

## IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

- Date and Time :-** Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 10.00 a.m.
- Venue:-** Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.
- Membership:-** Councillors Pitchley (Chair), Cooksey (Vice Chair), Aveyard, Barley, Browne, Burnett, C Carter, Collingham, Cowen, Elliott, Griffin, Haleem, Hughes, Khan, Monk, Singleton, Thompson and Wilson

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 9am**

**1. Apologies for Absence**

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

**2. Minutes of the previous meetings held on 9 and 22 March (Pages 4 - 19)**

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meetings held on 9 and 22 March 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 Pause Practice - Impact Report (Pages 20 - 34)**

**8. Work Programme (Pages 35 - 44)**

To consider and approve the Commission's Work Programme.

**9. Improving Lives Select Commission - Sub and Project Group Updates (Page 45)**

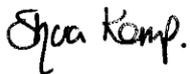
For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the activity regarding sub and project groups of the he Improving Lives Select Commission.

**10. Urgent Business**

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

**11. Date and time of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 27 July commencing at 10am in Rotherham Town Hall.



Sharon Kemp,  
Chief Executive.

# KEEP SAFE WHILE VISITING RIVERSIDE HOUSE AND THE TOWN HALL



## HOUSE KEEPING TIPS

- Meeting rooms and the Council Chamber will be sanitised before and after every meeting.
- Follow the one-way systems in place.
- Only one person (and their carer) should use a lift at a time.
- Get tested regularly, either at home or by booking a test at Riverside Lateral Flow Test Site.
- If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, stay at home and order a test.

Further information about COVID-19 can be found at [www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus)

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus)

**IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION**  
**Tuesday 9 March 2021**

Present:- Councillor Cusworth (in the Chair); Councillors Jarvis, Beaumont, Buckley, Clark, Elliot, Fenwick-Green, Khan, Marriott, Pitchley, Senior and Simpson.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillor Hague.

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

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

**140. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2021**

**Resolved:** - That the minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission held on 26 January 2021 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

**141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**142. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no items that required the exclusion of the press or public.

**143. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

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

**144. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chair advised that a written report regarding the most recent meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel would be circulated to members.

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission would take place on Monday 22 March at 5:30pm.

**145. EDUCATION IN ROTHERHAM - COVID-19 RESPONSE AND FORWARD PLANNING**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services, the Interim Assistant Director - Education, the Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare and the Head of Access Services attended the meeting to provide a presentation on the response from the Education Service to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In introducing the presentation, the Interim Assistant Director – Education noted his thanks to all those involved in delivering educational services

across the Borough for their work over the previous year during the pandemic.

The Interim Assistant Director provided a summary of the how the Education service had responded to the pandemic including information on:

- the Education service had been at the forefront of the Rotherham Covid response and how the co-production work with schools had ensured a strong and coordinated response to the challenges that had been faced.
- how work across the key areas of challenge had included Free School Meals, digital poverty and supporting schools to interpret updates to statutory guidance.
- how Education Services had adapted to ensure that statutory responsibilities continued to be delivered effectively.
- how the council had provided a strong leadership during all stages of the pandemic. This included collaboration with DfE, Ofsted, other Local Authorities to address emerging challenges and to support schools with future implementations of defined 'catch up' funding from central government.

The Interim Assistant Director detailed areas of concern regarding the Education service that had resulted from the impact of the pandemic, including:

- the increase in numbers of students in receipt of Elective Home Education that raised concerns around vulnerable students.
- concerns around the wider impact that the Covid- 19 pandemic was having on the education of children and young people, including significant gaps in missed education through school closures or reoccurring periods of self-isolation.
- the wellbeing of school staff.
- the long-term impact of pandemic on the education of vulnerable groups of students not yet being fully understood.
- the lack of assessment of students' academic progress across all key stages in the period of the pandemic and into summer 2021 and how this would inhibit understanding of the educational progression at key stages of educational transition.

The Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare provided an overview of activity surrounding Early Years provision, including:

- how the Early Years and childcare sector had played an essential

to part in the whole system approach regarding education across Rotherham during the pandemic.

- how the resilience of the sector remained challenging due to issues around funding, take up of places, viability of businesses and Covid related pressures including parental anxieties, Covid testing processes and fatigue across the sector from the pandemic.
- the ongoing support that had been provided to the sector.
- how the medium-term impact of the pandemic would need to support improved take up of places, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- The work that had been carried out across the Early Years and Childcare sector to improve Speech and Language outcomes that had continued across last year, and that remained a key strategic priority.

Members asked for further information on how the pandemic had impacted on the number of providers and the number of places in the Early Year and childcare sector and whether there was a plan to increase the total number of places available. The Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare advised that there had been a good response from the sector, with services being available throughout the pandemic with services being fully accessible to all children from September 2020. The Head of Service noted that there had been some reduction in the number of places available due the impact of restrictions related to the pandemic but advised that some childminders who had not been operating would be reopening shortly.

The Head of Service noted that despite the pandemic, that the turnover of childminders had been at normal levels but advised that there had been some delays in new childminders becoming operational. The Head of Service noted that due to changing work practices that the demand for childcare places could change in the future. The Head of Service advised that the provision of services during school holidays was less certain and assured members that the situation was being carefully monitored.

The Interim Assistant Director detailed how the pandemic had impacted on the delivery of Primary Education, including:

- how the pandemic had had a significant impact across Primary education with low levels of attendance and disruption to children's progress.
- how schools had had key role in leading the community response to the pandemic and how they had played an important role in safeguarding.
- how schools had adapted and moved quickly to provide a strong

remote learning offer since January 2021.

- that Primary attendance had been significantly higher during the national lockdown in 2021 across all vulnerable groups and critical worker children.
- that there had been no assessments across primary key stages during 2020 and 2021.

The Interim Assistant Director detailed further how the pandemic had impacted on the delivery of Secondary Education, including:

- the significant impact on secondary school attendance across Rotherham created by the challenges of the pandemic, including low attendance during the first lockdown and the continued significant impact on school attendance during the Autumn term reopening.
- the successful delivery of the secondary school curriculum via remote learning.
- how in the absence of GCSE examinations in 2020 or 2021, centre assessed grades would determine academic progression.
- the significant role that secondary schools had played in leading the community response to pandemic and in safeguarding.
- that school leaders had offered strong levels of support to the most vulnerable families during the pandemic, working outside of their educational remit to support emerging challenges including Free School Meals, IT access and in managing the sustained impact of confirmed positive Covid-19 cases in schools.

The Head of Access Services noted how successfully schools had embraced the challenges that the pandemic had created, and how they had managed to successfully implement new Government guidance, often at very short notice.

The Interim Assistant Director advised that experience had shown that schools had not been sources of increased virus transmission, but that they had been impacted by how they reflected rates of virus transmission in their communities.

Members asked that with the successful implementation of online lessons while schools had been closed to most children, whether they would continue to enable children who were having to isolate at home for a period of time to be able access lessons and learning. The Interim Assistant Director advised that alternative ways to access education would continue but noted that while this would be challenging with the full return to schools of all children, there was a commitment across the education sector to the continuation of online learning for those children

and young people who required it.

Members asked how the pandemic had impacted on the delivery of before and after school activities. The Interim Assistant Director advised that these had resumed and noted that online provision of extracurricular activities had also been taking place and would be expanding further.

Members asked when data would be available on the numbers of pupils who had returned to school since schools had reopened to all pupils on 8 March. The Interim Assistant Director advised that early data had shown that 73% of pupils had returned to school. The Interim Assistant Director noted that the phased approach to the return being used by secondary schools in order to allow for routine testing would have impacted on this figure and advised that more reliable data would be available a couple of weeks after schools had fully reopened.

Members asked for further information on the financial assistance that had been announced for schools by the Secretary of State to help pupils catch up academically, and the subsequent announcement that the funding could also be used to provide activities focussed on health and wellbeing. The Interim Assistant Director advised that the focus of activities that would be supported by the catch up premium had evolved and widened over time and noted that the focus on how the premium was spent would vary across the country. The Interim Assistant Director advised that the focus of how the premium was spent was the subject of discussions with the Department for Education and assured members that they would be kept updated with how the funding was being used in Rotherham.

Members noted how important after school clubs and extracurricular activities were for the overall health and wellbeing of children and young people. The Chair noted that it was essential that this type of provision was developed as the personal and social development was closely linked to educational attainment.

The Chair asked for information on what access to learning children would have who were not in school due living with someone who was shielding. The Interim Assistant Director assured the Chair that in these circumstances suitable arrangements would be made for any child who was off school for this reason. The Interim Assistant Director advised however that the issue of greater concern was regarding children who were not returning to school due to parents anxieties over safety. The Interim Assistant Director advised that schools would be taking all possible actions to ensure that these children returned to school and that officers would support schools, if needed to ensure children returned to classes.

The Interim Assistant Director detailed further how the pandemic had impacted on the delivery of Higher and Further Education, including:

- the significant disruption across education and the move away from face to face learning for significant periods of time.
- how practical learning subjects had been severely impacted.
- the ongoing disruption with A Levels and BTEC qualifications being impacted in both 2020 and 2021.
- the transition for students into FE/HE education had been impacted greatly with continued uncertainty across these education areas raising continued concerns around mental health and wellbeing of young people.
- how opportunities for young people driven by the skills agenda and Sheffield City Region workstreams would support future developments across these phases of education.

The Interim Assistant Director concluded by outlining future areas of focus, including:

- how the mental health and wellbeing of children, young people and those working in education settings, and how the understanding of children and young person's experiences of the pandemic would be central to recovery planning activity.
- how with measurements of academic progress yet to be determined for a number of cohorts, it was essential that the most vulnerable students were supported to overcome any barriers that the pandemic posed to future education progression.
- the role of the Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership and the SEND Board.
- the continued development of the co-productive partnership with parents and carers across any Covid recovery.

The Chair asked about the role that the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office had played during the pandemic. The Interim Assistant Director advised that meetings had been held weekly with the Commissioner's Office and assured the Chair that the relationship with the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office was strong and would be central in delivering the recovery from the pandemic. The Chair welcomed these assurances.

The Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services thanked the Interim Assistant Director for the presentation and noted that she hoped the information provided had provided the assurances that members had sought regarding educational provision in Rotherham during the pandemic. The Strategic Director noted how well all schools across the Borough had responded to the significant challenges that the pandemic had created, not only in how they had delivered education but how they had supported families and how they had played a

significant safeguarding role.

The Chair, on behalf of members commended the work of all those who had been involved in delivering educational services during the pandemic. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services noted several areas of concern regarding how the pandemic had impacted on children and young people regarding their education and development including the lack of social mixing and how this would negatively impact on speech and language development, and the lack of access to practical learning in subjects such as science.

Councillor Steele, Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board, who had been in attendance at the meeting noted the comprehensiveness of the report that had shown how well the council had responded to the pandemic in regard to education. Councillor Steele noted that it would be vital for the council to work with the Sheffield City Region Combined Authority to create jobs for young people to go into after education. Councillor Steele commended how the council had brought maintained schools and academies together to work together and to share expertise throughout the pandemic.

The Chair thanked the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services, the Interim Assistant Director - Education, the Head of Service, Early Years and Childcare and the Head of Access Services for attending the meeting and answering member questions.

**Resolved: -**

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That the information contained in the report be used to inform the development of the Improving Lives Select Commission's 2021/22 Work Programme.

#### **146. 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.

**147. IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION - MONITORING REPORT**

The Committee considered the outstanding actions on the Monitoring Report.

**Resolved:** - That Monitoring Report be noted.

**148. 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.

**149. URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

**150. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**Resolved:** - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Monday 22 March 2021 at 5:30pm as a Microsoft Teams meeting.

**IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION**  
**Monday 22 March 2021**

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

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillor Beaumont.

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

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

**151.       DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**152.       EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no items that required the exclusion of the public or press.

**153.       QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

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

**154.       COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

**155.       CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES QUARTER 3  
PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director - Early Help, Family Engagement and Business Support, the Interim Assistant Director – Education, the Assistant Director - Children's social care and the Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion attended the meeting to provide an update on performance in Children and Young People's Services.

In introducing the report, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services provided an overview of performance in the directorate over the first nine months of 2020/21, including:

- That the direction of travel for many performance indicators across had been positive.
- How since March 2020 the service had adapted to delivering services in innovative and creative ways.

- The HMIP Probation inspection of the Youth Offending Team that had taken place in September 2020 that had resulted in a judgement of “Requires Improvement”.
- The Focussed Assurance Visit undertaken by Ofsted in October 2020, had ended in no judgement, however it was noted that the inspectors were assured of service’s response to pandemic
- A review of performance reporting across the Directorate was underway that would include a review of existing scorecards with information on Education and Inclusion performance now being included.

The Assistant Director - Early Help, Family Engagement and Business Support provided an overview of areas of performance that were going well with regard to Early Help and Family Engagement, including:

- Customer satisfaction remaining consistently high, with 100% of respondents in December rating their overall experience as “good” or “excellent”.
- 85.1% of families being contacted within three working days of being referred to the Early Help Service.
- 92.9% of early help assessments that were in-scope being completed within 45 days during the month of December. This was higher than the previous quarter where 83.3% had been completed within 45 days.
- In December 24.2% of Early Help assessments had been completed by delivery partners, an increase from 22.3% completed in November 2020.
- That the Troubled Families (Families for Change) payment by result outcomes being ahead of the forecast schedule.
- The good progress that was continuing to be made against the HMIP inspection plan following the inspection of the Youth Offending Team, with over 50% of the identified actions having been completed.

The Assistant Director - Early Help, Family Engagement and Business Support provided an overview of areas for continued development with regard to Early Help and Family Engagement, including:

- Delivering, with partners the required improvements identified by the inspection of the Youth Offending Service.
- Maintaining a focus on the activities needed to continue achieving the combined NEET/Not Known performance.

- Continuing the work needed towards increasing Children's Centre registration rates for children living in the 30% most deprived areas of the Borough.

The Assistant Director - Early Help, Family Engagement and Business Support advised that he was pleased to report that the service had achieved a 100% completion rate for staff Personal Development Reviews and noted that this had been particularly important in the current year due to the amount of staff working at home in order to ensure that their personal development continued.

The Chair asked whether the service was monitoring levels of satisfaction with the service from families who had been engaged with Early Help and who had then been stepped up to Social care. The Assistant Director advised that these families were surveyed and that from April 2021 the information received would form part of the performance monitoring activity of the Early Help service. The Chair asked if there was any noticeable link between families being stepped up to Social Care and complaints being received. The Assistant Director advised that while there had been some complaints received assured the Chair that there was no evidence of the two issues being linked. The Chair queried the unusually high number of vacancies showing in the service. The Assistant Director advised that he would look into this further and provide members with clarification on this issue.

The Assistant Director – Children's social care provided an overview of areas of performance that were going well with regard to children's social care, including:

- The number of children subject to a child protection plan as of December was 462, a reduction of 14 children compared to October 2020
- Review Child Protection Conferences timeliness had remained consistent, and throughout December 100% of reviews had been completed on time.
- The number of Looked After Children during the pandemic had remained steady and that despite the challenges of the pandemic, up to the end of December 2020, 108 children had been discharged from the Council's care.
- Looked after reviews continued to be completed within target timescales. The move to virtual reviews had been a success during the pandemic and had enabled wider engagement with less travel for staff and families.
- Placement stability for Looked After Children had remained positive. In December, the number of children who had been in the

same placement for 2 or more years had increased to 68%. The Assistant Director noted that this was a significant achievement given the strain that all families had been under during the pandemic.

The Assistant Director – Children’s social care provided an overview of areas for continued development with regard to children’s social care, including:

- The number of Initial Child Protection Conferences that had been completed in the required timescales had been below target. The Assistant Director advised that the situation was improving but would continue to be an area of focus.
- The discharge of Looked After Children to permanence via Special Guardianship Orders had been low after previous year on year improvements. The Assistant Director advised that this would continue to be an area of focus as part of the Right child, Right Care programme of work
- The number of dental checks had declined greatly and was linked to the closure of dentists during the pandemic. As Dentists reopened this would be a key area of focus.

The Chair reaffirmed the comments she had made throughout the year on how well children’s social care and adapted to the challenges created by the pandemic.

Members asked for further information around figures regarding placement stability and asked for further information on the reasons for a placement ending. The Assistant Director – Children’s social noted that a placement could end for many reasons, many being positive such as adoption of a child moving to a special guardianship arrangement. The Assistant Director noted that figures for adoptions and special guardianships were included on the performance scorecard but advised that further information on why placements ended could be provided if needed. The Assistant Director advised however that the performance indicator around placement stability was a key metric in showing how well the Council was supporting its Looked After Children.

The Chair asked for further information of the drop in performance surrounding the Pathway for Care Leavers programme. The Assistant Director acknowledged the drop in performance and assured the Chair that this area remained a key area of focus for improvement. The Assistant Director advised that on the Pathway it was essential that the plan was co-produced with the care leaver in order to ensure that a high quality plan was produced, however the focus on quality and co-production did mean, especially with the impact of the pandemic that plans could take time to create.

The Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion provided an overview of areas of performance that were going well with regard to inclusion that included:

- The issuing of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) continued to improve with 100% completed on time in December.
- A significant number of children and young people had received ongoing support from Inclusion Services during recent school closures
- The majority of Year 6 transition reviews had been carried out within statutory timescales. (85% had been completed by statutory deadline, with 100% completion overall)
- The Disability Family Support Team had continued to meet their targets for timeliness of contacts and completion of initial assessments. (100% compliance).
- The Number of children with EHCPs in Rotherham had been stable for the past 6 months. The Joint Assistant Director advised however that with the return to school for all children the demand for these was projected to increase.

The Joint Assistant Director provided an overview of areas for continued development with regard to inclusion, that included:

- Understanding the impact of Covid on young people with SEND and potential increase in demand for services. The Joint Assistant Director noted the role that the Parent and Carer Forum had played during the pandemic in providing an understanding of the impact on young people with SEND.
- 40 children being in the assessment phase for SEMH needs and how this was becoming the highest service demand in Rotherham.
- Continuing to progress the Year 11 Transition Reviews that were not yet completed and were due by 31 March 2021.
- Continuing to progress Annual Review recovery plan and monitoring the efficacy of this (via reduction in Annual review backlog) including finalising the implementation of new case management system.
- Continuing to implement ISOS Review and SEND Sufficiency plans.
- Working with schools to look at bespoke support in mainstream schools rather than moving children straight to specialist provision.

The Chair asked that with the predicted increase in demand for ECHP's whether there was the capacity to cope with this. The Joint Assistant

Director assured the Chair that team that dealt with ECHP's was now at full capacity and would be able to cope with any increase in demand. The Chair asked how Rotherham compared other areas regards the number of children and young people with ECHP's. The Joint Assistant Director advised that the picture varied widely nationally and noted that while Rotherham had a comparatively high the number, the rate of increase had slowed and that numbers elsewhere were still increasing.

The Interim Assistant Director - Education provided an overview of areas of performance that were going well with regard to the Education service that included:

- The provision of all statutory functions had continued and where needed these methods of delivery had been adapted to be provided remotely.
- The leading role that the Education service had play in facilitating and chairing Covid 19 school/setting Incident Management Team meetings
- The successful management of the primary and secondary application processes
- Despite the impact of the Covid -19 pandemic and the number of bubble closures in school, attendance by Looked After Children in the Autumn Term had been 92.4%.

The Interim Assistant Director provided an overview of areas for continued development with regard to education, that included:

- Emergency Regulation arrangements for admissions appeal hearings had been extended to the end of September 2021 with the DfE indicating that this would be kept under review.
- Additional capacity was being provided for the Elective Home Education team whilst a review of the service was completed. The Interim Assistant Director advised that the growth in the numbers of children in receipt of EHE was a concern and that EHE would remain a key area of focus.
- Reviewing childcare sufficiency and parental demand post-Covid and working with existing and new providers to ensure sufficient capacity was provided.
- Developing the Virtual School team to include a SEN specialist in order to have a strategic oversight of the SEN cohort and those on reduced provision.

The Chair thanked the officers for the presentation and noted that the issues covered, including areas of success and concern were already known to the Improving Lives Select Commission due to the scrutiny work

that had been carried out throughout the year. The Chair thanked the officers for keeping the Commission so well informed throughout a very challenging year. The Strategic Director thanked the members of the Commission for the focus and scrutiny of the service and its performance that they had provided.

The Chair noted that in the future she would like to see a greater focus on the monitoring of outcomes of services that would show how services had positively made a difference to individuals. The Strategic Director agreed that in future there would be an increase of monitoring on the quality of performance and not just in quantitative targets.

The Chair thanked the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director - Early Help, Family Engagement and Business Support, the Interim Assistant Director – Education, the Assistant Director - Children's social care and the Joint Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion for attending the meeting and answering member questions.

**Resolved: -**

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That a review be conducted during 2021/22 by the Improving Lives Select Commission on how performance monitoring in the Children and Young People's Services Directorate could include a greater focus on outcomes and the quality of work taking place.
- 3) That a performance reports on all areas of the Children and Young People's Services Directorate be brought periodically to meetings of the Improving Lives Select Commission, with a performance report on one area on the directorate presented at alternate meetings.

**156. URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no urgent items of business.

**157. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The Chair thanked the members of the Commission for their work over what had been a very difficult year during the pandemic. The Chair noted how pleased she was that the Commission had been able to carry out a broad range of scrutiny work, based on its work programme in addition to scrutiny work related to the impact of the pandemic.

The Chair thanked Councillor Jarvis, the Vice-Chair for her work and support throughout the year.

The Chair thanked David McWilliams for his work as the link officer for commission and for implementing improvements to ways of working that had enabled the efficient operation of the Commission. The Chair also thanked Martin Elliott, Governance Advisor for his work in supporting the Commission and the Chair and Vice-Chair.

**Resolved:** - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 15 June 2021 at 5:30pm.

## Improving Lives Select Commission

### Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission

### Report Title

Rotherham Pause Practice – Impact Report

### 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)

Lindsey Knight

[Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk)

Joanne Kelly

[Joanne.Kelly@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Joanne.Kelly@rotherham.gov.uk)

### Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

### Report Summary

The Pause Rotherham Practice launched in July 2018. The initial cohort of women successfully transitioned on and a new cohort of women began to access the service. There were some changes during this period; Pause Rotherham welcomed a new Practice Lead Joanne Kelly. This report will reflect the progress of the second cohort of women accessing the program.

### Recommendation

That the Improving Lives Select Commission notes the content in this report as requested at the previous meeting.

### List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 – Report on the impact of the Rotherham Pause Practice - March 2020

### Background Papers

None

### Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Improving Lives Select Commission – 16 April 2019

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## Rotherham Pause Practice – Update Impact Report

<b>1.</b>	<b>Background</b>
1.1	In October 2017 the Pause scoping exercise was presented to Improving Lives Select Commission. The Committee was supportive of the findings and the recommendation to set up a Pause Practice in Rotherham.
1.2	Funding was identified from the Early Help budget to set up a Pause Practice for a minimum of 18 months. The planning and implementation phase and recruitment process were completed, and the Pause Rotherham Practice became operational in July 2018.
1.3	Since the last report was presented at Improving Lives, the first cohort of women successfully transitioned on, seeing many of these women achieving a number of positive changes within their lives. A small number of the women (13) who accessed the program towards the end of 2019, have also successfully transitioned on.
1.4	There is currently a joint funding arrangement in place between RMBC and the CCG, which will be under review within the next 12 months.
1.5	There are 8 women that are currently open on the programme who have had 20 children removed from their care. A further 8 women are in the 'Engaging' phase. The average age of the women in this community is 27. 50% of these women are Care Experienced.
1.6	In total since 1 April 2020 the practice has had contact with 47 women who between them have had a total of 150 children removed from their care.
1.7	The presenting needs of the women who have worked with the practice since 1 April 2020 are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 93% have had mental health issues</li> <li>• 72% have or are experiencing domestic abuse</li> <li>• 33% have experienced homelessness</li> <li>• 33% have reported alcohol misuse</li> <li>• 44% have reported drug use</li> </ul>
1.8	As the second cohort was about to begin, the country went into national lockdown due to Covid-19. Over time, and with restrictions easing, the team have been able to engage 47 women. During this time the team has found alternative ways of working in line with Covid risk assessments. This has included outdoor appointments in gardens where space permitted or ideas such as walks and picnics. Virtual group work has also been introduced, allowing women to take part in group activities and gain valuable peer support. Video call technology has been used for appointments for women and their practitioners and also used to support women to engage with other services.
1.9	The practice lead has also completed further work to establish which women would be eligible for Pause Rotherham and has worked closely with children's

	social care to develop the referral pathway. It is hoped that the practice will start to see an increase in referrals from children's social workers.
1.10	The pathway has been in place since March 2021 and has generated 7 suitable referrals which otherwise may not have been made.
1.11	Using the women's birthing histories, it can be estimated that if there was no targeted intervention for this group of women, there might be 7 new births in any future year.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Outcomes for Women</b></p> <p>The Rotherham Pause Practice is recognised by the national team as delivering good practice. The practice has now moved into the second cohort and despite the challenges which have been presented due to Covid-19, the team have continued to support Rotherham Women to access this service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of the Quarterly report completed at the end of March 2021, Pause Rotherham had 16 women accessing the service, with 10 of those women being open to Pause after deciding to access contraception. A further 6 women were in the engagement phase. It is positive to note that 3 of those 6 women have now also accessed contraception, taking the number of open women to 13.</li> <li>• During this time, the practice has also seen a further 12 women successfully transition on from Cohort 1.</li> <li>• Despite the challenges faced due to Covid-19 the practitioners have worked hard to keep the women safe and cared for:</li> <li>• One woman was able to flee from domestic abuse and was supported to access a refuge. She recently contacted the team to update them on her progress.</li> <li>• One woman has been supported to access housing, prior to working with Pause she had been homeless for 8 months.</li> <li>• Two women have been supported to prevent evictions at their properties.</li> <li>• One woman has been supported to tell her history of living in a violent relationship through the Pause National Podcast 'Pause and Listen'</li> </ul>
2.2	An independent evaluation, commissioned by the Department for Education and carried out by the University of Sussex, in partnership with Research in Practice and Ipsos Mori, published in November 2020, found that the Pause Programme is effective in making a positive difference in women's lives, improving their relationships with children, reducing rates of infant care entry in local areas and delivering cost savings for local areas. Pause Rotherham was one of the sites who were included in the evaluation.

	<p>The Key messages from the evaluation are shown below:</p> <p><i>“The cost benefit analysis indicates reductions in placement of 14.4 children per site (after 12 months of opening) per annum, and £4.50 saved for every £1 spent over 4 years” (Pause Evaluation P68)</i></p> <p>From our previous community of women there has been one pregnancy.</p>																		
<p>2.3</p>	<p><b>Pause Progress Tool – Based on National Data</b></p> <p>The chart below reflects the self-reported emotional and mental health for women who were open to the practice in December 2020. It shows that throughout women’s journey with Pause Rotherham their mental and emotional well-being improves significantly. This data is captured using the CORE-10 scale which is a nationally used evidenced based tool for assessing mental health.</p> <p>The sample size used for the chart was 10 women at the baseline (start of the programme) and 8 at mid-point (9months into the programme). The attrition is explained as 2 women, who initially rated their mental health as ‘Very Good’ left the programme prior to the 9-month point. One lady had children returned to her care, and one lady was supported to leave an abusive relationship and move to a refuge out of the Rotherham area.</p> <div data-bbox="252 1025 1348 1720" style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">How would you describe your mental and emotional health?</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <caption>Estimated data from the chart</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Health Category</th> <th>Baseline (%)</th> <th>Mid point (%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Very bad</td> <td>10</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bad</td> <td>10</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neither good nor bad</td> <td>45</td> <td>70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Good</td> <td>25</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Very good</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Health Category	Baseline (%)	Mid point (%)	Very bad	10	0	Bad	10	0	Neither good nor bad	45	70	Good	25	20	Very good	10	10
Health Category	Baseline (%)	Mid point (%)																	
Very bad	10	0																	
Bad	10	0																	
Neither good nor bad	45	70																	
Good	25	20																	
Very good	10	10																	
<p>2.4</p>	<p><b>Impact on Children</b></p> <p>Women working with Pause tell us that one of their main priorities is to establish or improve contact with their children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two women who began working with the practice were still involved in family court proceedings and had a child returned to their care.</li> </ul>																		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One woman had contact with her children for the first time in a year at Easter 2021. Contact had broken down as the woman understandably had difficulty managing her grief at the loss of the children. Her emotions often presented as anger towards the children’s social worker, her resulting behaviours were therefore preventing her being able to see her children, as these could be seen as aggressive. Her practitioner focused work around supporting the lady to develop coping mechanisms for her emotions, and to be able to communicate to the social worker and other professionals that her anger was as a result of grief, this helped her to better engage with professionals, and now contact has resumed.</li> <li>• One woman, whose children are adopted, was not engaging in letter box contact when she started working with the practice. However, a year later, having completed her detox from alcohol, started regularly attending the gym, completing her probation order, and applying to college to start her hairdressing course, she now feels that her life is much richer, and she now has positive news to share with her children, and she can be a role model for them.</li> </ul>
2.5	<p><b>Financial Impact</b></p> <p>The independent evaluation found that the Pause Programme is effective in making a positive difference in women’s lives, improving their relationships with children, reducing rates of infant care entry in local areas and delivering cost savings for local areas.</p> <p>Pause Rotherham was one of the sites whose data was included in the evaluation.</p> <p>The evaluation, using a ‘Difference in Difference’ analysis, indicates reductions in placement of 14.4 children per practice (after 12 months of opening) per annum, and £4.50 saved for every £1 spent over 4 years (Pause Evaluation P68)</p> <p><a href="https://publishing.service.gov.uk">Evaluation of Pause (publishing.service.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>Many of the other savings working with this current community of women have been around housing – a cost that is born by local authorities. One woman who was experiencing homelessness is now in suitable accommodation. The PSSRU estimates the cost of one person’s homelessness to a local authority to be £9,189 per year. (<i>Supported accommodation review, MHCLG, 2016 &amp; Greater Manchester Combined Authority Database (2019)</i>).</p> <p>Two women working with practice have also been supported to avoid evictions, a cost which can range from £800 to £7,000 per case (<i>Greater Manchester Combined Authority Database (2019)</i>).</p>
2.6	<p><b>Personal Impact</b></p> <p>2 women have left the service in a planned way from quarter 3. One woman was supported to exit an abusive relationship and re-locate to a refuge out of the area. Her feedback was:</p>

	<p><i>“Pause went above and beyond for me. I am so grateful for what everyone did for me. You have helped me with a lot.”</i></p> <p><i>“To any women who was unsure whether to work with Pause, I would say work with them, you will get so much out of it.”</i></p> <p>One woman had her youngest child returned to her care; she gave us the following feedback:</p> <p><i>“I can now go out on my own. [Pause] helped me with my confidence and showed me I can do anything I set my mind too.”</i></p> <p><i>“The thing I enjoyed most about working with Pause is being able to be myself and doing craft activities.”</i></p> <p><i>“For any woman who is unsure whether to work with Pause: my advice would be to work with them. You will see a difference in yourself and what you can achieve, just by having a little support by them.”</i></p>

*Report Authors:*

Lindsey Knight [Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk)

Joanne Kelly [Joanne.Kelly@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Joanne.Kelly@rotherham.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX 1

### Improving Lives Select Commission

#### Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission

#### Report Title

Rotherham Pause Practice – Impact Report

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

No

#### Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Sally Hodges

#### Report Author(s)

Jenny Lingrell

[Jenny.lingrell@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.lingrell@rotherham.gov.uk)

Lindsey Knight

[Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:Lindsey.knight@rotherham.gov.uk)

#### Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

#### Report Summary

The Pause Rotherham Practice launched in July 2018. The initial cohort of women will now begin to exit from the service. This report provides a summary of the impact that the practice has had on the first cohort of women.

Joint funding arrangements have now been agreed to sustain the Rotherham Pause Practice. A new cohort of women will be identified to engage with the model of support, beginning with a period of assertive outreach.

#### Recommendations

1. Improving Lives notes the impact of Pause Rotherham since its launch in July 2018.
2. DLT notes the options to fund Pause Rotherham for a further 3 years.

#### List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 – Pause Woman’s Journey (with cost avoidance details)\*

Appendix 2 – Pause Woman’s Journey (with cost avoidance details)\*

Appendix 3 – Pause Woman’s Journey\*

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Appendix 4 – Pause Woman’s Journey\***

\* Whilst all Pause women are pseudonymised due to the small size of the cohort and the specific circumstances of each woman, it may still be possible to identify individuals from these journey maps. As such, they will be shared privately with members of the Select Commission, and excluded from the public papers, and webcasting arrangements.

### **Background Papers**

#### **Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

Improving Lives Select Commission – 16 April 2019

#### **Council Approval Required**

No

#### **Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

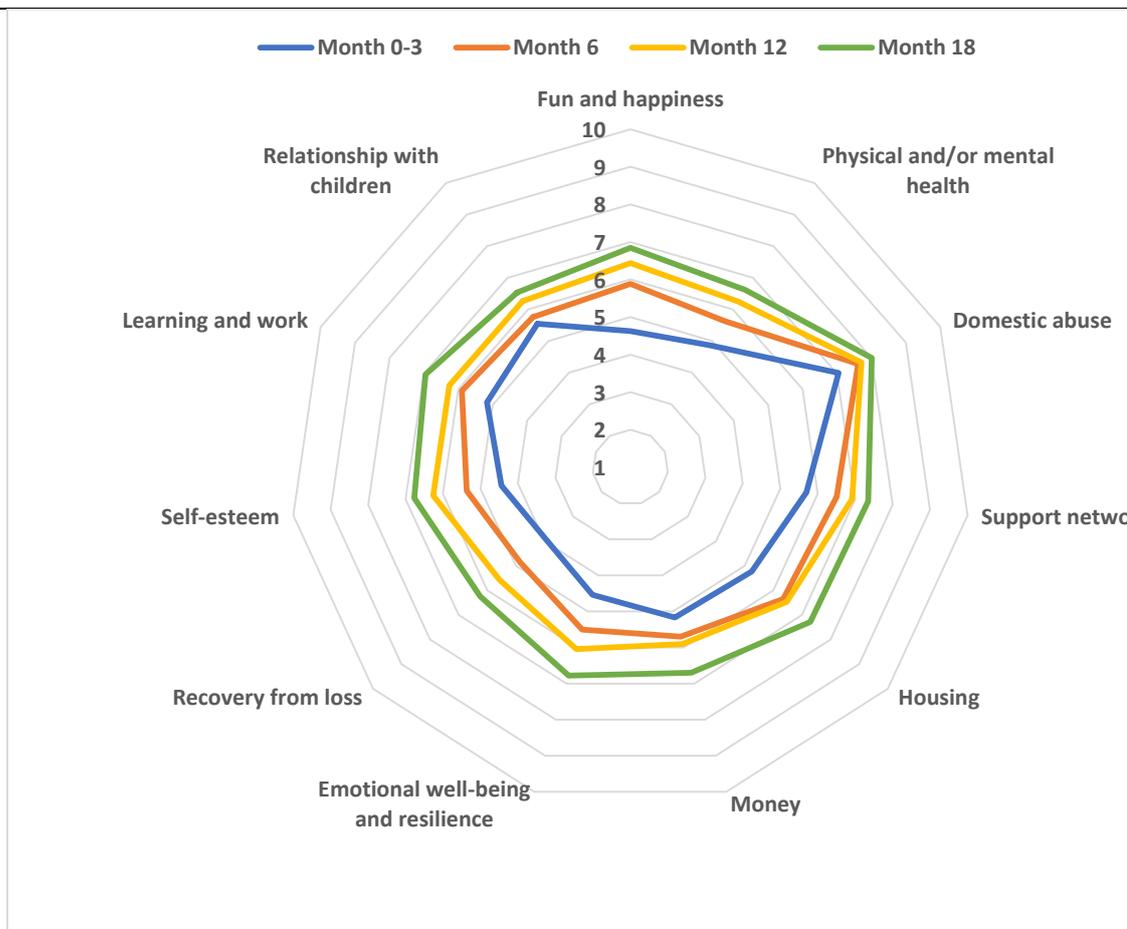
**APPENDIX 1****Rotherham Pause Practice - Impact****Rotherham Pause Practice – Impact Report**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Background</b>
1.1	<p>In October 2017 the Pause scoping exercise was presented to Improving Lives Select Commission. The Committee was supportive of the findings and the recommendation to set up a Pause Practice in Rotherham.</p> <p>Funding was identified from the Early Help budget to set up a Pause Practice for a minimum of 18 months. The planning and implementation phase and recruitment process were completed, and the Pause Rotherham Practice became operational in July 2018.</p>
1.2	<p>From the initial scoping exercise, 40 women were prioritised for assertive outreach. Of these 40 women, there are currently 20 women on the programme who have had 61 children removed from their care. This is an average number of 3 children removed for each woman.</p>
1.3	<p>Using the women's birthing histories, it can be estimated that if there was no targeted intervention for this group of women, there might be 7 new births in any future year.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p><b>Outcomes for Women</b></p> <p>The Rotherham Pause Practice is recognised by the national team as delivering good practice. The women from the current cohort have achieved positive outcomes across several areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 women have met the prospective adopters</li> <li>• 3 women have started to complete life story work</li> <li>• All women are registered with a GP</li> <li>• No women are now homeless</li> <li>• 7 women have ended relationships which involved domestic abuse</li> <li>• 1 woman has completed college and has 4 university offers</li> <li>• 7 women have reduced their alcohol intake in the last year</li> <li>• 9 women have accessed some form of mental health treatment through support from Pause</li> <li>• 8 avoided eviction and homelessness by Pause working with housing provider</li> <li>• Every woman has had budgeting support over the last year</li> <li>• 12 women have now accessed the correct benefits and addressed their debt issues</li> <li>• 3 women have stated that their relationship with their partner has improved since working with Pause</li> <li>• Every woman has received support around domestic abuse and healthy relationships</li> <li>• 5 women in the last year have re-established contact with their children since working with Pause</li> <li>• 8 women have made new friends since working with Pause</li> <li>• 3 women have been supported with their final contact since working with Pause</li> <li>• 20 women are accessing LARC</li> </ul>

## APPENDIX 1

2.2	<p><b>Outcomes Related to Further Education, Training and Employment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three of the women who accessed Pause are working. One woman is accessing a photography course at college and Pause has provided support to enable her to attend a college residential in March. The photography will also be framed and featured as part of Rotherham’s refreshed ‘Family Time Centre’. This woman aspires to go to university in the next year.</li> <li>• One woman has just completed her first semester at University and passed all her coursework with high 2:1’s. She is completing a BA in Zoology and hopes to work with elephants one day.</li> <li>• One woman is about to start a hair extension course, which has been funded through the women’s resource. Her practitioner will also be linking her with the Prince’s Trust to look at their business program.</li> <li>• One woman is keen on health and fitness and is due to start a course to become a Personal Trainer, funded by the women’s resource.</li> <li>• One woman has 9 GCSE’s and a Level 3 in Health and Social Care; Pause are supporting her to explore Open University options.</li> <li>• One woman who has a level of learning need would like to work towards employment, so her practitioner is currently exploring a volunteering opportunity in a charity shop for her.</li> </ul> <p>This evidences that 39% of the women in this cohort are moving forward by gaining new skills and employment opportunities. These outcomes are particularly positive in the context of the distance travelled from the point at which they engaged with the programme until graduation.</p>
2.3	<p><b>Pause Progress Tool</b></p> <p>The radar chart below shows how women have scored themselves on different areas of their lives at different stages of the programme (0-3months, 6 months, 12 months and 18 months). The chart is based on aggregate data of <b>697 women’s responses to Pause’s progress tool across 26 Practices</b>. Sample sizes range from 521 at baseline (Month 0-3) to 152 at final (Month 18).</p> <p><b>On average, women report improvements in all areas</b>—from fun and happiness, to domestic abuse and recovery from loss. These improvements are incremental throughout the programme lifecycle and, although they may plateau for some areas, overall, they move in a positive direction.</p> <p>Women tend to give positive feedback about using the progress tool and both Practitioners and women say that the conversations that the tool generates are of equal importance as the tool itself. These conversations are then used to help women to decide their priorities for their Pause Plan.</p>

APPENDIX 1



Pause progress tool scores at different stages of the programme

2.4 **Impact on Children**

Pause has also had an impact on some of the children who are now in kinship care or who have been adopted. The Rotherham Pause Practice has worked closely with social work teams and reflected on the importance of ‘holding the child in mind’.

Children who were adopted will now directly benefit from the work of Pause, as Life Story Work has been completed and they will see a record that they were loved and wanted by their birth mother. Women have also been able to engage in the Looked After Child review process and there is a record of this. Some women are now engaging with Letter Box contact for the first time.

Children who are in kinship care are directly benefiting from the work of Pause as their birth mothers are much more engaged in their education and, in some cases have attended school events. One woman has engaged in a words and pictures exercise with her children’s social worker to explain the current circumstances.

2.5 **Financial Impact**

The financial impact has been calculated based on the cost avoidance associated with the 20 women in Rotherham taking a pause from pregnancy for 18 months and, therefore, not having children removed into care. Pause has created a bespoke tool that summarises costs associated with the removal and support of children who are looked after away from home. It tallies typical costs associated with achieving permanence for children – including the costs associated with pre-birth risk

## APPENDIX 1

assessments, decision making processes and the cost of accommodating the child.

The tool maps the journey of children through the child protection process and details the activities involved in their removal. It was developed by process mapping what typically happens with one of Pause's early adopter local authorities. Unit costs have been taken from the Personal Social Service Research Unit – Unit Costs of Health and Social Care 2017 (PSSRU) and the New Economy Manchester Unit Cost Database v1.4. Where possible, costs and occurrence data have been tailored with local figures supplied by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council.

Costs have been split into three categories:

- **Cashable costs:** relate to the procurement of additional services; costs associated with the removal of children, including legal costs; and, the placement costs that are provided by the local authority or by the private and voluntary sectors.
- **Internal costs:** comprised of local authority internal costs, for example the cost of social worker time and the cost of internal adoption processes.
- **Total costs:** this is the sum of cashable and internal costs.

The calculations detailed below relate to a pause in pregnancy during the 18 month Pause programme and the associated avoided births nine months after this i.e. a total of 27 months (on the assumption that if a woman does not get pregnant during the 18 month programme, the earliest time she could have another child is 28 months after starting the Pause programme). Pause may well continue to influence a reduction in children being removed after 27 months, however as the programme is relatively new, a longitudinal study has not yet been carried out to verify this. We have therefore excluded these potential savings from the cost avoidance modelling.

The table below shows the average birth rate of the 20 women and estimates the number of avoided pregnancies and associated births over the 27 month period.

<b>Women in cohort</b>	20
<b>Birth rate</b>	0.33
<b>Time without pregnancy (years)</b>	2.25
<b>Avoided pregnancies</b>	15

The table above has been in conjunction to forecast future costs.

Given the birth rate of 0.33 per year among the identified group of women, it can be estimated that delivering Pause to 20 women has helped avoid 15 pregnancies and associated births over a period of 27 months.

The chart below illustrates the cost avoidance associated with 20 women on the programme taking a pause from pregnancy and the associated avoided births. It shows that the immediate avoidance would be £1,292,599 with the potential for avoiding £2,088,480 over a five-year period – of which £1,631,683 would be cashable cost avoidance.

## APPENDIX 1

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Cost forecast</b></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Time Period</th> <th>Total costs (£)</th> <th>Cashable costs (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1.5 years</td> <td>£1,292,599</td> <td>£835,802</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 years</td> <td>£1,633,691</td> <td>£1,176,894</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 years</td> <td>£2,088,480</td> <td>£1,631,683</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Note: The cashable costs make up part of the total costs (they are not additional to the total costs stated); the remainder is made up of internal costs.</i></p>	Time Period	Total costs (£)	Cashable costs (£)	1.5 years	£1,292,599	£835,802	3 years	£1,633,691	£1,176,894	5 years	£2,088,480	£1,631,683
Time Period	Total costs (£)	Cashable costs (£)											
1.5 years	£1,292,599	£835,802											
3 years	£1,633,691	£1,176,894											
5 years	£2,088,480	£1,631,683											
2.6	<p><b>Financial Impact Across the System</b></p> <p>Whilst most of the financial savings relate to the Local Authority, there are also savings to other services. The women's journey's illustrated in appendix 1 &amp; 2 identify the predicted costs to some of the partner agencies for two of the Pause women prior to taking part in the program. One of the Pause women has not had a police call out since working with Pause over a year ago, prior to this there had been 13 call outs in one year. This woman was also in a wheelchair and had needed specialist medical care on the maternity ward; these are no longer an issue for her, which demonstrates costs saved. These costs are likely to have continued without her accessing contraception and having the confidence to join Slimming World and start exercising at the gym group.</p>												
2.7	<p><b>Personal Impact</b></p> <p>The programme supports the longer-term objective of reducing the number of children who come into the care system. This programme provides women with the support to work towards change. Each woman has her own journey which has involved trauma. Having time and space is crucial in addressing what has happened to them, but also it provides them with confidence, something they all describe struggling with. The women can start to look at life more optimistically and recognise that they can have a positive future and take control of their lives.</p> <p>A Pause lady has commented:</p> <p>"... although I am still on a journey to being well again, I am feeling optimistic about life. I am building a support network with Alice's help, so that I never get lost again....I want to keep working with Alice and the team because by the end of my time with Pause I feel I will be able to continue with the other support Alice has put in</p>												

**APPENDIX 1**

	<p>place, and become the women I know I can be. I believe every woman with similar circumstances deserve the chance of help that I have got. We have all been devastated in losing the custody of our children and need support to deal with that to help us change. This support has helped me smile again, realise my self-worth and stop the cycle of pain in my life that put me in this position” Pause Woman - July 2019</p>

**Work programme – Improving Lives Select Commission**

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Purpose/ Outcomes	Recommendations
15 June 2021	Pause Progress report	Resolved in March 2020 to bring a further report after May 2021.	
	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.	

27 July 2021	YOT Improvement Plan	Resolved at January 2021 meeting to receive a progress update.	
	Adult Safeguarding	<p>Resolved at January 2021 meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adult's Board attends the July 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to present a report on how the Board is working to identify and support hidden female victims of violence.</li> <li>2. That the report presented at the July 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission also includes an analysis of cases that resulted in no further action being taken.</li> </ol>	
	Post-CSE Support	To receive the report from the sub-group of ILSC on Post-CSE Support.	
	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.	

<b>21 September 2021</b>	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.	

<b>26 October 2021</b>	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.	

<b>7 December 2021</b>	Rotherham Education Strategic Partnership	Resolved in June 2019 - That the evaluation of the Early Years Home Visiting Project be submitted to this Commission.	
	Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership – Annual Report	Annual item	
	SEND	Resolved December 2020 to request an update	
	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.	

<b>25 January 2022</b>	Education Performance	Annual item.	
	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.	

<b>8 March 2022</b>	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.	

<b>26 April 2022</b>	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.	

## Items pending scheduling 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
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
CYPS Directorate workforce strategy	Progress report	Focus to be discussed before scheduling
Re-referrals and repeat child protection planning – Progress report	<p>Resolved at June 2020 meeting to receive a progress report at December 2020 meeting.</p> <p>Nov 2020 – Rescheduled to March 2021</p> <p>Feb 2021 – Chair deferred item as data on this was not highlighting an areas of additional concern.</p>	To be scheduled
Mental Health and Digital Exclusion amongst young people.	Resolved at December 2020 HSC “That the Improving Lives Select Commission investigate young patients’ access to technology with a view to preventing their digital exclusion from accessing mental health services.”	To be scheduled
Impact of School closures during the pandemic.	To use the survey results received from children and young people to inform topics for scrutiny during	To feed into development of 2021/22 Work Programme.

	2021/22	
Domestic Abuse Strategy	To follow up from the meeting held where ILSC members were invited to input into the refresh of the Domestic Abuse Strategy.	To be scheduled or linked into OSMB pre-decision work.  April 2020 – “Following the end of the Market engagement process Officers can attend and update Scrutiny to allow for feed into the service specification development. This will likely be July/August 2021”

## Sub and Project Group Work

Updated: 2 June 2021

Project	Details	Status
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)	<b>Report completed.</b> To be presented at ILSC 27 July.
Liquid Logic	One off spotlight review to provide assurance to members on how the system is working in CYPS.	To schedule
Domestic Abuse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Domestic Homicide Review</li> <li>• Stalking and Harassment</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse Service Principles</li> </ul>	Referral from OSMB and January 2019 ILSC	To schedule (awaiting update from Home Office on domestic homicide).  To agree actions to complete the review.
Food Poverty/Holiday Hunger		<b>February 2021</b> - Briefing note received from Cabinet Member and Jackie Mould. Questions from members submitted. Next steps TBC once responses to questions have been received.
Early Help Offer	Resolved in October 2019  That a sub-group be established to undertake further scrutiny of the early help offer.	<b>June 2021</b> – To appoint a project group lead and project group members.
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