

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

- Date and Time: -** Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 5.30 p.m.
- Venue: -** Microsoft Teams Meeting
- Membership: -** Councillors Atkin, Beaumont, Buckley, Clark, Cusworth (Chair), Elliot, Fenwick-Green, Hague, Ireland, Jarvis (Vice-Chair), Khan, Marles, Marriott, Pitchley, Senior, Simpson and Julie Turner

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 Governance Advisor of their intentions prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

There will be a pre-meeting for all members of the Improving Lives Select Commission at 2:30 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 15 December 2020 (Pages 3 - 14)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 December 2020 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. Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board - Annual Report (Pages 15 - 36)

8. Youth Offending Team Inspection Report (Pages 37 - 61)

9. Work Programme (Pages 62 - 74)

To consider and approve the Commission's Work Programme.

10. Improving Lives Select Commission - Monitoring Report (Pages 75 - 76)

To monitor the progress of recommendations made by the Improving Lives Select Commission.

11. Improving Lives Select Commission - Sub and Project Group Updates (Pages 77 - 78)

For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the activity regarding sub and project groups of the he Improving Lives Select Commission.

12. Urgent Business

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

13. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 9 March at 5:30pm as a Microsoft Teams Meeting.



Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION
Tuesday 15 December 2020

Present:- Councillor Cusworth (in the Chair); Councillors Jarvis, Atkin, Beaumont, Buckley, Clark, Fenwick-Green, Hague, Khan, Marles and Marriott.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Elliot and Pitchley.

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

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

115. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 27 OCTOBER 2020

Resolved: - That the minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission held on 27 October 2020 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

116. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

117. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

118. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

119. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair advised that there would be a meeting at 5:30 on 16 December to enable members to comment on the development of the revised Domestic Abuse Strategy. The Chair encouraged members to attend in order to have the opportunity to input into the development of the strategy.

120. ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP - ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20

The Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership, Jenny Myers attended the meeting to present the first Annual Report of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP).

The Independent Chair was accompanied by the District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman and Sue Cassin, Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director,

Children's Social Care and the Business Manager, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership were also in attendance.

The report stated that it was a statutory requirement under the Children Act 2004 for an annual report to be produced that detailed the activities that had been carried out by local safeguarding partners in the previous twelve months that also detailed the effectiveness of the activities in the safeguarding and the promotion of welfare of children in the local area. It was noted that as part of the governance arrangements of the RSCP that it was a requirement that the RSCP Annual Report was presented through Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's own scrutiny arrangements as well as the other safeguarding partners own governance arrangements.

The Independent Chair advised that the RSCP Annual Report detailed the activities that had been undertaken in relation to its core business and priorities for the year 2019/2020 and considered how well it had worked towards the achievement of the priorities and objectives as detailed in its Strategic Business Plan 2019-2020 that were:

- Safe at Home
- Safe in the Community
- Safe Safeguarding Systems

The Annual Report detailed the key areas of progress that had been achieved against each of the objectives and areas of priority. The Independent Chair noted how well the different members of the partnership had worked together and advised that the frequent meetings that had been held between partners had enabled effective oversight to be carried out and actions to be taken to deliver on the key priorities of the partnership.

In addition to detailing what had gone well the Annual Report set out that the areas of activity that could be done differently or better and detailed the challenges faced in achieving the priorities over the year. The areas identified for development that were highlighted in the report included:

- Budgeting pressures.
- Ensuring that babies and very young children were kept safe.
- Further scrutiny of Early Help Strategy and Front Door activity.
- New developments, including contextual safeguarding in the identification, assessment and response to criminal exploitation and adolescent neglect.
- Review of the Multi-agency Safeguarding Arrangements and safeguarding plan.
- Ensuring that the voices and lived experiences of children and young people, families and workforce were represented across the activities undertaken by the RSCP.

The Independent Chair detailed the objectives for the partnership for the coming year and advised that a key area of focus would be ensuring that

the voices of children were heard clearly by increased engagement activities so as to ensure that the partnership could meet their needs as effectively as possible. The Independent Chair thanked the members of the partnership for their work in keeping children and young people in Rotherham safe in what had been a very challenging year.

The District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman highlighted the activity that had been carried out by South Yorkshire Police and the rest of the partnership regarding child sexual and criminal exploitation, including the activity to raise awareness widely on what the warning signs of such activity looked like.

The Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG, Sue Cassin summarised the activity that had taken place with regards to the role of health care provision in delivering the objectives of the partnership over the previous year.

The Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services noted that new approach to managing safeguarding strategically in Rotherham via the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership would provide a framework for managing safeguarding in an effective manner that also enable innovative approaches to safeguarding activity to be delivered across the Borough. The Strategic Director noted that while the number of Looked After the Children in the Borough was of concern, advised that as highlighted in the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Services, that there were no children currently in care that did not need to be the care of the authority.

The full Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

The Chair thanked the Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership, the District Commander for Rotherham and the Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG for attending the meeting to present the first annual report from the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The Chair noted the comprehensiveness and wide-ranging scope of the report and welcomed the information on how the partnership had successfully responded to the challenges created by the pandemic. The Chair noted that the format of the report had not presented the information in way that was as accessible and easy to understand as it could have been and recommended that the format of the next annual report be reviewed in order to make the content clearer and more accessible for a wider audience.

The Chair asked for further information on the work that was being carried out to raise awareness of CSE and CCE. The District Commander provided further information on the video that had been created for hoteliers to help them identify potential warning signs of CSE. The District

Commander advised the video had been created in a way that enabled it to be broken down into separate sections that could then be used more widely to raise awareness of the warning signs of CSE. The District Commander also advised awareness raising activities had taken place during National Children's Safeguarding week and were also planned for the National CSE Awareness Week in January 2021. The Chair asked that members be involved with future awareness raising activities where possible.

Members asked for further information on the budgetary pressures that the partnership was facing and how these would impact on the work of the partnership. The Independent Chair noted that the reduction in the contribution to the partnership from the Police and Crime Commissioner was an issue that was facing safeguarding partnerships nationwide and that as a consequence some innovative activities would have to be scaled back. The Independent Chair assured members that the reduction in the partnerships budget would not negatively impact its ability to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Rotherham.

The Assistant Director, Children's Social Care and the Chief Nurse noted that while reductions in the budget did create challenges, the wealth of experience and knowledge across the partnership would be ensure that resources were used strategically across the partnership in order to deliver the best possible outcomes. The Business Manager, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership assured members that resources would be concentrated on core activities that provided the positive outcomes for children and young people and that any impacts of reduced funding would be on back office support functions and not on the delivery of front line services.

The Chair asked for further information on the concerns that had been detailed in the report surrounding the increase of incidents of injury to babies of less than one year old and enquired whether activity in this area would be impacted by the reductions in the partnership's budget.

The District Commander advised that an upcoming audit of cases would highlight key actions that needed to be taken in response to this concern. The District Commander assured the Chair that as this was an area of key concern for the partnership that related activity would not be negatively impacted by budget pressures. The Assistant Director advised that targeted social care visits with new parents would enable concerns surrounding risk in this area to be picked up and acted on. The Assistant Director noted that the partnership provided a framework for joined up multi-agency working in order to positively deal with concerns and enable appropriate and effective safeguarding activity to take place. The Chief Nurse noted that initiatives provided through maternity care had helped to address potential risks around injuries to babies and advised that learning from past cases would be used to develop future actions right across the partnership.

The Chair welcomed how this area of concern clearly showed how multiagency and cross partnership working was being enabled and maximised by the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership.

Members asked for further information on what action was being taken regarding the concerns that had been detailed in the report regarding the increased number of children in receipt of Elective Home Education (EHE). The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working advised that the increase of the number of children in receipt of EHE was a concern nationally but advised that there had been some success in Rotherham in reducing these numbers and in parents being dissuaded from EHE and as a consequence keeping their children in school. The Assistant Director, Education who was in attendance at the meeting provided further information on the activities that were being taken around EHE.

The Chair asked whether the number of children in EHE was of concern for the police due to the potential risk that EHE provided for increased opportunities for the radicalisation of children and young people. The District Commander noted that children and young people not being in school could create a heightened risk of radicalisation but advised that as any activity was taking place in the home that it was very hard to take specific action on. The District Commander assured the Chair that despite the challenges this was a key area of activity and that work in this area was also supported by the work of the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

The Chair thanked the Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership, Jenny Myers, the District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman and Sue Cassin, Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG for attending the meeting to present the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report and for answering member's questions.

Resolved: -

1. That the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2019-20 be received and noted.
2. That the format of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2020-21 be reviewed in order to make the content clearer and more accessible for a wider audience.
3. That the submission of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2020-21 to the Improving Lives Select Commission in December 2021 be supplemented with a presentation.

4. That the refreshed Neglect Strategy be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission when it is completed.
5. That the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership's response to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel national thematic review into non-accidental injury into children aged under one be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission once completed.

121. UPDATE REPORT REGARDING CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SERVICE IN THE LIGHT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services and the Assistant Director, Children's Social Care attended the meeting to provide a report regarding the current situation in respect of the delivery children's social care services during the pandemic.

In introducing the report, the Deputy Leader noted that the report showed how well Children and Young People's Services had continued to deliver vital services throughout the significant challenges created by the pandemic. The Deputy Leader stated that the effective delivery of children's social care services during the pandemic had been a significant achievement and clearly showed the hard work and dedication of all staff involved in delivering services.

The Assistant Director Children's Social Care advised that the reintroduction of national restrictions during November had not impacted significantly on the delivery of services. The Assistant Director noted that having reviewed service delivery in view of the restrictions, it had not been necessary to pause delivery of any service as the guidance and risk assessments that had been put in place earlier in the pandemic had meant that services could continue to delivered safely.

The Assistant Director also advised that since the last report to the Improving Lives Select Commission in September that:

- Social workers were continuing to undertake their work with the children allocated to them, with most children being seen person. A pre-visit risk assessment process was in place to ensure the safety of staff and families.
- Staff had continued to use different technologies to engage with

children, young people and their families so as to provide flexibility in using different ways to maintain communication between physical visits.

- Performance against targets in relation to visits, assessments and plans had remained good.
- Staff had continued to have access to office space at Riverside House, but less frequently than previously due to the reintroduction of national restrictions.
- Staff training and development was now being offered and accessed online.

The Assistant Director assured members that the processes and procedures that were in place to enable services to continue to be delivered during the pandemic in a safe way ensuring that children and families continued to be supported were working well. The Assistant Director noted that the caseloads being managed by the service were no larger than at the same point in the previous year.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director for the progress report and the assurances that the report and the previous reports had provided. The Chair noted her thanks to the Assistant Director and all of the staff in the service who had worked so hard to ensure that children and families in the Borough had been looked after during the challenging period of the pandemic.

The Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services advised that Ofsted had undertaken a Focused Assurance of Children's Services between 20 and 22 October. The Strategic Director noted that the purpose of the visit had been to examine the quality and impact of key decision-making across help and protection, children in care and services for care leavers, together with the impact of leadership on service development.

The Strategic Director, the Assistant Director, Children's Social Care, the Assistant Director, Education and the Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion made a presentation to members that detailed the outcomes of the inspection. It was noted that the inspectors had spent three days exploring in detail the work of service practitioners, with the inspection having been managed virtually, with inspectors given the opportunity to meet with early help workers, social workers and representatives from the education sector across the borough. The findings of the visit had been summarised in a letter that had been published on the Ofsted website, with the letter being positive in

respect of the work being undertaken by the service.

The presentation detailed some areas that the inspection had highlighted as particularly good that included:

- Rotherham children's services had reacted rapidly and effectively to the COVID-19 pandemic in the early months of 2020.
- Strong and effective multi-agency partnerships had enabled the early identification of vulnerable children. Senior leaders, managers and staff had had effective oversight of children and young people who needed to be safeguarded and supported.
- Dynamic assessments of COVID-19 risks had allowed children to be seen directly where it had been safe to do so. Detailed children's assessments had enabled proportionate decisions to be reached, ensuring that families had received an appropriate level of support.
- The voice of the child was a strength in assessments and had influenced care planning. However, the quality of written plans was not consistent for all children.
- Effective pre-proceedings planning enabled children to remain living with brothers and sisters or with extended family where possible. Children were supported to maintain contact with their families, utilising digital technology if required. Additional support to meet the emotional needs of children in care was available via the in-house therapeutic service.

The Strategic Director advised that feedback from the Ofsted team had also provided areas for ongoing development and noted that it had been positive the areas that had been highlighted had closely linked with areas that the service had already identified as areas for further development.

The Deputy Leader advised that report had been overwhelmingly positive and had shown that that Children and Young People's Services was delivering an excellent service to children and families in Rotherham.

The Chair and members welcomed the positiveness of the Ofsted report. The Chair advised that the outcomes of the inspection were as they had expected due to the positive assurances that members had received over many meetings where they had scrutinised in detail the services that were being delivered.

The Chair thanked the Deputy Leader, the Strategic Director and the Assistant Directors for working closely with the Improving Lives Select Commission in a way that enabled members to have confidence in the services that were being provided.

Resolved: -

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a further report be circulated to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission by the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services if any significant concerns or challenges arise surrounding children's social care service in the light of Covid-19 pandemic.
3. That the service development plan created as a result of the Ofsted Focused Assurance Visit be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

122. SEND PEER CHALLENGE OUTCOMES AND PROGRESS UPDATE

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Children and Young People's Services and the Head of Service, Inclusion attended the meeting to present a progress report on the outcomes of the SEND Peer Challenge.

The report stated that the Peer Challenge process had been developed for Children's Services across the Yorkshire and Humber region and built on the peer review model that had been developed by the Local Government Association.

The Joint Assistant Director noted that the SEND inspection had reviewed how the Council was supporting children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities to achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes, such as being able to live independently, secure meaningful employment and be well prepared for their adult lives. The Joint Assistant Director advised that the process had been designed in order to not only to hold local areas to account, but also to assist local areas in improving and developing processes and support systems in order that they could become more effective and deliver better outcomes for children and young people.

It was noted that the SEND Peer Challenge had taken place in Rotherham between 28 February and 3 March 2020. It was noted that the findings of the Peer Challenge had been summarised in a letter that had been structured to identify headline strengths and areas for further consideration.

The Joint Assistant Director advised that the Peer Challenge Team had noted the following headline strengths in the feedback letter:

- Children and young people were at the heart of the services that were provided.

- There was a long-standing and collective ownership of the SEND agenda at Rotherham.
- Senior leaders, from across the system, knew their services well. They understood the strengths, areas for improvement and what needed to be done to secure the best possible outcomes for children and young people.
- There was an ambition to continuously improve, evidenced in part by an openness to scrutiny, by the commissioning of external organisations to support improvement activity and by internal and system strategies and plans, which demonstrated a commitment and drive for better services.

The following areas had been highlighted for consideration and further improvement:

- That SEND priorities should be considered across the Council more broadly, especially with regards to public health, early help, adult services and social care.
- That further consideration be given to autism and how it was managed and to its place in the broader system, both before and after a diagnosis in order to ensure that children and young people with autism had their needs met effectively.
- That a clearer method of recording and documenting the impact of SEND activity be developed in order to capture the value of the work that was being carried out with children and young and to provide a basis for developing further meaningful activity.

The Head of Service, Inclusion advised that the Council's Strategic Leadership Team and Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group's Operational Executive had both received the report and had approved the identified actions to address the areas that had been identified for development. The Head of Service advised that the Terms of Reference for the SEND Strategic Board, who would oversee the development of all key actions had been refreshed and noted that the Health Select Commission would have just received their first annual update focused on Children and Young People's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health.

A detailed analysis of the findings and activity required to address areas for development had been identified and was attached as an appendix to the officers' report. The Head of Service provided a summary of the actions included in the appendix to the meeting.

The Deputy Leader and the Strategic Director, Children and Young People's Services noted the peer review and the actions that had been identified for implementation would enable the SEND Service to be in the

best possible position for a formal inspection at a future date.

The Joint Assistant Director noted the peer review had highlighted the important role that scrutiny carried out in monitoring the work of the SEND service at Rotherham and that the openness of the service to scrutiny by members had been seen as a real strength.

Members welcomed the outcome of the peer review and noted their approval for how well SEND services were being delivered and the readiness of the service for a future formal inspection.

The Vice-Chair noted how well informed the commission was on the work of the SEND service due to the monitoring of the service and the open channels of communication between managers and members of the commission. The Vice-Chair noted how well the use of resources was being maximised across the service in order to deliver the best possible outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Rotherham.

The Chair asked how the areas for development highlighted in the review were being brought together with other strategic activity in the SEND service. The Joint Assistant Director advised that these would be brought together and monitored by the SEND Strategic Board. The Strategic Director noted that the identified actions from the peer review had been incorporated into the wider service improvement plan and advised that this document would be circulated to members of the commission for information.

The Chair thanked the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Children and Young People's Services and the Head of Service, Inclusion for attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

Resolved: -

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a progress report on the actions arising from the SEND Peer Challenge be presented at the December 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission. How are future updates received? Discussion on this?
3. That service plan, with dates for the completion of the be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

123. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered its Work Programme for 2020/21.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed.
- 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.

124. IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION - MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered the outstanding actions on the Monitoring Report.

Resolved: - That Monitoring Report be noted.

125. IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION - SUB AND PROJECT GROUP UPDATES

The Chair provided a progress report on sub and project group activity.

Resolved: -

That the update be noted.

126. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

127. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: -

That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 26 January 2021 at 5:30pm as a Microsoft Teams meeting.

People of Rotherham are able to live a life free from harm where all organisations and communities

- Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business
- Work together to prevent abuse
- Knows what to do when abuse happens



ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20

INTRODUCTION BY MOIRA WILSON

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board Independent Chair



I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2019/20. We hope the report demonstrates the continued commitment of all partners to work together to ensure that

adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect are protected and safeguarded. This includes awareness raising through events such as Safeguarding Adults Week, training and development for staff, working with voluntary and community partners, and strong partnership working with health, police and other agencies in responding to safeguarding concerns and enquiries.

During this year we have supported the partnership sub-groups to take forward the Board's priorities and the report gives examples of

work achieved during the year. Charing of these group is shared across SAB partners, ensuring a whole system perspective and I would like to thank colleagues who have taken on these roles on behalf of the Board. We have also strengthened links with the strategic Rotherham Partnership thus ensuring that safeguarding adults is truly everyone's business.

This report covers work of the Board up to March 2020. Since then we have all been working intensively together to keep people safe during the pandemic. Now, as this report is published, we are still very much in the middle of the challenges of how best we can continue to support adults who may be at risk and work in ways which adhere to local and national requirements. We will be keeping close scrutiny on the impact of Covid -19 and how we adapt our practice to new and changing circumstances.

MESSAGE FROM Cllr DAVID ROCHE

Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board



This Safeguarding Annual Report for 2019/20 once again highlights the strong partnership working from all board partners and evidences how the Rotherham

Safeguarding Adults Board ensures that partners are held to account by assessment and challenge and each agency provides the board with regular updates on their developments.

Raising awareness of Safeguarding is only achievable by working together to ensure the

vulnerable and those who lack the mental capacity to make the right decisions are supported, safeguarded and protected from harm. The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board works across the partnership to ensure training and resources are available to everyone and gives reassurance that safeguarding is embedded in all organisations and at all levels.

May I take this opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of all the board partners including the statutory, independent and voluntary community sector, Rotherham needs everyone to work together to safeguard its citizens and to continue to raise awareness of safeguarding.

Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business

RECOGNISE • RESPOND • REPORT

The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board works to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect.

The RSAB's objective is to ensure that local safeguarding arrangements and partnerships act to help and protect adults at risk or experiencing neglect and/or abuse. The RSAB is a multi-agency strategic, rather than operational, partnership made up of senior/lead officers within adult social services, criminal justice, health,

housing, community safety, voluntary organisations.

It coordinates the strategic development of adult safeguarding across Rotherham and ensures the effectiveness of the work undertaken by Partner Agencies in the area. The Rotherham Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board ('RSAB') aims to achieve those objectives whilst supporting individuals in maintaining control over their lives and in making informed choices without coercion.

Who is at risk?

An adult at risk is someone who is aged 18 or over who:

- Has needs for care and support
- Is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect, and is unable to protect themselves

What is abuse?

Abuse can be:

- Something that happens once
- Something that happens repeatedly
- A deliberate act
- Something that was unintentional, perhaps due to a lack of understanding
- A crime

Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and be caused by anyone including

- A partner or relative
- A friend or neighbour
- A paid or volunteer carer
- Other service users
- Someone in a position of trust
- A stranger

Types of abuse:

Physical abuse

Hitting, kicking, punching, kicking, inappropriate restraint.

Domestic violence or abuse

Psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional abuse by a current or former partner or family member.

Organisational or institutional abuse

Poor treatment in a care setting.

Financial or material abuse

Theft, fraud, misuse of someone else's finances.

Sexual abuse

Being made to take part in a sexual activity without consent.

Discriminatory abuse

Harassment based on age, gender, sexuality, disability, race or religion.

Neglect or acts of omission

Failure to provide care or support

Psychological and emotional abuse

Shouting, ridiculing, or bullying.

Modern slavery

Human trafficking and forced labour

Self-neglect

Declines essential care support needs, impacting on their overall wellbeing



Doing nothing is not an option!

ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS REVIEW of 2018/19

The priorities for the board for 2019/20 were:

Priority	Resulting Action
<p>Agree as a partnership a Quality Assurance Framework to ensure consistency within Safeguarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timescales • Section 42 enquires • No Further Action 	<p>The Policy and Practice subgroup worked with the regional and national guidance that was developed around section 42 enquiries and this was used to develop QA framework that could be used across the partnership.</p> <p>The framework is a tool to assist in decision making, but not to replace professional judgement, its aim is to support people to be able to record effectively and account for their decision-making process.</p>
<p>Partners to complete the self-assessment electronic system by 1 November as agreed by the joint safeguarding arrangements.</p>	<p>The Safeguarding Adults Board and the Children's Safeguarding Partnership have worked collaboratively to develop one joint safeguarding self-assessment framework. More importantly this recognises the many links between safeguarding adults and safeguarding children, particularly in relation to transition from childhood to adulthood.</p> <p>The new safeguarding self-assessment tool has been developed as an easy to use online process. All partners completed the self-assessment tool by November 2019 and were all complimentary of the new way of working.</p>
<p>Develop a Safeguarding Board training offer and ensure that the voice and experience of Vulnerable Adults is central to the training and development activity that is delivered.</p>	<p>The Workforce Development sub-group have commissioned a needs-led learning and development programme and have responded to emergent training needs. They will support the workforce to be equipped with the knowledge, skills and expertise required to fulfil their job roles effectively through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A core training programme of courses and e-learning modules • Association of Directors of Adult Social Services events • Learning from Practice Briefings • RSAB Specialist Interest Training Programme • Safeguarding Awareness Week conferences and workshops • South Yorkshire Safeguarding Training Consortium courses and conferences.

The Safeguarding Adults Board has four subgroups to ensure the priorities of board are delivered. The Sub-Groups each have a work plan and during 2019/20 they were able to deliver the following specific pieces of work:

Performance and Quality Subgroup

Priority	Resulting Action
<p>The Performance and Quality Subgroup carried out several case file audits during 2019/20.</p> <p>In October 2019 the group looked at the use of Making Safeguarding Personal during safeguarding investigations, they looked at casefiles from across the partnership and made recommendations to the board on their findings.</p>	<p>A task and finish group is needed from across the partnership to examine and propose revisions to the forms used for safeguarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for user friendly forms • Forms to be easily identifiable • Look at the language used <p>This work will be completed late in 2020.</p> <p>Advocacy training will be delivered in November 2020 across the partnership and all partners need to be more aware of the benefits of advocacy.</p> <p>Making Safeguarding Personal training will be refreshed to ensure that all partners are working within the safeguarding principles.</p>
<p>The Performance and Quality subgroup worked with the Yorkshire and Humber Region to develop an audit tool that will be used across the region and will be launched by the Regional Principal Social Workers (PSW) for Adult Services.</p> <p>The audit tool will provide consistency across the region and will take into consideration the national guidance on section 42 enquiries.</p>	<p>Safeguarding audits will use the ADASS tool developed by the Principal Social Workers network.</p> <p>All audits will provide feedback to the PSW network so the form can continue to develop.</p> <p>Audits will continue during 2020 using new audit tool.</p>

Workforce Development

Priority	Resulting Action
<p>The Workforce Development subgroup was tasked with developing a new RSAB Training Strategy and Prospectus for 2020/21.</p>	<p>The group worked across the partnership to identify what multi agency training was needed and what single agency training was already being delivered.</p> <p>A core training programme was needed to equip the workforce with the knowledge, skills and behaviors to carry out their role to safeguard adults from abuse and/or neglect.</p> <p>www.rsab.org.uk/downloads/file/36/rsab-training-strategy www.rsab.org.uk/downloads/file/35/rsab-training-prospectus</p>
<p>Learning for Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) where a care provided or care home had been part of the review needed to be shared across the provider sector. Providers expressed an interest in learning more about the SAR process so the workforce development group developed a bespoke training session.</p>	<p>Training sessions were developed with the Commissioning Manager and colleagues from health that shared the learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and looked at good practice that had been identified.</p> <p>The training sessions were delivered to the provider network and were well received across all sectors.</p> <p>The sessions will be repeated during 20/21.</p>

Policy and Procedures

Priority	Resulting Action
<p>The Policy and Practice group spent time looking at the different types of abuse and what information and guidance was available to the public.</p> <p>The group wanted to create a publicity campaign to raise awareness and promote safeguarding across Rotherham.</p>	<p>Group decide to develop posters and leaflets on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Abuse • Psychological Abuse • Discrimination • Self-Neglect <p>Work commenced on a campaign and a communication plan and sample posters were presented to the Board in January 2020.</p> <p>The campaign will be launched later in 2020.</p>
<p>The Policy and Practice group worked with ADASS to help develop guidance and advice on section 42 enquires, the aim was to develop a framework for making decisions on when to carry out safeguarding adults enquires.</p>	<p>The group developed a summary of the guidance that was easy to use, the information is available on the RSAB website and can be downloaded for all partners to access.</p>

Safeguarding Adults Review

Priority	Resulting Action
<p>The Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Subgroup continue to manage the SAR process from recommendations through to the completion and publication of a SAR.</p> <p>During 2019/20 there were three referrals made for consideration and one review was completed. The other two cases were taken through safeguarding as a section 42 investigation.</p>	<p>SAR Elizabeth was commissioned in August 2019 and was presented to the Safeguarding Board in January 2020.</p> <p>The review was signed off by the Independent Chair later in the year and was published on the RSAB website in June 2020.</p> <p>Further details of the review can be found later in the report.</p>

LOOKING FORWARD to 2020/21

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board will be focusing on the second year of the strategic plan during 2020/21 and will want to ensure that any unfinished actions from year 1 that were affected by Covid-19 are complete.

The RSAB face many challenges in the year ahead due to the changes that Covid-19 has brought to all partners of the board, we will be working together to ensure that we continue to help and support partners effected by the pandemic. We will ensure that the SAB continues to manage its statutory duty, that we continue to learn from the Covid-19 crisis and we prepare the board and its partners for what the safeguarding issues may be post Covid-19.

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board – Aspiring to be the Best that we can be Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022

Our Strategic Priorities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION Working with partners to develop preventative strategies that work to reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.	Continue to strengthen links and work closely with all partners to provide assurance that the preventative strategies are effective via self-assessment and joint learning events.	Joined up partnership working to target areas of service to improve awareness and guidance for service users and staff.	Develop methods of sharing and embedding learning for reviews and lessons learnt.
MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL Continue to develop and assess the effectiveness of MSP, ensuring a high quality, personalised safeguarding response as the norm in Rotherham.	Ensure that all partners are working with the Making Safeguarding Personal agenda and delivering a person centred approach to safeguarding with appropriate use of advocacy.	Ensure training and learning materials, guides and toolkits are available to partners to fully support Making Safeguarding Personal agenda.	Work with national guidance to measure the effectiveness and impact of MSP to ensure Rotherham are 'getting it right'.
QUALITY ASSURANCE Ensure the quality of Safeguarding within Rotherham is timely and proportionate and individual's outcomes are realistically achieved.	Continue to develop a robust audit programme and capture intelligence data to shape service provision.	Monitor and assure the governance and effectiveness of the Adult Safeguarding Board.	Commission a Peer Review of the Rotherham Safeguarding Board.
SERVICE USER ENGAGEMENT Full and real user involvement across all service groups. Bring the voice of the service user to the board.	Develop ways of gaining the views of people who have experienced and worked with the safeguarding service.	Ensure RSAB's Communication Strategy is relevant, up to date and effective and has community involvement.	Engage with networking events across the borough and South Yorkshire to share and learn from peers.

KEY PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS 2019/20

The partners of the Safeguarding board all have a responsibility to help deliver the priorities that are set out in the strategic plan. Each partner has provided evidence to how they deliver the four priorities of the Board. Here are some examples of the good practice, learning and customer stories that ensure that the Rotherham Safeguarding Partnership is committed to working together to safeguard its citizens and to continue to raise awareness of safeguarding.

Rotherham Council

Making Safeguarding Personal

Rotherham Council have taken part in the national MSP Pilot scheme. We are capturing data from customers who are involved in a safeguarding enquiry and are recording where outcomes are achieved, and people have been empowered to make changes.

We are working with all partners through the Policy and Practice subgroup to redesign the safeguarding forms to make them easier to complete and understand, we want to ensure all forms record how the customers wishes are captured and that advocacy is a consideration with each customer.

Person-centred care means working together with the individual to plan their care and support to meet their unique needs. This cuts down the risk of negative, unfair or harmful treatment and neglect. The individual is at the centre, able to choose and control how they want their care and support to be delivered.

Miss G was a 22 year female and the subject of a DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Honour Based Violence) referral, from this it was identified that a safeguarding enquiry was needed to protect the young woman from further abuse. The social worker worked with Miss G to determine what she wanted her life to look like.

Working together to plan for Miss G's future where she could live free from abuse, she was helped to move to supported living and was able to access services to help with her addiction.

Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust:

Prevention and Early Intervention

Ensuring that all staff receive training to enable them to recognise and respond to concerns about an adult at risk.

We monitor the number of concerns raised by our staff.

We monitor closely compliance with mandatory training requirements.

Making Safeguarding Personal

All staff are encouraged to discuss their concerns with the patient and/or the family (as appropriate) to ensure that the views of the person are taken into account when formulating a plan of safety.

We monitor the concerns raised to ensure there is evidence of consultation with the patient/family where possible.

Safeguarding training for every member of staff remains a priority for the Trust.

Our aim is to provide staff with the skills, knowledge and confidence to enable them to develop an understanding of adult safeguarding and its associated processes that they can relate to their individual roles and responsibilities within the Trust.

The Trust has supported learning by the use of seven minute briefings on a variety of topics, which are shared Trust-wide.



NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group – RCCG

Prevention and Early Intervention

Recognising and responding to modern slavery

NHS Rotherham CCG acknowledges the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) guidance: adult (England and Wales) Updated 29 November 2019. This is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support. NRM guidance, referral, assessment for victims of modern slavery.

NHS Rotherham CCG works closely as a NHS partner with the South Yorkshire Modern Slavery Partnership (SYMSP). The Partnership was launched in 2019, since its launch the SYMSP have worked together to create the SYMSP pocket book for professionals, develop a website and deliver online training.

Practices to adopt as good practice

Template Guidance circulated to Safeguarding Leads for General Practices to adopt as good practice asking GPs to change codes for children and adults in need who are not brought to appointments as ‘was not brought’ rather than ‘did not attend’.

Supporting the Domestic Abuse Strategy

NHS Rotherham CCG continues to work closely with partners on the 2021 strategy.

NHS Rotherham CCG is committed to supporting the domestic abuse strategy with attendance at the Domestic Abuse Priority group and take seriously our commitment to this.

Following publication in June 2018 of the Domestic Abuse Toolkit for Employers, NHS Rotherham CCG’s HR and safeguarding team put together a policy/guidance. All employees who experience abuse should be supported regardless of gender and the type of abuse. This policy was shared as a tool for GPs to utilise.

NHS Rotherham CCG alongside Safer Rotherham Partnership and providers delivered a Supported Learning Event covering Domestic Abuse for General Practice staff. The session was provided to meet learning needs across Rotherham in response to themes of concern.

Delegates rated the event as “Excellent” and “Good”. Delegates stated they had learnt something new about services/processes and felt the information sharing will assist in future working practices.

Click to view the full
<http://www.rotherhamccg.nhs.uk/annual-report.htm>

Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH):

Quality Assurance

RDaSH contribute regularly to the development of RSAB policy and procedures.

Regular attendance at the RSAB, both at sub-group and Executive level.

The Safeguarding Team also attend and contribute to the Rotherham Care Group Quality Meeting to provide steer and guidance around safeguarding practice and any changes in local / national developments.

The Team undertake internal audits throughout the year.

The Team contributes to the RDaSH monthly dashboards providing a level of quality assurance.

A culture that safeguarding adults is everybody's responsibility permeates across all RDaSH teams and the individuals who work in them. We remain committed to working with partners in order to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of adults at risk in all communities within Rotherham.



South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (SYFR):

Prevention and Early Intervention

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have in recent years developed a route for fire risks and hazards to be reported. This portal is called 'Safe and Well'.

The SYFR Safe and Well Referral Partnership Scheme aims to improve how the fire service and local organisations work together to effectively identify and reduce hazards for people most at risk.

Membership of Safe and Well Referral scheme will enable SYFR and partners to work together to keep our communities and services safer. We regularly train partners and their teams on Fire Safety Awareness and secure referral pathways for

partners working with people at risk. Agencies once registered and can make direct referrals to SYFR and work in partnership with them to either reduce or eliminate the risks.

SYFR are active members and contributors to the annual Safeguarding Awareness Week.

SYFR have two Safeguarding Officers. Main duties and responsibilities include: Preparation, review and revision of policies for both Children and Adult Protection, identifying and managing safeguarding training and learning needs within the organisation.

SYFR attended a domestic house fire in relation to a cooking incident. All emergency services were in attendance. This wasn't a fire incident.

The lady presented as somewhat confused and had started to empty her kitchen cupboards but couldn't say why. Family informed SYFR that she often goes wandering and raised concerns in relation to memory problems.

The attending Fire Fighters quickly assessed the concerns and risks and raised these as per the SYFR Safeguarding pathway. The Adult Single Point of Access in Rotherham was contacted. She had some support from services. SYFR had previously carried out a Home Safety Check in 2018.

Information provided by the Fire Fighters indicated that the lady's cognitive ability had become significantly impaired and an urgent Care Act Assessment required by Adult Social Care.

The lady had removed her Rothercare equipment and is a regular caller to police advising someone is trying to get into her house and cupboards. The lady has also lost a lot of weight over the last few months.

There has since been ongoing communication with Adult Social Care - awaiting a joint visit to carry out an HSC, further to a Mental Capacity Assessment and Best Interest meeting.

South Yorkshire Police:

Customer Engagement

Neighbourhood teams are responsible for engagement and provide this through online drop in forums, Independent Advisory Groups (IAG), revisit/recontact to victims and via social media. This also involves key partners and stakeholders. The Victim Code gives officers in all areas of work structure, guidance and accountability when dealing with victims of crime and ensures a contract is agreed and followed with regular updates provided.

Victim Satisfaction is measured at a force level and within district. These results are independent and give clear guidance around domestic abuse, burglary, vehicle crime, vulnerability crimes and Hate.

In addition, we monitor victim code compliance by way of supervisory reviews at every level of management.

Currently Rotherham satisfaction sits at 85 % (4 % over the force average).

“I believe that had it not been for the officer’s efforts, I would have lived out the rest of my life with the ongoing fear that has dominated the last 22 years. This is life changing and I wonder if you can imagine what a difference it makes to at last, be free of fear”.

Rotherham Voluntary and Community Sector:

The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), through the Adult Services Consortium, has continued to show its commitment to Adult Safeguarding across the Borough by contributing to the work of the Adult Safeguarding Board via its nominated representatives.

The nominated representative, who is the Chief Executive of Age UK Rotherham, attends the Safeguarding Adults Board to provide a voluntary and community sector perspective on developments. They also provide a liaison function between the wider sector and the Board to keep VCS organisations updated on safeguarding issues and encourage and support their contribution to this important area of work.

VCS organisations continue to contribute to the Safeguarding Board and Development Days as partners; in addition, they act as alerters referring concerns appropriately.

Individual VCS organisations have continued their work internally in respect of their own policies and procedures for Safeguarding, linking into the wider Safeguarding Procedures in the Borough. Staff and Volunteers have attended training sessions raising awareness of Adult Safeguarding throughout the Borough.

The Adult Services Consortium and Voluntary Action Rotherham (VAR) have promoted Safeguarding Week, and VCS groups are taking an active part during the week.

VAR promotes DBS and provides related advice and support.

VAR supports VCS with the development of Safeguarding Policies and procedures; including ‘Safer Recruitment’ support.

Workforce and development

In 2019/20 the Workforce Development Sub-group ran a rolling programme of supportive training opportunities for staff, managers and volunteers on local policy, procedures and professional practice so that adults across Rotherham are protected from abuse and neglect and their wellbeing is promoted 960 learners attended training courses as detailed in the table below.

Local authority	309
Independent/ Voluntary sector	616
Health	11
Housing Partners	8
Service Users / Carers	16
Other	2

The Workforce Development Sub-group developed and refreshed the Training Strategy and Training Plan for 2020/2021 to lead and manage training arrangements across Rotherham. To enhance the application of the safeguarding process and achieve improved outcomes for Service Users the group carried out a training needs analysis to identify cross sector training requirements. The group continues its work to develop mechanisms to measure the success and outcomes of safeguarding adults training.



RECOGNISE · RESPOND · REPORT



KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

A Concern

A Concern is a feeling of anxiety or worry that a Vulnerable Adult may have been, is or might be, a victim of abuse. An alert may arise as a result of a disclosure, an incident, or other signs or indicators.

A total of 1586 concerns were reported through the new Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC).

Each concern is looked at and the 3-point test is applied.

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

If the concern does not meet the criteria of the three point test the case may be signposted to a different team such as the complex lives team or maybe a care assessment is needed. We will always ensure the person is safe and not in any danger.

Section 42 Enquiry

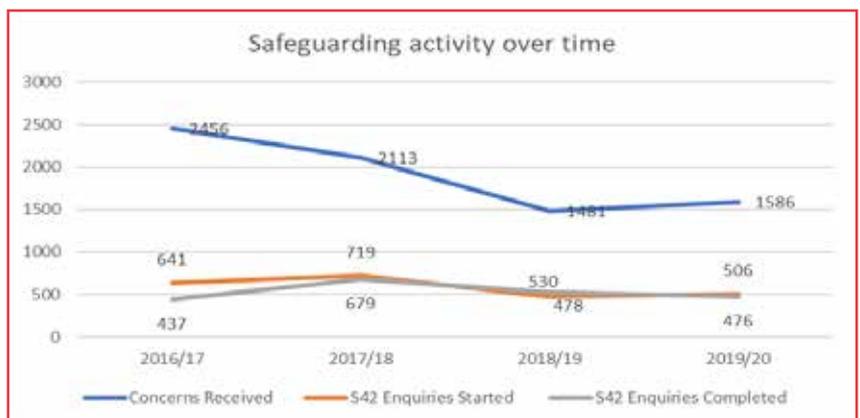
The Care Act 2014 (Section 42) requires that each local authority must make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom.

‘Safeguarding adults’ is the name given to the multi-agency response used to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect. When an allegation about abuse or neglect has been made, an enquiry is undertaken to find out what, if anything, has happened.

At any point during this investigation a case can exit the safeguarding process.

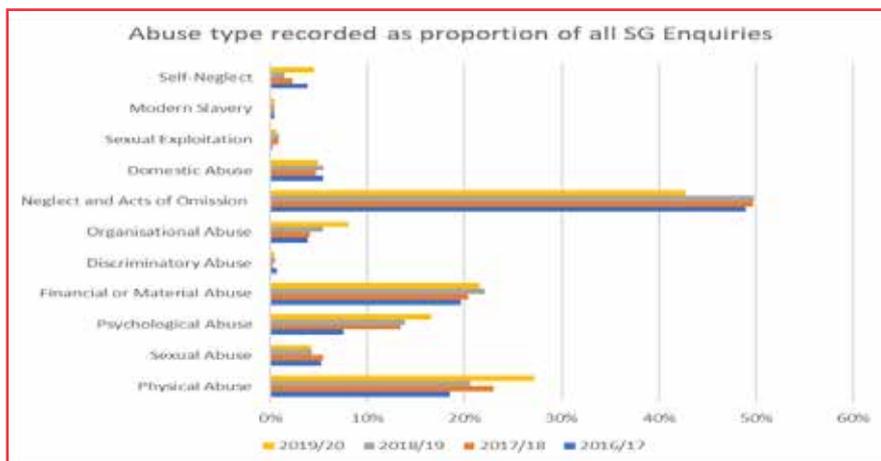
The subject of the investigation must be aware and, in most cases, agree to the safeguarding enquiry unless they are unable to or a crime has been committed.

506 Section 42 enquiries begun 2019-20



The chart above shows a slight increase in safeguarding concerns received compared to last year with a 7% rise, however the number of Section 42 enquires carried out during the year is also slightly higher at a 6% increase.

1586 Safeguarding Concerns were received in 2019-20



The chart above shows the breakdown in types of abuse recorded over the last four years, with neglect and acts of omission being the largest group of recorded incidents. Neglect and acts of omission covers concerns including:

- Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- Failure to administer medication as prescribed
- Refusal of access to visitors
- Not taking account of individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs
- Not taking account of educational, social and recreational needs
- Ignoring or isolating the person
- Preventing the person from making their own decisions
- Preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures, etc.
- Failure to ensure privacy and dignity

Decision Making Meeting (DMM)

The DMM will bring all relevant people together to ensure that, if the enquiry continues, the right questions will be asked of the right people. The voice of the person at risk of harm must be heard. Plan the way forward, look at who is best placed to investigate the concern.

This meeting may be held virtually, to ensure it happens in a timely manner.

Outcomes Meeting

The Outcome meeting will bring all interested parties together including the individual if they wish to attend. Support from friends, advocacy or family is also encouraged. The voice of the person at risk of harm must be heard throughout the meeting and they must be given the opportunity to tell their story.

The meeting will bring the investigation to a conclusion and recommendations must be agreed by all interested parties and timescales and expectations clearly identified.

Safeguarding Adults Review – (SAR)

A Safeguarding Adults Review must be carried out if:

- An adult dies (including death by suicide) and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor in their death. In such circumstances the SAB should always conduct a review into the involvement of agencies and professionals associated with the vulnerable adult.
- An adult has sustained a potentially life-threatening injury through abuse or neglect, serious sexual abuse, or sustained serious and permanent impairment of health or development through abuse or neglect, and the case gives rise to concerns about the way in which local professionals and services work together to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- Serious abuse takes place in an institution or when multiple abusers are involved, the same principles of review apply. Such reviews are, however, likely to be more complex, on a larger scale, and may require more time. Terms of reference need to be carefully constructed to explore the issues relevant to each specific case.

The SAR is commissioned by the SAB and all partners who have had involvement with the subject of the enquiry will be required to participate in the review. The results of the review are published by the SAB in the form of a final report.

Number of SARs Commissioned 2019-2020

One SAR was commissioned in 2019/20.

Number of SARs Completed 2019-2020

One SAR was completed in 2019/20
Published June 2020

SAR Elizabeth

Elizabeth died at the relatively young age of 60 after an overdose followed by pneumonia. She had spent a five-year period in care homes and rehabilitation units following a fall. The fall left Elizabeth with life changing injuries and her life changed dramatically. She was no longer able to return to the home she shared with her mother or resume her employment. She was dependent on others for meeting her care and support needs. Sadly, her mother died suddenly in the year prior to her death and left Elizabeth traumatised and grieving. This led to an increase in alcohol intake and anxiety. Somehow during this period Elizabeth's needs became entangled with funding processes such as Continuing Healthcare (CHC), Independent Funding Review (IFR) and Social Care funding.

We will of course never know if Elizabeth would have taken an overdose if circumstances had been different. What we can say is that her lifestyle change following her fall and the death of her Mother had an untold impact on the way in which she saw her future. We have learnt that sometimes the process surrounding funding decisions and constraints in systems means that we can take our eyes off the person and each other. There is learning for agencies in understanding multidisciplinary working, developing a shared language and managing escalation. Most importantly, there is a desire to be more person centred.

Recommendations

1) Explore and agree how the Health and Care system uses multi-agency discussions for people who do not neatly 'fit' into safeguarding

This review has highlighted the need to ensure that funding should be a consideration but must not drive decisions. It appears that Practitioners/agencies were not aware of all possible routes for support in navigating Elizabeth's complex needs, including the existence of a group like the 'High cost Panels'.

The Health and Wellbeing Board has a key role to play in promoting and helping to embed processes for people with 'unique' needs, such as Elizabeth, across the workforce. This will ensure that staff are aware of their role, including the processes for people with vulnerabilities in line with Making Safeguarding Personal, and have clear expectations of outcomes. There should be clear guidance for referrers with details of escalation and appeal processes.

Furthermore, MDT assessments should include as per national guidance health and social care professionals who know the individual and not just rely on reports. Decisions about CHC should be reached collectively to ensure multidisciplinary assessment of eligibility is agreed. This was a concern raised by participants in the learning event. There was a sense that Elizabeth's needs were not always fully understood. There should be local guidance to inform referrers of the opportunity to restart processes such as DST if circumstances change.

The role of MDTs is a common theme in safeguarding reviews and in the wider integrated care agenda. There should be Investment in the development and joint training of multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) to transform their skills, cultures and ways of working. This is wider

than the SAB but is vital if systems are to be transformed to achieve person centre care.

The teams who worked with Elizabeth could work together to build on this approach as an example.

2) Independent Advocacy

The SAB should review the use of Independent advocacy as outlined in the Care Act (2014). This review should include the number of available and trained Advocates.

The Care Act places a duty on councils to provide independent advocacy when someone has 'substantial' difficulty being involved in the process of care and does not have an appropriate individual to support them. RMBC should undertake its own review to understand how and when independent advocates are commissioned and trained.

3) Appreciative inquiry /Learning Reviews

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board should build on the use of appreciative inquiry to build a culture of learning across agencies. This would help agencies to come together in complex circumstances such as Elizabeth's and reflect on progress.

4) Debriefs

Rotherham Safeguarding Partnership should consider how it will provide support and debriefs for Practitioners from organisations, including non-statutory organisations following learning reviews. Self-care is vital and many practitioners and the SAB should explore supervision and counselling opportunities following SARs. The SAB business manager could be an initial point of contact for practitioners until processes are in place. The SAB may wish to consider linking to other mental health support services for staff such as RMBC.

5) Signposting

RDaSH should consider how to make staff aware of the need for signposting to charities/voluntary sector when individuals are not considered to require mental health services support but still have significant risk factors.

6) Review and understand escalation process

This is a recommendation for the SAB and for each organisation. Participants in the review were not all aware of escalation processes and those who were had not considered their use.

7) Making Safeguarding Personal

There had been no safeguarding enquiry for Elizabeth, therefore no involvement in Elizabeth's care from safeguarding specialists in health and social care. Most practitioners involved in working with Elizabeth had not considered her to be 'at risk' or to have any safeguarding needs or concerns. It would be useful for the SAB to consider how it will raise awareness of the principles of MSP in line with person centred approaches.

The recommendations will be developed into an action plan that will be monitored by the Performance and quality subgroup until the action plan is completed. All completed action plans are delivered back to the Safeguarding Adults Review sub group for sign off and reporting back to the board.

APPENDIX 3

ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS
BOARD ATTENDANCE

Date of Safeguarding Adults Board Meeting (excludes e-learning)

	May 2019	July 2019	October 2019	January 2020
South Yorkshire Police	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Rotherham Foundation Trust	✓	✓	✓	Apologies
Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group	✓	✓	✓	✓
RMBC Director of Social Services	✓	✓	✓	✓
RMBC Childrens Service	Apologies	Apologies	✓	✓
South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue	Apologies	✓	✓	✓
RDaSH	✓	✓	✓	Apologies
RMBC Services	✓	✓	✓	✓
Healthwatch	✓	Apologies	✓	✓
Voluntary Sector	Apologies	✓	Apologies	✓
National Probation Service	✓	✓	Apologies	✓
Community Rehabilitation Company	✓	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies
Cabinet Member for Adults Services	✓	✓	✓	✓

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Adults Services supports the work the Safeguarding Adults Board with a visible presence at events and discussions throughout the year and is provided with monthly updates on all safeguarding adults' issues as well as the work of the board.



Do you know the signs of adult abuse?



Recognise • Respond • Report

Rotherham Council 01709 822330
 Police non emergency: 101 or emergency: 999

Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business

For more information about types of abuse
www.rotherham.gov.uk/abuse



Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission – 26 January 2021

Report Title

Rotherham Youth Offending Team HMIP Inspection

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

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Suzanne Joyner – Strategic Director, CYPS

Report Author(s)Emma Ellis Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT
01709 255680 or emma.ellis@rotherham.gov.uk**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

The Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) received notification of HM Inspectorate of Probation inspection of youth justice services on Friday 7th August 2020.

Rotherham Youth Offending Team was inspected under the HMIP ‘Small YOT’ inspection Framework which is new. Peterborough, Windsor Maidenhead and Rotherham were selected to be the first inspected under this new framework. Berkshire, Wokingham and Stoke were part of the Small YOT pilots.

Because of the impact of COVID-19, the inspection was conducted remotely. Meetings and case interviews were arranged and facilitated using Microsoft Teams. Ratings for domains 2 and 3 are based on the results of the inspection of individual cases (10).

The Inspection was carried out across 3 ‘Domains’ and within these there are 12 standards.

Domain One (Organisational delivery):

Judgements were made against the following areas.

- Governance and leadership
- Staff
- Partnerships and services

- Information and facilities

Domain Two (Court Disposals)

- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementation and delivery
- Reviewing
- Risk, safety and wellbeing.

Domain Three (Out-of-Court disposals)

- Assessment
- Planning Inadequate
- Implementation and Delivery
- Joint Working

As part of the inspection requirement, Surveys were also completed by our, Children and Young People, Staff and Volunteers.

The Inspection report was published on 17 December 2020, the Overall judgement was **Requires Improvement** and HMIP makes five recommendations (See 2.1)

Recommendations

There is already a two-year Youth Justice Plan in place with an Action Plan that is monitored by the YOT Board and progressed through a series of multi-agency sub-groups taking forward the actions.

We have also produced a draft Inspection Action Plan that specifically addresses the 5 HMIP recommendations. This was shared with the YOT Board on 14 December 2020.

An 'Extraordinary' YOT Board has also been planned for 20 January 2021 to develop the Inspection Action Plan in greater detail with partners.

There is an action plan in place based upon our recent self-assessment against the YJ National Standards for Children 2019.

We will also look to commission a peer review with an Outstanding YOT, to assess our progress against the report recommendations and the Inspection Action Plan.

List of Appendices Included

- Appendix 1 Inspection Action Plan (Draft)
- Appendix 2 Rotherham YOT Improvement Plan Letter

Background Papers

Improving Lives Select Commission Report – October 2019

Improving Lives Select Commission Report – July 2020

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

N/A

Council Approval Required

You should refer to [Appendix 9 of the Constitution – Responsibility for Functions](#) – to check whether your recommendations require approval by Council, as well as Cabinet or a committee. You should take advice from Democratic Services if you are not sure.

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Rotherham Youth Offending Team HMIP Inspection

1. Background

- 1.1 Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) received notification of HM Inspectorate of Probation inspection of youth justice services on Friday 7 August 2020 to commence a remote inspection between 14 and 17 September 2020
- 1.2 Rotherham Youth Offending Team was inspected under the HMIP 'Small YOT' inspection Framework which is new. Peterborough, Windsor & Maidenhead and Rotherham were selected to be the first inspected under this new framework. Berkshire, Wokingham and Stoke were part of the Small YOT pilots.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The Inspection report was published on 17 December 2020, the Overall judgement was **Requires Improvement** and HMIP makes five recommendations:

The Chair of the YOT Management Board should:

- Make sure that Board members understand the specific needs of children known to the YOT and advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.

The YOT Management Board should:

- Ensure the partnership understands the reasons for the significant number of Looked After Children known to the YOT and reviews the policies and practices of all agencies to minimise the possibility of children entering the criminal justice system unnecessarily.
- Undertake a comprehensive health needs analysis of YOT children to better understand the health provision being delivered and what needs to be developed.
- Review the quality and accessibility of education, training and employment provision for post-16-year-old children known to the service.

The YOT Service Manager should:

- Review the quality of risk of harm work and improve the effectiveness of management oversight in all cases.

- 2.2 The report highlights the following areas of strength.

Areas noted as Strengths:

- The Chair of the YOT Management Board is very committed to his role and is a strong advocate for children.
- There is priority given to involving children, listening to what they say and responding to their feedback in order to influence future service delivery.
- The Management Board and the partnership are aware that there is a disproportionate number of black, Asian and minority ethnic children known to the YOT, and have projects in place to try to address the issue.
- YOT staff do all they can to encourage good engagement and compliance from the child and their family, and staff and managers are child-centred and know their children well.
- The YOT has good transition arrangements with the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company, which includes regular transition meetings where cases are monitored and reviewed.
- The service has good links with the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Team, and the Head of Inclusion is a member of the YOT Management Board.

2.3 The inspection was unable to take into account the huge volume of successful preventative work the service undertakes to keep young people out of the criminal justice system in the first place. The emphasis we put on this work has resulted in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system in Rotherham fall by more than fifty percent since 2016 (331 per 100,000 in 2016 down to 159 per 100,000 in 2019).

2.4 The Inspection Report highlights the following areas for improvement.

Areas noted for Improvement:

- Although health provision is available through the Early Help Service, the arrangements do not recognise the specialised needs of children known to the YOT, including physical and emotional, mental health and wellbeing concerns.
- The pathways for YOT staff to access health services, for example speech, language and communication provision, lack clarity.
- Board members do not understand the specific needs of YOT children so cannot effectively advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.
- The Management Board and the partnership have not focused on why so many Looked After Children are known to the YOT.
- YOT figures for post-16-year-old children who are not in education, training and employment are high, and the partnership has not done

enough work to review what provision is available in the locality for this cohort of children.

- Although YOT practitioners can access the interventions that are available as part of the wider Rotherham early help offer, there is little evidence that these services are regularly used for children known to the YOT.
- The inspection found that management oversight is poor both for post-court orders and out-of-court disposals.

2.5 Across the 12 standards, three were judged to be inadequate.

- Domain Two (Court Disposals), Assessments were rated as inadequate. This judgement relates to 6 cases that were inspected out of a cohort of 15 (40%).
- Domain Three (Out of Court Disposals), Planning; 'The quality of planning is rated as 'Inadequate'. Planning relating to desistance was outstanding but planning for a child's safety and wellbeing and keeping other people safe was inadequate, and this has led to the overall rating of 'Inadequate.'
- Implementation & Delivery were also judged to be inadequate. 'The quality of implementing and delivering interventions and services is rated as 'Inadequate'. Delivering services to promote desistance was good; however, for safety and wellbeing and keeping other people safe it was inadequate.' 4 Cases were inspected out of a cohort of 181 (2.2% of cases).
- In the lead inspector's feedback she "recognised that the Rotherham YOT was on an improvement journey" and stated that inspectors "were in no doubts, that if they had visited in 6 months' time or we weren't in the middle of a pandemic they would have found us further along the journey.
- Whilst we are disappointed with the overall outcome, the partnership is committed to making the required improvements at pace to ensure the best possible outcomes for our young people.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 The following timeline outlines the immediate steps being taken.

- There is already a two-year Youth Justice Plan in place with an Improvement Action Plan that is monitored by the YOT Board and progressed through a series of multi-agency sub-groups taking forward the actions.
- We have also produced a draft Inspection Action Plan that specifically addresses the five HMIP recommendations Appendix One). This was

shared with the YOT Board on 14 December 2020 and will be submitted the HMIP on 11 January 2021.

- An 'Extraordinary YOT Board has also been planned for 20 January 2021 to develop the Inspection Action Plan in greater detail.
- There is also an action plan in place based upon our recent self-assessment against the YJ National Standards for Children 2019.
- We will also look to commission a peer review with an Outstanding YOT, to assess our progress against the report recommendations and the Inspection Action Plan.
- We will also continue to report to the Safer Rotherham Partnership, with specific reference to the Improvement Action Plan in the New Year.
- We will report to the Corporate Parenting Panel on the specific LAC recommendation.
- In addition, the YOT will continue to report to the Improving Lives Scrutiny Committee to monitor progress and receive updates against the improvement plan.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 The YOT Board met on 14 December to develop the Draft Action plan. A further meeting is scheduled on 20 January to progress and update the plan.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 The Inspection Action Plan will be submitted the HMIP on 11 January 2021.

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications (to be written by the relevant Head of Finance and the Head of Procurement on behalf of s151 Officer)

- 6.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications (to be written by Legal Officer on behalf of Assistant Director Legal Services)

- 7.1 N/A

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 8.1 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 9.1 Any implications for the YOT Cohort are addressed within the Inspection Action Plan. There are no wider implications for children, young people and vulnerable adults identified outside of the specific YOT cohort.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 10.1 N/A

11. Implications for Partners

- 11.1 Rotherham Youth Offending Team is governed by a partnership management board and also reports to Safer Rotherham Partnership. The HMIP reports makes reference to the need to improve partnership arrangements to achieve better outcomes for children particularly in relation to Looked after children, health, mental health and post 16 education/training provision.

12. Risks and Mitigation

- 12.1 Inability and lack of engagement in performance management arrangements by managers and staff could lead to poor and deteriorating services for children and young people. Strong management oversight by the Service Manager and the ongoing fortnightly performance meetings mitigate this risk by holding managers and workers to account for any dips in performance and quality both at a team and at an individual child level.
- 12.2 Lack of engagement by partner agencies to support the plan and advocate for children and young people in the Youth Justice System within their own agencies could lead to poorer outcomes. Strong partnership working arrangements through the YOT board and direction from the chair of the board will improve communication and working arrangements and ensure accountability across the partnership.

13. Accountable Officer(s)

Emma Ellis Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT
01709 255680 or emma.ellis@rotherham.gov.uk

David McWilliams, Assistant Director, Early Help, Family Engagement & Business Support, 01709 254235 David.mcwilliams@rotherham.gov.uk

This report is published on the Council's [website](#).



HM Inspection of Probation report: Inspection of youth offending services in Rotherham: Inspection Action Plan

HM Inspection of Probation report: Inspection of youth offending services in Rotherham: Inspection Action Plan

*All dates have taken into consideration the current Government Covid guidance and the impact of the Tier requirements and current Lockdown restrictions. The Management Board reserves the right to amend deadlines if there is evidence that the planned work has been adversely affected by the pandemic.

	Recommendation	Who?	Action/s required	When (by end of)	Progress Update
1	Make sure that Board members understand the specific needs of children known to the YOT and advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.	Chair of the YOT Management Board	Presentation on specific needs of YOT cohort to Board members	January 2021	Extraordinary Board Meeting in place for 20th January 2021
2	Ensure the partnership understands the reasons for the significant number of Looked After Children known to the YOT, and reviews the policies and practices of all agencies to minimise the possibility of children entering the criminal justice system unnecessarily	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Presentation to Board Members and Corporate Parenting Board regarding Looked after children known to the YOT.	March 2021	Extraordinary Board Meeting in place for 20th January 2021 Corporate parenting board 2 March 2021
		Head of Service LAC	Review local Authority Policy – Looked after Children and Youth Justice	February 2021	Meeting between Head of Service LAC & Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT 11 th January 2020
		CYPS Training	Hold workshops for staff across CYPS and partnership to update knowledge and skills	March 2021	Dates to be confirmed but agreed with CYPS Training Manager 5 th January 2021
		CYPS Training	Provide bespoke training in Restorative Justice for staff in residential care homes	March 2021	CYPS training to coordinate – agreed 5 th January 2021

		Management Board	and foster carers Review own agency policies and procedures to ensure that these are aligned with protocol for LAC.	March 2021	Agenda item for 15 th March YOT Management Board
3	Undertake a comprehensive health needs analysis of YOT children to better understand the health provision being delivered and what needs to be developed	Management Board – CCG	Health needs analysis to be completed. Review of Health Needs Analysis Findings Development of Health Pathways including: CAMHS, SALT, 0-19 Implementation of pathways	February 2021 March 2021 March 2021 April 2021	Screening tools shared with CCG Manager 29/12/20 agreed to complete SALT, MH and PH Screening in January across current YOT cohort.
4	Review the quality and accessibility of education, training and employment provision for post-16-year-old children known to the service.	Management Board	Meet with stakeholders across Sheffield City Region to ensure that provision is accessible, inclusive and sufficient to meet the needs of the cohort.	April 2021	

		Early Help ESF Lead	Meet with existing post 16 providers to develop pathways for YOT young people.	May 2021	
		Early Help ESF Lead	To attend people and skills working group. Economic recovery group to ensure YOT cohort are considered in recovery planning.	January 2021	Discussion with Jenny Lawless/ Rachel Jackson – RJ to take this action forward at next P&S working Group
		Early Help ESF Lead	Provide opportunities via ESF pathway. - ESF Lead to attend YOT team meeting in January 2021	February 2021	Invited to YOT Team meeting 14 th January 2021
		YJ Operations Coordinator	Undertake skills audit to identify gaps in provision, accessibility and/or barriers to inclusion and ensure that commissioning arrangements are in place to meet these gaps.	March 2021	
5	Review the quality of risk of harm work and improve the effectiveness of management oversight in all cases.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing.	February 2021	Meeting arranged for 13 th January to develop new QA tool. Training booked for March for YJ Coordinator and Snr

		YJ Operations Coordinator	Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly	March 2021	Practitioners QA tool in development and will be presented to YOT board in March 2021 for approval
		Management Board	Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working arrangements.	TBC after planning meeting on 13 th January.	Meeting arranged for 13 th January to schedule MA Audits and review current audit tools.
		YJ Operations Coordinator	Senior Practitioner and YOT Social Worker to undergo Management training provided by YJSIP	To commence January 2021	Training booked and commencing in January 2021
		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mentor to be requested for YJ Operations Co-ordinator via YJSIP	April 2021	Request to be signed off by YOT management board on 15 th March 2021
		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	All YOT staff to complete refresher training on AssetPlus	May 2021	Training booked through Silver Bullet training company to commence in March 2021
		Management Board	To commission a Peer review through Youth Justice Sector	December 2021	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT has made enquiries

			Improvement Partnership		regarding this and currently there is a long waiting list due to Covid restrictions, currently exploring alternative review arrangements with Outstanding YOTs
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1	Organisational delivery	Who?	Action/s required	When (by end of)?	Progress /update
1	Although health provision is available through the Early Help Service, the arrangements do not recognise the specialised needs of children known to the YOT, including physical and emotional, mental health and wellbeing concerns.	Management Board Health representative	Health needs analysis to be completed. Review of Health Needs Analysis Findings Development of Health Pathways including: CAMHS, SALT, 0-19 Implementation of pathways Partnership training to be delivered to YOT and Health colleagues.	February 2021 March 2021 March 2021 April 2021 April 2021	Screening tools shared with CCG Manager 29/12/20 agreed to complete SALT, MH and PH Screening in January across current YOT cohort.
1.1	The pathways for YOT staff to access health services, for example speech, language and communication provision , lack clarity.	Management Board Health representative	Screening tools to be revised and pathways developed and communicated to all	April 2021	

		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	YOT staff. Dip Sampling of cases bi monthly to QA referrals to health services.	April 2021	
		YJ Operations Coordinator	Management oversight of all assessments to ensure multi agency contribution to assessment and plan.	January 2021	Completed in all cases and reinforced through Triage and Outcomes panel
1.2	Board members do not understand the specific needs of YOT children so cannot effectively advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.	YJ Operations Coordinator	Quarterly presentation to YOT Board regarding current cohort status – including BAME, LAC, Health, SEND, ETE, Exclusions, re- offending	Extraordinary YOT Board Meeting in place for 20th January 2021	Analysis and data presented to YOT Management Board December 2020
			Individual Board Members to provide disproportionality analysis of own services in relation to BAME, LAC, Health, SEND, EET, Exclusions	March 2021	YOT Management Board 15 th March 2021
1.3	The Management Board and the partnership have not focused on why so many Looked After Children are known to the YOT.	Chair of the YOT Management Board	See also Recommendation 1 above.	January 2021	Extraordinary Board Meeting in place for 20th January 2021
			Presentation to YOT	March 2021	

			Board in December and workshop in January. Presentation to Corporate Parenting Panel in March and ILSC January.		
1.4	YOT figures for post-16-year-old children who are not in education, training and employment are high, and the partnership has not done enough work to review what provision is available in the locality for this cohort of children.	Management Board	See also recommendation 4 Above Audit of YOT NEET Cohort – Findings presented to Outreach and engagement coordinators and a specific strategy developed to meet the needs of the YOT Cohort	February 2021	See also recommendation 4 Above
1.5	Although YOT practitioners can access the interventions that are available as part of the wider Rotherham early help offer, there is little evidence that these services are regularly used for children known to the YOT.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Focus group arranged for January 2021 to consult with staff in YOT, EBH and EH to agree how to share good practice and obtain best outcomes for Young people. YOT workers to be ‘matched’ to a locality team to develop a better understanding of support and	January 2021 February 2021	Fortnightly YOT team meetings take place to share learning and good practice from locality teams. Team meetings have, to date, included input from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach and Engagement teams re Children’s Centre activities • Early Help Managers –

			<p>services in localities and communities.</p> <p>Future Planned Team meetings: ESF 14/1/21 SENDIASS 28/1/21</p>	<p>February 2021</p>	<p>Assessment, planning and TAF reviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence Based Hub – Parenting programmes • Evidence Based Hub – Young People programmes • ICON training • Participation, Voice and Influence • CCE Pathways
1.6	<p>The inspection found that management oversight is poor both for post-court orders and out-of-court disposals.</p>	<p>Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT</p>	<p>See also recommendation 5 Above</p> <p>Case managers to record individual discussions with Managers as management oversight to ensure this is clear in case records Service Manager to</p>	<p>January 2021</p> <p>Monthly activity – to</p>	<p>See also recommendation 5 Above</p> <p>Communicated to staff via team meeting and daily check in – reinforced through supervision of cases</p> <p>CYPS audit schedule in</p>

			continue to Moderate case file Audits and review previous Audits to draw out key learning and ensure this is communicated to all staff	be reviewed quarterly.	place, audit feedback is standing item on team meeting agenda and supervision. Audit findings to be presented quarterly to Management board
2	Court disposals	Who?	Action/s required	When (By end of)?	Progress /update
2.1	Assessing, delivering interventions and reviewing to keep other people safe were poor areas of practice that require improvement.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing.	February 2021	Meeting arranged for 13th January to develop new QA tool.
		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly	Monthly activity to be reviewed quarterly and presented to board	QA tool in development and will be presented to YOT board in March 2021 for approval
		CYPS QPD team	Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working arrangements.	TBC after planning meeting in January.	Meeting arranged for 13th January to schedule MA Audits and review current audit tools.
		YJ Coordinator	Senior Practitioner and YOT Social Worker to undergo Management training provided by YJSIP	January 2021	Training commences 20 th January 2020

		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mentor to be requested for YJ Operations Co- ordinator via YJSIP	April 2021	Request to be agreed by YOT management board on 20 th January 2021
		Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	All YOT staff to complete refresher training on AssetPlus	March 2021	Training booked through Silver Bullet training company to commence in March 2021
2.2	The needs and wishes of victims were not always considered, and the potential impact on victims was not adequately assessed.	Remedi manager	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit victim involvement. Review victim engagement at quarterly contract reviews with Remedi. Remedi to liaise with SYP to encourage victims to give consent to engage with services.	February 2021 March 2021 March 2021	On target to be completed Contract reviews are in place and take place quarterly
2.3	A lack of health input in relevant cases meant that some children’s needs were not met.	Board Members – Rotherham CCG and TRFT	See also recommendation 4 above Health services to be represented at YMARAC and Triage	January 2021	See also recommendation 4 above Complete - Liaison and diversion attending both meetings

			and Outcome Panel.		
2.4	When children were discussed at multiagency meetings it was not always evident in their cases what impact this had on their level of risk and the interventions delivered.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Monthly Dip sampling of case files to ensure case records reflect risk levels and intervention addresses risk identified.	February 2021	Dates for dip sampling scheduled for 2021 – findings to be reported to YOT management Board quarterly
2.5	Although staff had received training on signs of safety and trauma-informed practice, there was limited evidence that these approaches were used with children in the cases inspected.	CYPS training and development Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Refresher training in SOS and TIP to be completed by all YOT staff and practice lead identified.	March 2021	Agreed with CYPS Training and development - SoS training to be commissioned to be delivered to YOT team by March 2021 TIP to be delivered in line with CYPS workforce plan
3	Out-of-court disposals	Who?	Action/s required	When (by end of)?	Progress /update
3.1	The lack of health provision in relevant cases hampered the work done to keep children safe	Board representatives – CCG/TRFT	See also recommendation 4 Above Health services to be represented at YMARAC and Triage and Outcome Panel.	January 2021	See also recommendation 4 above Complete - Liaison and diversion attending both meetings
3.2	Not all children were assessed before a disposal was delivered.	South Yorkshire Police Service Manager	All children to be referred to the YOT for screening and initial assessment prior to outcome. To establish a triage	March 2021 February 2021	Agreed with SYP District Commander to commence March 2021 Panel Established –

		Evidence Based Hub and YOT	and outcomes panel to ensure Multi agency decision making regarding Domain 3 cases and PSR recommendations.		TOR to be reviewed and agreed.
3.3	For out-of-court work generally, there was a capacity issue with the role of the seconded police officer, as there was insufficient resource to meet the workload	South Yorkshire Police	YOT Police officer to produce new pathway and identify where additional capacity is required. Pathway to be presented and agreed at March YOT Management board.	January 2021 April 2021	Completed – SYP YOT Police officer to broker support from wider police force.
3.4	Planning and the delivery of services for a child's safety and wellbeing and for keeping other people safe were poor	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT YJ Coordinator CYPS PQ team	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing. Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working	February 2021 March 2021 TBC after planning meeting on 13 th January.	Meeting arranged for 13 th January to develop new QA tool. QA tool in development and will be presented to YOT board in March 2021 for approval Meeting arranged for 13 th January to schedule MA Audits and review current

			arrangements.		audit tools.
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Acronyms	
YOT	Youth Offending Team
LAC	Looked After Children
CYPS	Children & Young People’s Service
SALT	Speech & Language Therapy
MH	Mental Health
PH	Physical Health
CAMHS	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service
0-19	Health Service
ESF	European Social Fund
QA	Quality Assurance
MA	Multi-Agency
YJSIP	Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership
Asset Plus	Youth Justice Approved Assessment Tool
SEND	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity
ETE	Education, Training & Employment
ICON	Public Health message with the ultimate purpose to reduce Shaken Baby Syndrome. *I – Infant crying is normal *C – Comforting methods can help *O – It’s Ok to walk away *N – Never, ever shake a baby
ILSC	Improving Lives Select Commission
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
EH	Early Help
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
TAF	Team Around Family
SENDIASS	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Information

	Advice & Support Service
TRFT	The Rotherham Foundation Trust
YMARAC	Youth Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
SOS	Signs of Safety
TIP	Trauma Informed Practice
TOR	Terms of Reference
PSR	Pre-Sentence Report
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
P&Q	Performance & Quality

HM Inspectorate of Probation

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13/01/2021

To:

David McWilliams, Assistant Director Early Help, Family Engagement & Business Support

cc:

Catherine Barnett, YJB Head of Region

Dear David

Re: Inspection of youth offending services in Rotherham

Many thanks for submitting the action plan in response to recommendations made in our recent report following the inspection in your service.

This letter is to confirm that we are content that the planned actions are an appropriate response to the issues raised within the report.

The action plan is followed up during the next inspection, when progress is reviewed. Monitoring the action plan is the responsibility of the Local Authority however the Youth Justice Board can request progress at any stage.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alan MacDonald'.

Alan MacDonald

Head of Youth Inspection Programme
Email: alan.macdonald@hmiprobation.gsi.gov.uk
Mobile phone: 07967 792774

From: Burke, Pauline (HMI Probation) <Pauline.Burke@hmiprobation.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 January 2021 14:18
To: David McWilliams <David.McWilliams@rotherham.gov.uk>
Cc: Barnett, Catherine (YJB) <Catherine.Barnett@yjb.gov.uk>
Subject: Rotherham YOT Improvement Plan

Dear David

I hope you are well and thanks for submitting Rotherham YOT Improvement Plan.

The Plan is a thorough and detailed response to the recommendations, and I am sure that with your leadership and the commitment of all YOT staff and partners it will be achievable. I have no doubt that progress is already being made.

Please see attached the letter of approval from Alan MacDonald.

Regards
Pauline

Pauline Burke
HM Inspector
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07889410057

Please note that the HM Inspectorate of Probation office in Manchester is now closed until further notice. Please refer to our website on the best way to now contact us, or alternatively use my email address above.

HM Inspectorate of Probation wants to promote a healthy work/life balance. At times, we may choose to work flexible hours but emails either sent or received outside normal working hours are not required to be processed immediately.

Work programme – Improving Lives Select Commission UPDATED: 16 December 2020

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Purpose/ Outcomes	Recommendations
16 June	Response to Domestic Abuse during the pandemic	To receive an update on the Council's work regarding domestic abuse during the pandemic.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That up to date figures on Domestic Abuse Incidents, Domestic Abuse Response (referrals) and Domestic Abuse Commissioned Service Caseloads be circulated to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission in four weeks' time. 3) That information on the number of Domestic Abuse incidents and referrals for support services relating to male victims of Domestic Abuse during the pandemic. be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Performance Monitoring	<p>To receive briefing paper addressing areas of poor performance identified previously e.g. rereferrals into Child in Need/Child Protection Plan.</p> <p>To agree a method and frequency of performance monitoring based on the CYPS tracker.</p>	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That the Children and Young People's Services Vision Tracker continues to be circulated on a monthly basis. 3) That the Children and Young People's Services Vision Tracker, along with the monthly scorecards be circulated to all members of the Council. 4) That after receiving the Children and Young People's Services Vision Tracker and the monthly scorecards, members of the Improving Lives Select Commission should, if required, request a meeting with lead officers to undertake a performance clinic type discussion based on the particular measures or interest or concern. 5) That the revised methods of monitoring performance be reviewed at the June 2021 meeting of the

			Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Re-referrals and repeat child protection planning - Progress report	To provide a progress report on actions that had been taken regarding re-referrals and repeat child protection planning	Resolved - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That a progress report on re-referrals and repeat child protection planning be provided at the December 2020 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 3) That information on the outputs and development opportunities highlighted by the audit work completed in relation to re-referrals be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme	Resolved: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed. 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	Resolved: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the update be noted. 2) That the scope for the review of Early Help be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission once completed.

	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	Resolved: - That the Governance Advisor makes the required follow up activity as required for the outstanding actions.
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28 July	Update on LAC Sufficiency	To monitor progress and to assess any impact on capacity due to Covid-19.	Resolved: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the progress made in delivery of the LAC Sufficiency Strategy be noted. 2) That the risk that demand for placements will increase as lockdown eases be noted, and, that in addition to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission monitoring performance in this area using the established performance monitoring procedures, that managers proactively raise any concerns that they have with the Improving Lives Select Commission if they arise. 3) That a summary of the meeting with the National House Project be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Youth Offending Team – Progress report	<p>To monitor progress and highlight an area for further scrutiny.</p> <p>Specifically, to check progress of recommendations made last year and to seek assurances around a changing demand due to the apparent decrease in numbers of first-time young offenders and the increase in the complex nature of this reduced cohort of young offenders.</p>	Resolved: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That a further report be brought to the 22 September 2020 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to provide assurances around changing demand for Youth Offending Services due to the apparent decrease in numbers of first time young offenders and the increase in the complex nature of a this reduced cohort of young offenders. 3) That further information on the Mentors in Violence programme be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 4) That a more detailed narrative in regard to table 13a of the Youth Offending Performance Report, as included in the agenda pack, be circulated to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	Resolved: - 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed. 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	Resolved: - 1) That the update be noted. 2) That the scope for the review of Early Help be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission and that members of the commission contact the Governance Advisor with expressions of interest for taking part in the review.
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	Resolved: - That the Governance Advisor makes the required follow up activity as required for the outstanding actions.

22 September	Youth Offending Team	To seek assurances around a changing demand due to the apparent decrease in numbers of first-time young offenders and the increase in the complex nature of a this reduced cohort of young offenders.	Resolved: - 1) That the report be noted.
	Children's social care service in the light of Covid-19 pandemic – Progress Report	To provide a progress report on activity detailed in the briefing to members received on 4 June 2020.	Resolved: - 2) That the report be noted. 3) That a further progress report be brought to the December 2020 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	Resolved: - 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed. 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	Resolved: - That the update be noted.
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	Resolved: - That the Governance Advisor makes the required follow up activity as required for the outstanding actions.

<p>27 October</p>	<p>Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership</p>	<p>That a report detailing key timelines, milestones and outcomes to reflect the difference that RESP is making be submitted to this Commission in December 2019. December meeting cancelled.</p> <p>To assess the impact that the service is having.</p>	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That it be recommended that Elective Home Education be a priority area for the Rotherham Education Partnership. 3) That information on the revised priorities for the Rotherham Education Partnership and the timeline for their implementation be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	<p>Elective Home Education</p>	<p>To seek assurance that children who are elective home educated are being effectively safeguarded/educated</p>	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That the recent Department for Education briefing on Elective Home Education be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 3) That the structure chart and the procedural process document for the Elective Home Education Service be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 4) That once completed, the detailed analysis of the current cohort of children in Elective Home Education in Rotherham be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 5) That the most up to date information on exam entry and progression to further education of children who have received Elective Home Education be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

	Domestic Abuse Strategy – Progress Report	To provide a progress report of the strategy and assurance around procedures around stalking and harassment.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted 2) That information on the number of non-molestation orders issued in 2020 be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission 3) That members of the Improving Lives Select Commission are involved in the development of the new Domestic Abuse Strategy.
	Work Programme	To consider the committee’s work programme	<p>Resolved: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed. 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <p>That the update be noted.</p>
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <p>That the Governance Advisor makes the required follow up activity as required for the outstanding actions.</p>

<p>15 December</p>	<p>Children's social care service in the light of Covid-19 pandemic – Progress Report</p>	<p>To provide a progress report on activity detailed in the briefing to members received on 22 September 2020.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That a further report be circulated to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission by the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services if any significant concerns or challenges arise surrounding children's social care service in the light of Covid-19 pandemic. 3. That the service development plan created as a result of the OFSTED Focused Assurance Visit be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission
	<p>Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the SEND Peer Review conducted in March 2020.</p>	<p>Peer review circulated to members April 2020.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That a progress report on the actions arising from the SEND Peer Challenge be presented at the December 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 3. That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission discuss the content, format and frequency of future reports on SEND with the Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Children and Young People's Services. 4. That the SEND service plan be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	<p>Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership – Annual Report</p>	<p>To receive and consider the annual report.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2019-20 be received and noted. 2. That the format of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2020-21 be reviewed in order to make the content clearer and more accessible for a wider audience. 3. That the submission of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2020-21 to the Improving Lives Select Commission in December 2021 be supplemented with a presentation.

			<p>4. That the refreshed Neglect Strategy be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission when it is completed.</p> <p>5. That the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership's response to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel national thematic review into non-accidental injury into children aged under one be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission once completed.</p>
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <p>1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed.</p> <p>2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.</p>
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	<p>Resolved: -</p> <p>That the update be noted.</p>
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC	<p>Resolved: -</p> <p>That the Governance Advisor makes the required follow up activity as required for the outstanding actions.</p>

26 January	YOT Inspection Report	To provide information on the recent inspection of the YOT and to advise of the Council's response to the recommendations. Representatives of delivery partners to be invited to the meeting.	
	Adult Safeguarding Annual Report	To receive and consider the annual report.	
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	

9 March	School Performance	Annual item – Focus to be discussed with Assistant Director. Invitation to Regional Schools Commissioner to attend meeting	
	Re-referrals and repeat child protection planning – Progress report	Resolved at June 2020 meeting to receive a progress report at December 2020 meeting. Nov 2020 – Rescheduled to March 2021	
	Work Programme	To consider the committee’s work programme and to reflect on work programme for 2020/21	
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	

Items pending schedule or removal

Item	Details	Status
Missing from Home/Education (Update from Strategic Missing Group)	Progress report	To be scheduled
Counter extremism in schools	<p>Resolved in September 2019</p> <p>That a report be submitted to this Commission as part of 2020/21 work programme outlining how the local authority was meeting its Prevent duty.</p> <p>That an update on its counter extremism work be submitted to this Commission as part of 2020/21 work programme.</p> <p>That this update includes an evaluation of the work in schools and further details of the work with adults and neighbourhoods and any specific work with parents and carers.</p> <p>Focus to be on work being done in schools.</p>	To be scheduled
Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership	Resolved in June 2019 - That the evaluation of the Early Years Home Visiting Project be submitted to this Commission.	To be scheduled December 2021 meeting.
Pause Progress report	Resolved in March 2020 to bring a further report after May 2021.	To be scheduled
Youth Offending Team – Service Provision	To look at the processes and journey that young people go through who are accessing YOT services	To be scheduled
Rotherham Children’s Safeguarding Partnership – Annual Report	Annual item	To be scheduled December 2021 meeting
SEND	Resolved December 2020 to request an update	To be scheduled December 2021 meeting
CYPS Directorate workforce strategy	Progress report	Focus to be discussed before scheduling

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS – IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING SCHEDULE
UPDATED: 12 JANUARY 2021

Decision Date	Item	Scrutiny Recommendation	Completion date for actions	Action/Response Completed	Further action required by Scrutiny
27 October 2020	Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership	That it be recommended that Elective Home Education be a priority area for the Rotherham Education Partnership. That information on the revised priorities for the Rotherham Education Partnership and the timeline for their implementation be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.	TBC	Chased up 17/12 Chased up 12/01	
15 December 2020	Children’s social care service in the light of Covid-19 pandemic – Progress Report	That the service development plan created as a result of the OFSTED Focused Assurance Visit be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission	TBC	Chased up 12/01 – Plan currently being updated – Will be circulated to members once completed in early February.	
15 December 2020	Progress report on the implementation of the recommendations arising from the SEND Peer Review conducted in March 2020	That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission discuss the content, format and frequency of future reports on SEND with the Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Children and Young People’s Services. That the SEND service plan be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.	TBC	Chased up 12/01	

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS – IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING SCHEDULE
UPDATED: 12 JANUARY 2021

Decision Date	Item	Scrutiny Recommendation	Completion date for actions	Action/Response Completed	Further action required by Scrutiny
15 December 2020	Rotherham Children’s Safeguarding Partnership – Annual Report	<p>That the refreshed Neglect Strategy be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission when it is completed.</p> <p>That the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership’s response to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel national thematic review into non-accidental injury into children aged under one be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission once completed.</p>	TBC	Chased up 12/01	

Sub and Project Group Work

Updated: 12 January 2021

Project	Details	Status
One off spotlight review involving the Youth Cabinet and off camera to understand the impact of school closures due to COVID19 on Rotherham pupils.	To specifically involve and loom at the impact on those who would have sat exams this year and bring back the YOT specifically to check progress of recommendations made last year and to seek assurances around a changing demand due to the apparent decrease in numbers of first time young offenders and the increase in the complex nature of a this reduced cohort of young offenders.	December 2020 – Survey circulated with closing date in January 2021
CSE – post abuse support (task and finish to feed into commissioning process)	Task and finish group established. Interviews undertaken with 3 local authorities (July/August 2019)	January 2021 – Meetings with other local authorities have commended, Subgroup to be comprised of Councillors Cusworth, Clark and Andrews.
Liquid Logic	One off spotlight review to provide assurance to members on how the system is working in CYPS.	December 2020 - Meeting held with CYPS to agree how the review meeting will function. Review session with members of ILSC to be scheduled early 2021
Domestic Abuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Homicide Review • Stalking and Harassment • Domestic Abuse Service Principles 	Referral from OSMB and January 2019 ILSC	To schedule (awaiting update from Home Office on domestic homicide). To agree actions to complete the review.

Lifestyle Survey	Report to subgroup in January 2020	January 2021 – Lifestyle survey not completed, but alternative surveys were completed. Discussions taking place on how to report these to ILSC members.
Food Poverty/Holiday Hunger		December 2020 – Update meeting with Policy being scheduled
Early Help Offer	Resolved in October 2019 That a sub-group be established to undertake further scrutiny of the early help offer.	Scope completed
Court Procedures (pre-proceedings)	Resolved on 30/04/19 - To scrutinise if progress/milestones are being reached – follow on from earlier work	Spotlight review to be scheduled
Safeguarding Adults report Safeguarding Children report	Deferred from December 2019	Reports being circulated. Once received to determine further action. Safeguarding Adults report circulated 22 June 2020