: One for LA's and one for parents:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/elective-home-education>

- 1.6. The new guidance documents are clear that there has been no change in legislation but clarified the role and duties of LA's. The guidance recognises that some families do use EHE well for a variety of reasons and through a range of educational methods. It is also clearer that the LA must proactively take action to identify where education is unsuitable and take steps to rectify an unsuitable education.
- 1.7. The EHE Officers conduct home visits to discuss the education a child in EHE is receiving and to review samples of work, progress being made and future plans. Where there are concerns about the suitability of the education being provided the EHE Officer will discuss alternative options with parents/carers e.g. amendments that could be made to improve the education being provided or returning to mainstream or other education setting.
- 1.8. Where education is felt to be unsuitable, processes are followed linking with Early Help to support a return to a suitable and appropriate education setting.
- 1.9. The new guidance goes further than the preceding guidance in clarifying that a lack of suitable education could possibly constitute neglect causing significant harm:

4.4 In particular, local authorities should explore the scope for using agreements with health bodies, general practitioners and other agencies, to increase their knowledge of children who are not attending school. Some local authorities already actively encourage referrals from doctors and hospitals of children whom there is reason to think may be home educated. Under s.10 of the Children Act 2004, local authorities should have arrangements in place to promote co-operation between the authority and its partners who deal with children, and under section 11, arrangements should be in place to ensure that functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. These arrangements should include information sharing protocols and it is possible for these to allow sharing of data on children who appear to be home educated and about whom there is a concern as to the suitability of that education which amounts to possible neglect causing significant harm....

- 1.8. The LA has an established EHE Team consisting of 2 Officers of which one Officer is a Teaching And Learning specialist with several years' experience in the EHE field and the other Officer has a background in Education Welfare and Early Help.
- 1.9. Rotherham's EHE Officers continue to play a significant role at regional and sub regional EHE forums and have contributed to developments in practice through these forums.
- 1.10. The EHE policy was refreshed in 2018 and procedures link closely to other relevant CYPS procedures including Early Help and Safeguarding.

2. Key Issues and what we are worried about.

- 2.1 Section 5.1 of the new EHE guidance states that: *The duty under s.436A dealt with above means that local authorities **must** make arrangements to find out so far as possible whether home educated children are receiving suitable full-time education.*
- 2.2 The new guidance for LA's is a much larger document than the 2007 version, with more emphasis on actions that LA's **must** and **should** take, making a clearer distinction between informal enquiries (typically from home visits) and formal education enforcement processes to be followed where an informal approach is unsuccessful in assuring the LA that the education is not *unsuitable*.

2.3 The AEHEP continues to discuss the possibility of changes to legislation, but largely welcomes the new guidance for the clarification it gives all partners about application of the current legislation.

2.4 Local, Regional and National developments

- 2.4.1 Rotherham has taken part in all regional consultations and regularly attends regional network meetings.
- 2.4.2 In 2017, Rotherham developed a multi-agency Overview & Accountability (O&A) Group for EHE which met on a half termly basis. The group led a review of RMBC's EHE policy, staffing and re-establishing local partnership contacts. Given the time limited nature of the project and approval and implementation of recommendations, the O&A Group stepped back to become a virtual network for as-and-when-required case conversations. EHE links in to the Operational and Strategic Missing Groups.
- 2.4.3 There has never been a statutory fixed point or requirement to collate any data related to EHE, this means that there is no formal comparative data for EHE regionally or nationally. A summary of the RMBC data position at the end of the academic year (31st August) as a fixed point each year is produced. (Appendix 1)

2.5 What are we worried about:

- 2.5.1 The number of parents requesting information about EHE or considering alternatives to current schools and hence EHE Officer involvement continues to increase. Without sufficient EHE Officer capacity to discuss issues rapidly, local knowledge and school admissions/other service links, many families would have elected to home educate without a full understanding of the implications of this decision or the education options and support available to them, often at a time of crisis. (See Appendix 1 - Involvements data).
- 2.5.2 Taking public examinations from EHE is possible but requires an understanding of exam board and syllabus choices along with expertise to deliver teaching in a range of subject areas. Whilst progress to further education (FE) and training without evidence of qualifications is possible locally due to partnership working with Rotherham North Notts College (RNN), children may be disadvantaged if they are required to evidence academic achievement for other employment or training. RNN group has implemented new criteria so that learners have to be in EHE for 6 months prior to starting part time college within their EHE programme for Y10 and/or Y11 because of previous negative experiences of accepting EHE learners (Anecdotally, not Rotherham learners). This can impact on learners who leave school in KS4 (Year10/Year11) expecting to start college immediately. Also, RNN Group rules prevent a learner who is asked to leave college reapplying for 12 months, thus increasing the risk of becoming NEET in Y12 as the available choices may be limited.
- 2.5.3 A small, but increasing number of families decline EHE Officer visits or refusing to send actual evidence in support that their child is receiving a 'suitable education' when requested.
- 2.5.4 Parents do not have to inform the Local Authority if they choose to home educate. The vast majority do and they accept and welcome contact with the EHE Officers. Current legislation appears to conflict with other Government strategies for protecting the rights of children. Although the legislation hasn't changed, the new, clearer Guidance to LA's and parents is a welcome step. Separate consultation on possible mandatory registration will

be followed along with ADCS research into issues of Exclusions, Off-rolling, SEN provision and increasing EHE

- 2.5.5 If a child has attended a school, the school has a duty to inform the LA of a withdrawal to EHE. Support and information about options, including EHE, alternative education providers, SEN support etc. can be given to parents in a timely manner and issues resolved if the EHE team is aware quickly. As there is no statutory timeframe around the sharing of information, occasionally opportunities to support families quickly are missed. The Rotherham EHE policy also advises a five day 'cooling off period'. Schools generally contact the EHE and CME service for help and advice. This continues to improve as the CME Officer is now located with the EHE Officers in the Access to Education Service.
- 2.5.6 Rotherham had its first formal case of a primary school agreeing to a Flexi-Schooling arrangement with a family starting on a trial basis in late Summer 2018. Flexi-Schooling is legal and is at the discretion of the headteacher and governors. A Flexi-Schooled child remains solely on the school roll. School maintains full responsibility for outputs and achievements but an agreement with parents is in place about the times when a child will be educated by the parents. Information and advice was sought from the Regional EHE network. Whilst safeguarding was paramount with the advice offered to the school, the case created an opportunity to share learning from neighbouring LAs with more experience of Flexi Schooling (Derbyshire and Sheffield) to inform the trial case and development of a Rotherham model. The case will be monitored for learning, and is expected to be adopted as routine in future cases. An increase in Flexi-School requests was anticipated, but this has not happened to date. Other families have discussed the option with schools and EHE Officers but there have been no more cases known to the EHE team in this academic year.
- 2.5.7 As there is no national comparative data it can be difficult to comment on local trends in any data field.
- Previous work to consider **locality issues** demonstrated no significant patterns and withdrawals were spread across the whole borough.
 - Although there is no duty to collate **ethnicity** of EHE learners, the vast majority of declarations when a child was in school and anecdotal evidence indicates the overwhelming majority of Rotherham EHE learners are from the white British community.
 - Numbers of secondary age children in EHE is higher than primary ages. Rotherham data mirrors anecdotal discussion with other LA's. See below:
 - The **gender** balance in Rotherham mirrors anecdotal evidence from other Yorkshire & Humberside LA's:

| End of 2018/19 numbers EHE | Primary age | Secondary age | Y11 leavers |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Girls | 30 | 41 | 13 |
| Boys | 56 | 56 | 15 |
| Total school age | 86 | 97 | |
| Y11 leavers | | | 28 |

3. Key Actions and Timelines (What are we doing about it?)

- 3.1 To continue to monitor staff capacity to ensure that EHE Officers can act as quickly as possible to give advice to parents about EHE and other options, including sign-posting to other services. CYPS DLT receive reports from the EHE Lead Officer which include implications for staffing to ensure that the LA's duties are met with regard to taking action where education is unsuitable, or may be unsuitable.
- 3.2 To continue to work with Local Colleges and Early Help Services in relation to Y10/11 children, to support progress and transition to post 16 education or training.
- 3.3 To continue to work with Early Help colleagues to ensure that the process flow of actions from informal enquiries by EHE Officers through to formal enforcement action by Early Help Services is robust and seamless. (Section 436 to Section 437 Education Act). Two cases referred to Early Help for enforcement action have resulted in subsequent court proceedings during the 2018/19 academic year.
- 3.4 To continue involvement with the Regional and National AEHEP and maintain a watching brief in relation to the progress of the EHE-related developments. Rotherham has contributed to all consultations with regard to possible changes in legislation, research into links between Exclusions, Special Educational Needs and, proposed mandatory registration for children not attending mainstream education. The EHE Officers will continue to play an active part in these developments.
- 3.5 To continue to seek guidance from DfE and RMBC legal services where necessary in relation to the parameters of statutory duty.
- 3.6 To review the EHE Policy and guidance as part of its 2 yearly cycle, to ensure it continues to link effectively to Early Help and legal processes, captures key learning points and reflects best practice.
- 3.7 To continue to report to CYPS DLT and Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children's Board in relation to EHE.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 The report on Elective Home Education be noted by Elected Members.

Appendix: Elective Home Education (EHE) end of academic year summary data table

| Local summaries | End August 2014/15 | End August 2015/16 | End August 2016/17 | End August 2017/18 | End August 2018/19 | Comments |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Current EHE recorded | 123 (Y0- Y10) | 149 (Y0- Y10) | 145 (Y0- Y10) | 167 (Y0- Y10) | 183 (Y0- Y10) | End of academic year after Y11 left. |
| Returned to School (or started in a school) | 38 | 30 | 49 | 74 | 58 | 2015/16 capacity reduced due to EHE Lead managing EHCP Team for 4 months. 2017/18 EHE staffing enhanced from Oct 2017. |
| Referred to CME | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 8 | *Some CME return to the 'known current' cohort after CME checks, hence some variation in totals. |
| Transferred LA | 9 | 8 | 16 | 27 | 23 | Moved to other LA's. |
| Y11 Leavers June | 19 | 24 | 31 | 27 | 28 | |
| Total in EHE at some time during the academic year | 194* | 216* | 245* | 297* | 300* | Number becoming EHE at some point through a year continues to increase year on year. Mirrors national trend in direction. Some LA's report much steeper increases in cohort % terms. |
| EHE Officer 'Involvement'. Supported, but child has not become EHE. | 83 | 113 | 109 | 142 | 144 | Support can include a wide range of activity. E.g. Advocate at in-school meetings, support with EHCP requests, application to alternative school, referral to Early Help, access to food bank, referral to health services etc. |
| Pending 'Involvements' to be resolved. | 0 | 4 | 10 | 13 | 12 | |
| Total children known to EHE Team through Academic year | 277* | 333* | 364* | 452* | 456* | |

Public Report
Improving Lives Select Commission

Improving Lives Select Commission – 17 September 2019

Title: Update - Improving Lives Select Commission work programme 2019/20

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)

Caroline Webb, Governance Advisor

(01709) 822765 caroline.webb@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

All

Summary

- 1.1 Improving Lives Select Commission agreed its work programme at its meeting of 9 July 2019 and asked that regular updates be provided to the Commission.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 has a summary of work to date and progress against agreed tasks. Work undertaken since the previous meeting includes:
 - Work has been undertaken by a small sub-group to benchmark other local authority provision of Post Abuse Support. Its initial findings have been fed into CYPS to inform the re-commissioning process of services in the Borough.
 - An update has been provided on the Early Help/Social Care Pathways to inform future discussions/scrutiny of CYPS transformation projects.
 - Performance Sub-Group, expressions of interest sought and an update will be provided to the Commission to determine its approach to performance monitoring.
 - Scrutiny Review - Holiday Hunger – Initial discussions have taken place with the Chair and Vice-Chair, Cabinet Member for Cleaner Greener Communities and officers on an initial scope and methodology which will be circulated for comment and amendment. Review group to be set up in September.
- 1.3 The work programme has been developed following a work planning session held on June 18, 2019 and has been informed by discussions with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services; the Strategic Director and Link Officer.
- 1.4 Improving Lives Select Commission has prioritised its work programme with reference to the '**PAPERS**' framework. This is as follows:

Public Interest: the concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;

Ability to change: priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically influence;

Performance: priority should be given to the areas in which the Council and other agencies are not performing well;

Extent: priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the district;

Replication: work programmes must take account of what else is happening in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort;

Statutory responsibility: where an issue is part of a statutory duty to scrutinise or hold to account (or the area under scrutiny is a statutory, high profile responsibility)

- 1.5 The Commission should be mindful of the timeliness of the matters within its work programme and ensure that it leaves sufficient flexibility to undertake any pre-decision scrutiny arising from matters in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions or be able to reprioritise should any items be referred to it from the Cabinet, OSMB or other sources.

Recommendations:

1. That Members consider the work programme as outlined in Appendix 1;
2. That updates are provided to each meeting of Improving Lives on the progress of the work programme and for further prioritisation as required.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1: Work programme Improving Lives Select Commission

Background Papers

Minute 18: Improving Lives Select Commission 9 July, 2019

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

No

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

| Meeting Date | Agenda Item | Purpose/ Outcomes | Recommendations | Follow up |
|--------------|--|---|--|--|
| 11 June 2019 | Mr John Edwards, Regional Schools Commissioner (East Midlands and the Humber Region) | To discuss with the Regional Schools Commissioner the key challenges for Education in Rotherham | 1) That the Regional School Commissioner be thanked for his presentation 2) That a report be submitted by the Assistant Director for Education on elective home education to a future meeting. | Completed Scheduled for 17 September |
| | Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership (RESP) Update | To provide an overview and update of progress in respect of the key areas for action identified within the RESP strategic plan.) | 1) That the evaluation of the Early Years Home Visiting Project be submitted to this Committee 2) That a report detailing key timelines, milestones and outcomes to reflect the difference that RESP is making be submitted to this Committee in December 2019. 3) That the above report has details the actions taken to boost the performance of high performing and more able pupils. | To schedule Scheduled for 3 December 2019 As above |
| | Children & Young People’s Services (CYPS) 2018/2019 Year End Performance | To provide a summary of performance under key themes for Children’s and Young Peoples Service at the end of the 2018/19 reporting year. | 1) That the report and accompanying datasets (Appendices 1 & 2) be received and consideration be given to the issues arising. 2) That the Committee gives further consideration to its scrutiny of performance. | No action Expressions of interest sought for Performance Sub-Group to commence in August 2019 |
| 9 July 2019 | New Children’s Safeguarding Partnerships | To seek assurance about the new safeguarding arrangement and readiness for implementation | Resolved:- (1) That the decision of the Cabinet to endorse the development and publication of the Multi-Agency Arrangements for Safeguarding Children be noted. (2) That the future scrutiny of these arrangements continue and the Annual Report be presented to this Commission. | Scheduled 3 December |

| Meeting Date | Agenda Item | Purpose/ Outcomes | Recommendations | Follow up |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| | | | (3) That an update be provided in six months following the implementation and transition to the new process. | Scheduled 3 December |
| | Work Programme | To update members on work programme | Resolved:- (1) That the contents of the report and the Work Programme detail be noted. (2) That updates be provided to each meeting of this Commission on the progress of the work programme and further prioritisation as required. | Update to be provided to each meeting |
| 17 September 2019 | Counter extremism in schools | To understand steps being taken in schools to address counter extremism | | |
| | Elective Home Education | To seek assurance that children who are elective home educated are being effectively safeguarded/educated | | |
| | Missing from Home/Education (Update from Strategic Missing Group) | To seek assurance that children missing (from Exclusions, Care, Home, Education) are being effectively safeguarded Deferred from 9.07.2019 | | |
| 29 October 2019 | Early Intervention Implementation of Early Help Strategy Sustainability EH – funding | To scrutinise the effectiveness of the Early Help offer and seek assurance that the implementation of the strategy is meeting milestones/measures | | |

| Meeting Date | Agenda Item | Purpose/ Outcomes | Recommendations | Follow up |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------|
| | Youth Offending Service | To scrutinise the effectiveness of Youth Offending initiatives particularly in context of concerns about criminal exploitation of young people | | |
| 3 December 2019 | Safeguarding children's annual report | To scrutinise the local safeguarding arrangements (Children and Adults) | | |
| | Safeguarding adults annual report | | | |
| | School performance | To scrutinise annual school performance (unverified) | | |
| | Send inspection/peer review | To scrutinise the outcomes from the SEND inspection and /or peer review | | |
| 14 January 2020 | LAC sufficiency | To scrutinise the implementation of the LAC sufficiency strategy | | |
| | Directorate workforce strategy | To receive an update | | |
| | Court Procedures (Sub-Group TBC) | To scrutinise if progress/milestones are being reached – follow on from earlier work | | |
| 3 March 2020 | Send | To scrutinise the implementation of the SEND sufficiency strategy | | |
| | Pause | To scrutinise outcomes from project to date | | |

| Meeting Date | Agenda Item | Purpose/ Outcomes | Recommendations | Follow up |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| | Early Help Social Care Pathways | To scrutinise progress/implementation | | |

Sub-Groups/ report pending

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|---|---|
| <i>July</i> | Early Help social Care Pathways: initial sub-group to seek assurance re process | Briefing scheduled for July 22 Invites circulated to Commission | Completed |
| <i>July/August</i> | CSE – post abuse support (task and finish to feed into commissioning process) | Expression of interests sought Scope drafted Benchmarking undertaken | Initial findings forwarded to CYPS to inform Commissioning Process – further updates to be provided |
| <i>September</i> | Holiday Hunger/food poverty | Review to commence in September Draft scope to be circulated Expressions of interest sought | |
| <i>To Schedule</i> | Child friendly borough update | | |
| <i>To Schedule</i> | Performance Sub-Group | Expression of interest sought Further discussions to take place to determine the approach | |
| <i>To Schedule</i> | Domestic Abuse – DHR – Stalking & Harassment – Domestic Abuse Service Principles | Referral from OSMB January 15 th 2019 (ILSC) | |