

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

Date and Time :- Tuesday 27 July 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 9:15am**

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 June 2021 (Pages 3 - 7)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 June 2021 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. Domestic Abuse - Identifying Hidden Victims (Pages 8 - 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 21 September 2021 commencing at 10am at Rotherham Town Hall.



Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION
Tuesday 15 June 2021

Present:- Councillor Pitchley (in the Chair); Councillors Cooksey, Aveyard, Barley, Burnett, Browne, Collingham, R. Elliott, Griffin, Hughes, Khan, Monk, Singleton, Thompson and Wilson.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors C Carter and Haleem.

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

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

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 9 AND 22 MARCH

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the meetings of the Improving Lives Select Commission, held on 9 and 22 March 2021, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved: -

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for during the presentation on the Pause Project on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

5. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

6. ROTHERHAM PAUSE PRACTICE - IMPACT REPORT

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director – Children's Social Care and the Pause Practice Lead attended the meeting to provide a progress report on the Pause programme and on the second cohort of women who had accessed the programme.

In introducing the report, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services noted that in October 2017 a proposal to introduce the Pause Project in Rotherham had been presented to the Improving Lives Select Commission where members had been supportive of the recommendation to set up a Pause Practice in Rotherham. The Cabinet Member advised that the report provided information on the work of the Project since the last progress report to the Improving Lives Select Commission in March 2020 as well as detailing the impact of the pandemic on its operation.

The Cabinet Member noted the independent evaluation, that had included Pause Rotherham, that had been commissioned by the Department for Education and carried out by the University of Sussex, in partnership with Research in Practice and Ipsos Mori had been published in November 2020. This evaluation had found that the Pause Programme was 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.

The Assistant Director – Children's Social Care noted that Pause worked with women who had experienced, or were at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care, supporting them to make positive choices, helping them to improve their relationships with their children and in helping to prevent further children being taken into care. The Assistant Director noted that a wide range of methods had been used to engage with the women on the Project during the pandemic but noted the challenges of providing a relationship-based programme of support in such difficult circumstances.

The Assistant Director advised since the last report had been presented to the Improving Lives Select Commission that the first cohort of had women successfully transitioned on with many of these women achieving a number of positive changes within their lives. It was also noted that a small number of the women who had accessed the programme towards the end of 2019 had also successfully transitioned on. The Assistant Director advised that the joint funding arrangement that was in place in place between the Council and the CCG would be reviewed during the coming 12 months.

The Assistant Director advised that here were currently eight women who were currently engaged on the programme, who between them had had 20 children removed from their care, and that in addition there were a further eight women who were in the 'Engaging' phase. It was noted that 50% of the women on the programme had previously been in the care system and that in total since 1 April 2020 the practice had had contact with 47 women who had between them had had a total of 150 children removed from their care.

The Assistant Director advised that the Pause Practice Lead had

completed further work to establish which women would be eligible for Pause Rotherham and had been working closely with children's social care to develop the referral pathway. It was noted that it was hoped that the practice would, as a consequence start to see an increase in referrals from children's social workers.

The Assistant Director advised that the Rotherham Pause Practice had been recognised by the national Pause team as delivering good practice and that despite the challenges that have been presented due to Covid-19, the team have continued to support Rotherham women to access this service. It was also noted that the independent evaluation that had been carried out on the Pause Programme had found that the Pause Programme was 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 in delivering cost savings for local areas.

Members welcomed the continued positive outcomes for the women on the programme and asked what the definition of success was for the programme. The Pause Practice Lead advised that success was measured by the number of women who engaged with the programme and agreed to access contraception. Members asked how women were selected to access the programme. The Pause Practice Lead stated that the selection of women was based on national criteria, but that as potential demand was greater than the capacity of the programme, those women who were in the greatest need of support were viewed as a priority.

The Chair asked whether women could access the programme if they had had only one child taken into care. The Pause Practice Lead advised that for most women that once one child had been taken in care that they would take action themselves in order to ensure that any children that they had in the future would not be taken into the care system. The Pause Practice Lead noted however that younger women, or women who had been in the care system themselves could access the programme once they had had one child removed due to the higher than average risk of subsequent children also being removed from their care.

Members asked about how the alternative ways of working that had been used during the pandemic had worked. The Pause Practice Lead advised that the ways of engaging with the women on the programme during the pandemic had worked well in breaking down barriers, and that engaging online had worked well with women who might have found traditional ways of engaging difficult due to previous negative experiences of accessing services. Members welcomed the new referral pathway that had been created and asked whether any further referral pathways were being developed. The Pause Practice Lead advised that a further pathway had been developed with the First Contact Team.

Members asked for assurances around how the Pause Project worked with and linked in with other council services. The Cabinet Member

assured members that the programme linked into other services provided by the council and other delivery partners in order to provide a wrap-around service. The Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services advised that as the service was jointly funded with the CCG, joint working was well integrated into the delivery of the programme.

Members asked about the wider work that was being carried out to ensure that vulnerable young women leaving the care system did not end up in a situation of repeated trauma of having multiple children removed from their care. The Assistant Director advised that all young women leaving the care system would have a pathway plan in place to support them to make positive life choices. The Assistant Director also noted that it was part of the Council's role of being a good corporate parent in ensuring that children in their care were equipped to make a success of their lives. The Cabinet Member noted that it was essential that young women leaving the care system were ambitious and aspirational for their futures, and that this was the best way to ensure the traumatic cycles of repeatedly having children removed were avoided.

The Chair noted the details in the report regarding the financial impact of the programme and the estimates shown for the amount of costs avoided by preventing serial removals of children into care from the same woman. The Chair asked whether these figures were Rotherham specific or from multiple Pause Programmes across the country. The Assistant Director advised that this would be investigated, and that the information would be circulated to committee members.

The Pause Practice Lead made a presentation that provided case studies of women who had participated in the programme that illustrated how the programme had supported them to make positive changes in their lives. Members asked several specific questions about the case studies included in the presentation.

Members expressed their sincere thanks everyone who was involved in delivering the Pause Programme in Rotherham and who were making such a positive impact on the Pause women's lives.

The Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director – Children's Social Care and the Pause Practice Lead for attending the meeting and answering member questions.

Resolved: -

That the report be noted.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee considered its Work Programme for 2021/22.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the Work Programme be updated as discussed.
- 2) That the Work Programme for 2020/21 be approved.
- 3) That members email suggestions for topics for consideration for addition to the Work Programme to the Chair and the Governance Advisor.

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

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

Resolved: -

- 1) That the update be noted.
- 2) That members contact the Governance Advisor with expressions of interest in taking part in the sub-group review surrounding the Council's Early Help Offer.

9. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no urgent items of business.

10. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 22 July 2021 at 10am at Rotherham Town Hall.



Public Report
Improving Lives Select Commission

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission – 19 July 2021

Report Title

Domestic Abuse Presentation – Identifying Hidden Victims

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

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Acting Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

Sam Barstow, Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services
Sam.barstow@rotherham.gov.uk

Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

A presentation, as requested by the Committee, exploring efforts to identify hidden victims of domestic abuse.

Recommendations

1. That the Committee note the report.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Presentation

Appendix 2 Minutes of the Improving Lives Select Commission 26 January 2021

Background Papers

None

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

None

Council Approval Required No

Exempt from the Press and Public No

Domestic Abuse Presentation – Identifying Hidden Victims

1. Background

- 1.1 At the meeting of the Improving lives Select Commission held on 26 January 2021 it had been resolved to receive further information on work surrounding how hidden victims of Domestic Abuse were identified (Minute No.133 2020/21)

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The attached presentation provides information on the following topics:

- The National Picture
- The Local Data – Increasing Conversion
- What's the Offer Locally
- Promoting and Raising Awareness of Services
- Lessons Learnt Processes
- Market Engagement Feedback and Early Vision

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 This presentation has been developed following a request from the Committee and therefore no alternative options have been considered.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 This report does not represent a proposal however activities in relation to Domestic Abuse is coordinated by a strong partnership board which reports in to the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 Report is for noting only.

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 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 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

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 Implications are noted within the presentation.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 Considered within the presentation.

11. Implications for CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 No implications arising from this report.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 Considered within the presentation.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Presentation is for noting only.

14. Accountable Officer(s)

Sam Barstow, Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services.

Report Author: Sam Barstow, Head of Community Safety and Regulatory Services

Sam.barstow@rotherham.gov.uk

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



Safer Rotherham
PARTNERSHIP

Domestic Abuse Hidden Victims

Amanda Raven

Sam Barstow

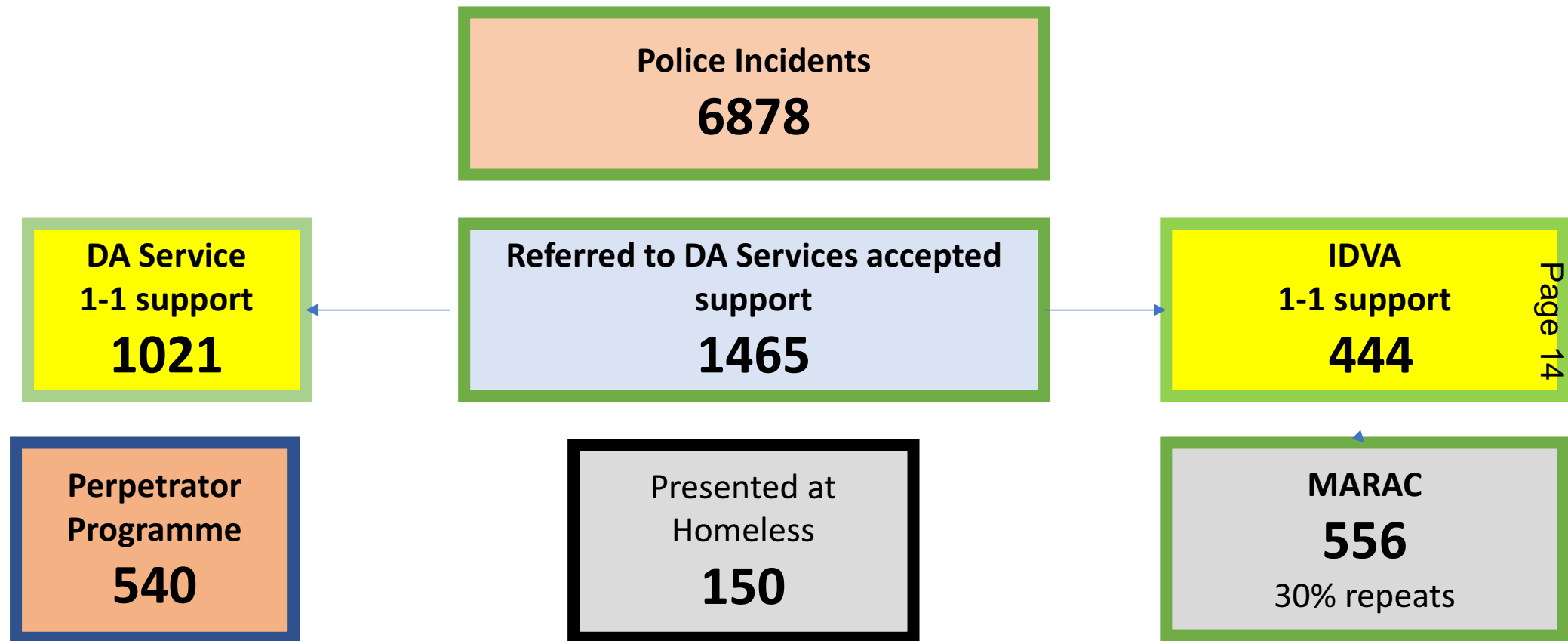
Domestic Abuse – Hidden Victims

- The National Picture
- The Local Data – Increasing Conversion
- What's the Offer Locally
- Promoting and Raising Awareness of Services
- Lessons Learnt Processes
- Market Engagement Feedback and Early Vision

The Big Picture 2020

- England had over 1.3 million police incidents
- The Home Office estimate 20,000 incidences a year in Rotherham
- The Police recorded 6878 incidents
- Domestic Abuse services supported 1465 victims in 1-1 support
- This does not include group work or one off advice and support

Rotherham - 2020



Domestic Abuse – additional offer

Multi Agency Domestic Abuse Hub (MADA) Daily high risk cases

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) two monthly

Multi Agency Tasking And Coordination hub (MATAC) monthly

disrupt high offending/repeat perpetrators

Repeat Escalation Meeting (REM) – repeat incidences of medium risk cases

Perpetrator Programme – to commence with new provider Cranstoun
September 2021

Promotions and awareness raising

- Cards printed in key languages, SYP to give to victims at first point of contact
- Posters and leaflets at all covid testing and vaccination sites.
- Ask for Ani
- Know the line promotion on sexual harassment
- Reclaim the night
- 16 days of DA awareness
- Smartwater
- Crimestoppers DA campaign
- DA matters – SYP training events

Training package available and attendees

Name of Training	Q3&4 Total Trained = 759	Q1 Total Trained = 168
DA Awareness	348	97
HB & Forced Marriage	40	0
Stalking & Harassment	43	0
Children Experiencing DA	55	0
YP experiencing Intimate Partner Violence	29	0
Male Victims	34	0
Supporting Older People	21	0
LGBT	7	0
Sexual Abuse Awareness	36	0
DASH & MARAC	61	0
Coercive Control Behaviour	33	18
Supporting Young People Training	19	32
HBA, FGM, FM Training	33	0
Trauma Informed in Working	0	21

TRAINING DOMESTIC ABUSE STATISTICS – 2020/21				2021/22
Service	Q3	Q4	Organisation Total Trained	Q1
RMBC	108	131	239	60
Roth Rise	1	0	1	0
SYP	11	2	13	1
Rothacs	0	0	2	2
SYF&R	4	2	6	0
TRFT	6	95	110	15
NHS	122	57	179	67
RDASH	28	0	28	0
CGL	8	2	10	0
Probation	10	9	19	4
SYHA	13	0	13	6
BSARCS op Stovewood	9	6	15	0
YWCA	5	11	16	5
APNA HAQ	0	11	11	0
REMA	0	1	1	0
RNN	3	1	4	4
Shiloe Rotherham	0	1	1	0
Education	37	66	103	4
TOTAL TRAINED	365	394	759	168

Overview of Domestic related deaths

2011 to date Domestic Homicide Review

- There has been 7 Domestic Homicides 3 male and 4 female, including 2 suicide and one same sex relationship

2015 to date Near Miss Review

- 20+ cases have been looked at due to the nature of incident and injuries

Suicide Review

- 6 cases in 2019 from 20 deaths where Domestic Abuse has been present as either victim or perpetrator and 7 cases in 2018 from 32 deaths.

Current DHRs and Near Miss

- DHR review – Male stabbing, female and male perpetrators both found guilty and on remand. Review started January 2021
- DHR review – Female hanging, no charges have been made. Review started July 2021
- DHR review out of area – Female victim lives in Rotherham and found dead at a house in Liverpool, investigations ongoing
- Near miss – Female asylum seeker assaulted and friend attacked with a manchette, perpetrator arrested.
- Suicide of perpetrator out of area – lives in Rotherham found hanging after argument with victim, investigations ongoing

7 Domestic Homicide Reviews 2011 - 2021

VICITMS	PERPETRATOR	RELATIONSHIP	METHOD
Male (current review)	Female and Male	Partner and lodger	Stabbing
Female (current Review)	Male	partner	suicide
Male	Female Male	Partner	Thrown from a cliff
Male	Female	Partner	Suicide
Male	Female	Partner	Stabbing
Female Female	Male Male	Husband Father	Suffocation Suffocation
Female	Male	Partner	Set on fire

Recommissioning of services, Early Vision

Single gateway into D.A services – triage

Commissioned Service merged as one contract – standard to high risk

A clear offer of support for victims in co-abusive relationships and victims with a higher complexity of need – includes a re model of the current in house IDVA service provision

Demand led service - flexible

Trauma Informed approach

Whole Family Approach

Greater focus is required in relation to early prevention and intervention

Dedicated Helpline

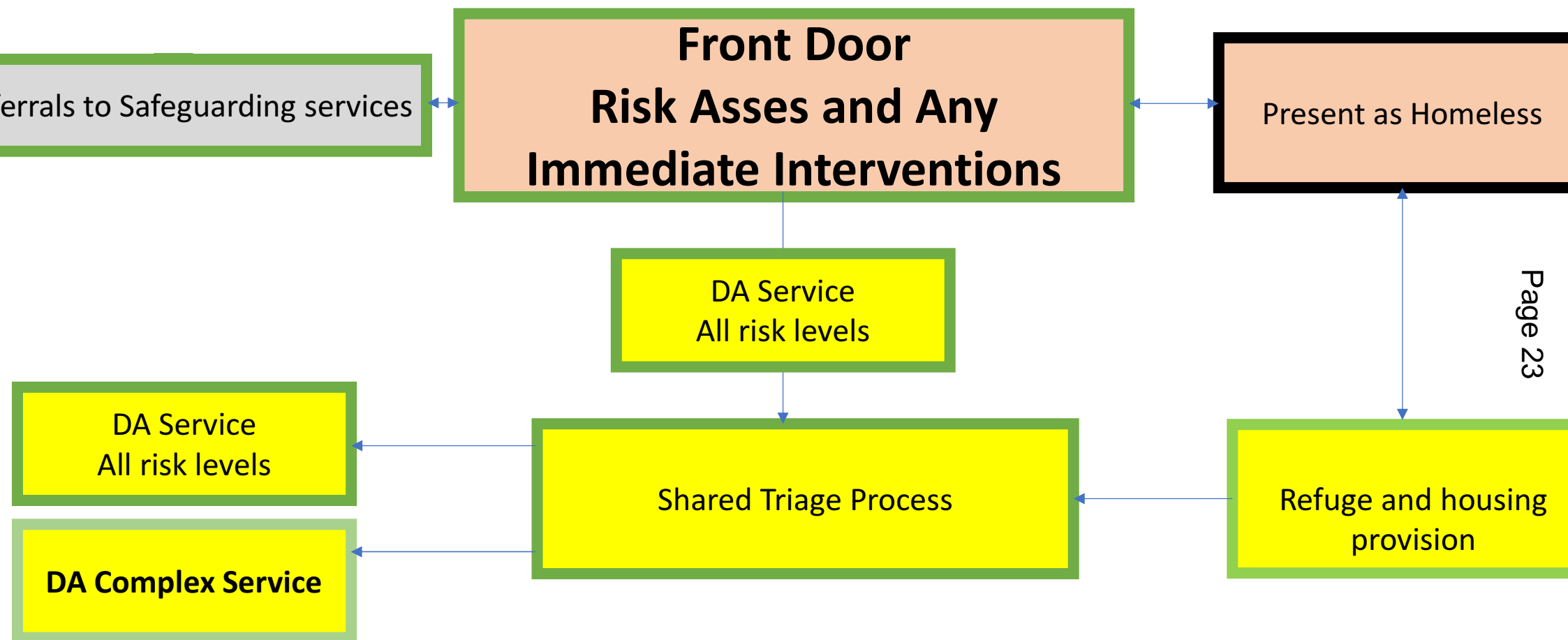
Central Website

Use of technology, digital offer, building on good practice, particularly through Covid

Increased engagement

A diverse offer of provision which meets the needs of all victims, particularly male victims and those with protected characteristics

Vision Domestic Abuse Pathway Rotherham



IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION
Tuesday 26 January 2021

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

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Fenwick-Green and Hague.

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

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

128. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2020

Resolved: - That the minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission held on 15 December 2020 be approved as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

129. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

130. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

131. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

132. COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair noted that she had attended the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel on 5 January and advised that a full written update would be circulated to members.

The Chair advised that an additional meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission had been scheduled for Monday 22 March to enable members to receive a report on key performance indicators across the Children and Young People's Services Directorate.

133. ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT

The Assistant Director - Adult Social Care and Integration and the Safeguarding Adults Board Manager attended the meeting to present the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board 2019/20 Annual Report.

It was noted that the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB)

worked to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect with its key objective being to ensure that local safeguarding arrangements and partnerships acted to help and protect adults at risk or experiencing neglect and/or abuse. The report stated that the RSAB was a multi-agency strategic, rather than operational, partnership that was made up of senior/lead officers within adult social services, criminal justice, health, housing, community safety, voluntary organisations. It was noted that the main role of the RSAB was to coordinate the strategic development of adult safeguarding across Rotherham and to ensure the effectiveness of the work undertaken by Partner Agencies in the area.

The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager made a presentation to the meeting that included information on:

- The priorities of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board.
- Achievements during 2019/20, including:
 - Completing the first joint self-assessment with the Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership.
 - Carrying out a training needs analysis across the partnership to develop a refreshed safeguarding training offer.
 - Holding a successful Safeguarding Awareness Week in 2019.
- Plans for future activity.

The Assistant Director - Adult Social Care and Integration advised that a key area focus of activity for the RSAB in the coming year would be the issue of hoarding and self-neglect with the objective to improve the level of support provided in this area. The Assistant Director stated that work would also continue be carried out in order to ensure that all safeguarding activity was based around the individual needs of each service user.

The full Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board 2019/20 Annual Report had been included in the agenda pack for the meeting.

Members asked for further information on the training that had been provided across the RSAB membership and whether training had been provided to voluntary sector organisations. The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager stated that training had been provided to voluntary sector organisations and noted that a new training provider was now working with the RSAB, with the training programme due to be relaunched in Spring 2021. The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager noted that the demands of the pandemic had resulted in a reduced take up of training but advised that the imminent relaunch of the training would aim to

increase the uptake of training opportunities.

Members noted the multiagency approach of the RSAB and asked for further information on the different organisations that had accessed safeguarding training. The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager stated that it was a key objective of the RSAB to deliver safeguarding awareness training as widely as possible, noting that banks and supermarkets held leaflets on to increase awareness on safeguarding issues and advised that banks had assisted in the delivery of awareness training regarding financial abuse.

The Chair asked for further information on the work that was being carried out to address the issues highlighted by a safeguarding adults review that had been detailed in the annual report following the death of a vulnerable 60-year old woman. The Assistant Director noted that the case had highlighted a series of failures including a lack of clarity for the service user and her support network. The Assistant Director advised that this case had shown the need to ensure that service delivery was always based around individual needs and to ensure that their needs were met rather than being based around set delivery methods and processes.

The Chair noted the misleading use of the term “honour-based violence” in the annual report, as such activity was simply violence against women and girls. The Chair asked whether this type of violence was an increasing problem in Rotherham. The Assistant Director advised that there was currently no evidence of this type of violence increasing in Rotherham. The Chair asked how confident the Board was that they had the processes in place to ensure that they knew about all victims of this type of violence. The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager provided information on the reporting procedures used and assured members that the processes were robust and that the Board was confident that they had a good understanding about the victims and the prevalence of this type of violence.

Members also sought assurance about the data collection methods used by organisations supported by the RSAB and the reporting methods to the RSAB. The Safeguarding Adults Board Manager assured members that all organisations had clear processes for recording and reporting safeguarding concerns and detailed the processes and methods used by the RSAB for analysing and understanding cases and data.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Director Adult Social Care and Integration and the Safeguarding Adults Board Manager for attending the meeting and answering members’ questions.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) 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.

- 3) 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.

134. YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM INSPECTION REPORT

The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director - Early Help and Family Engagement and the Service Manager - Evidence Based Hub and Youth Offending Team attended the meeting to present a report that detailed the outcomes of the HM Inspector of Prisons inspection of the Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) that had taken place between 14 and 17 September 2020. It was noted that due to the impact of the pandemic that the inspection had been carried out remotely. The inspection had looked at YOT activity over the three domains of Organisational Delivery, Court Disposals and Out of Court Disposals.

Jenny Lingrell, Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Alison Cowie and Paul Theaker from Rotherham NHS/CCG, Catherine Barnett, Head of the Youth Justice Board (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) and Inspectors Nathalie Gilmour and Abdul Aziz of South Yorkshire Police also attended the meeting for this item.

The Inspection report had been published on 17 December 2020 with the Overall judgement being "Requires Improvement". The full inspection report was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

In introducing the report, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working noted the disappointment that had been felt across the service when the outcome of the inspection had been announced as "Requires Improvement". Despite the disappointment, the Deputy Leader advised that he was pleased to note the swift response taken by the Assistant Director - Early Help and Family Engagement, the Service Manager - Evidence Based Hub and Youth Offending Team to implement the recommendations that would address the areas of concern that had been detailed in inspection report. The Deputy Leader noted that while the outcome had been "Requires Improvement" that the inspection report had highlighted many examples of good practice across the service.

The Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services echoed the disappointment in the outcome of the inspection that had been expressed by the Deputy Leader. The Strategic Director noted the extra challenges that an inspection carried out virtually had created for reducing the opportunities for officers across the YOT to have the type of

communication with the inspection team that would have been possible had the inspection taken place physically. The Strategic Director advised that she would also now be attending YOT Board meetings along with Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman of South Yorkshire Police.

The officer's report provided a summary of the activities that were planned to address the issues raised in the inspection. The full Inspection Action Plan was attached as an appendix to the officer's report.

The Assistant Director - Early Help and Family Engagement and the Service Manager - Evidence Based Hub and Youth Offending Team made a presentation to the meeting that presented the findings of the inspection and detailed the activities planned to address the areas of concern highlighted in the report.

As a result of the outcome HMIP had made five recommendations that were:

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.

The inspection report also included details of areas of strength in the YOT service that included:

- The Chair of the YOT Management Board was very committed to his role and was a strong advocate for children.
- There was priority given to involving children, listening to what they

said and responding to their feedback in order to influence future service delivery.

- The Management Board and the partnership were aware that there was a disproportionate number of black, Asian and minority ethnic children known to the YOT, and had projects in place to try to address the issue.
- YOT staff did all they could to encourage good engagement and compliance from the child and their family, and staff and managers were child-centred and knew their children well.
- The YOT had good transition arrangements with the National Probation Service and the Community Rehabilitation Company, that included regular transition meetings where cases were monitored and reviewed.
- The service had good links with the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Team, and the Head of Inclusion was a member of the YOT Management Board.

The Inspection Report highlighted areas for improvement that included the following areas for improvement:

- Although health provision was available through the Early Help Service, the arrangements did 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, lacked clarity.
- Board members did not understand the specific needs of YOT children so could not effectively advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.
- The Management Board and the partnership had not focused on why so many Looked After Children were known to the YOT.
- YOT figures for post-16-year-old children who were not in education, training or employment were high, and the partnership had not done enough work to review what provision was available in the locality for this cohort of children.
- Although YOT practitioners could access the interventions that were available as part of the wider Rotherham early help offer, there was little evidence that these services were regularly used for children known to the YOT.
- The inspection found that management oversight was poor both for post-court orders and out-of-court disposals.

Over the 12 strands of the three domains that had been assessed of Organisational Delivery, Court Disposals and Out of Court Disposals, three had been found to be inadequate that were:

- Court Disposals - Assessments had been rated as inadequate. It was noted that this judgement related to six cases that had been inspected out of a cohort of 15 (40%).
- Out of Court Disposals - Planning – It was stated that “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 and Delivery were also judged to be inadequate. It was stated that “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.” It was noted that four cases had been inspected out of a cohort of 181 (2.2% of cases).

In advance of members asking questions related to the report the Chair invited the guests at the meeting to comment on the report and the issues raised.

Alison Cowie and Paul Theaker of Rotherham NHS/CCG noted the importance of the partnership working that was enabled by the Youth Offending Board and advised that work was being carried out to ensure that processes were in place to enable health and wellbeing needs to be identified and addressed met more effectively.

Inspectors Nathalie Gilmour and Abdul Aziz stated that South Yorkshire Police continued to be committed to working with the YOT in order to deliver the best possible outcomes for the service and advised that the role of youth engagement officers in the force would be further developed to support the work of the YOT.

Catherine Barnett, Head of the Youth Justice Board, Yorkshire and the Humber Region, noted the disappointment felt by everyone involved at the inspection result but emphasised that Rotherham YOT was only part way through an ongoing improvement and development journey and that that had been recognised and acknowledged by the inspectors. The Head of the Youth Justice Board also noted that the report had detailed many of the strengths of the YOT including how the Youth Offending Board placed the voice and experiences of the children and young people at the heart of all of its activity. The inspection report had also acknowledged that the YOT had a deep and sound understanding of the current cohort of YOT cases and of their individual needs. The Head of

the Youth Justice Board confirmed the commitment of all partners on the YOT Management Board to deliver the actions detailed in the inspection action plan that would address the areas for improvement that had been highlighted by inspection.

The Assistant Director - Early Help and Family Engagement noted the excellent level of support received from the Youth Justice Board and welcomed the contribution that they would be making to support the delivery of the actions as set out in the Inspection Action Plan.

Jenny Lingrell, Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion reaffirmed that the health assessments would focus on both physical and mental health needs, and that the process would ensure that the outcomes of these assessments could be clearly evidenced and understood by all of those involved in the process.

Members noted their disappointment at the result of the inspection, having been previously given assurances on how well the YOT was functioning. Members however acknowledged the challenges that the remote inspection had created, the small number of cases reviewed out of a very complex cohort and that the YOT was still only part way through an improvement journey.

Members asked whether training was being planned to ensure that all members of the YOT Management Board were able to understand the specific needs of children known to the YOT and were able to advocate on their behalf in their own agencies. The Assistant Director advised that training would be delivered to YOT Management Board members to enable them to maximise the effectiveness of their roles. The Service Manager advised that the YOT Management Board had undergone a period of expansion to make its membership broader, and as such had more diverse membership of stakeholders, some of which did not have the background and deeper understanding of youth offending issues. The Service Manager advised that as such many of the Board members were still developing into their roles. The Service Manager advised that a varied and in depth training offer would be provided to enable the newer members gain a broader understanding of youth offending issues that would enable them to contribute fully to the workings of the Board.

Members asked how service users were involved with the YOT Management Board and how the Board used their experiences to shape service delivery. The Assistant Director advised that service user's experiences were central to the working of the YOT Management Board with service user feedback and other listening activities being widely used.

Members asked whether a skills audit had been completed for the members of the YOT Management Board to ensure that the Board was fully utilising the skills of its members. Members also asked whether former service users were involved in the governance role of the YOT

Management Board. The Assistant Director confirmed that a skills audit had been conducted and advised that at present former service users were not involved in the governance of the Board but noted that some former service users were employed in support roles in the YOT and that their experiences and input had been fed into service development.

Members asked about how the YOT worked with wider families to ensure that other family members did not start offending behaviour and to prevent offending behaviour becoming normal behaviour for those families. The Service Manager advised that this absolutely was a focus for the YOT. The Service Manager advised that the adoption of the Early Help assessment process had enabled a much more holistic approach to support to be taken as the assessment process for service users was much broader in its scope than the assessment process that had been used previously. The Service Manager advised that the new assessment process enabled consideration to be given to how other issues and the wider social environment may impact on a service user. The Service Manager advised that this broader approach enabled work to be carried out with the wider family and supported activity designed to prevent family members following into offending behaviour. Members asked that case studies regarding this area of the YOT's work be included in any future YOT updates to the Improving Lives Select Commission.

Members welcomed the focus on preventative work with families and noted the importance of working to break offending cycles of behaviour. Members asked for further information on the work that was carried out before young offenders were released from young offender institutions. The Service Manager advised that the YOT started working with and providing support to individuals before sentencing and then throughout their sentence in order to prepare them for release and reduce the risk of them reoffending.

The Chair asked what could be learned from the outcome of the inspection. The Deputy Leader advised that prior to the inspection that an improvement plan for the YOT had been being progressed, and that while the outcome of the inspection had been disappointing the inspection report hadn't highlighted any areas for improvement that had not already been included in the improvement plan for the service. The Chair noted these assurances and welcomed the speed in which the Inspection Action Plan had been put into place. The Chair asked how much confidence there the required activities included in the Inspection Plan being delivered. The Deputy Leader advised that he was as confident as he could be on the delivery on the Inspection Action Plan given the uncertainties surrounding the pandemic. The Deputy Leader advised that the Corporate Parenting Panel would be looking into the issue of the number of Looked After Children in the current YOT cohort.

The Head of the Youth Justice Board advised that there was the potential for a reinspection of the YOT within the next 12 months and noted that the Inspection Action Plan would ensure that the YOT would be fully prepared

for any future inspection.

The Chair thanked Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Neighbourhood Working, the Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director - Early Help and Family Engagement and the Service Manager - Evidence Based Hub and Youth Offending Team for attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

The Chair also thanked Jenny Lingrell, Joint Assistant Director, Commissioning, Performance and Inclusion, Alison Cowie and Paul Theaker from Rotherham NHS/CCG, Catherine Barnett, Head of the Youth Justice Board (Yorkshire and the Humber Region) and Inspectors Nathalie Gilmour and Abdul Aziz of South Yorkshire Police for attending the meeting and answering members' questions.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That a progress report on the implementation of the Youth Offending Team Improvement Plan be brought to the July 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
- 3) That the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission be consulted as part of the activities included in any future peer reviews conducted by the Youth Offending Service.

135. 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.

136. IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION - MONITORING REPORT

The Committee considered the outstanding actions on the Monitoring Report.

Resolved: - That Monitoring Report be noted.

137. 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.

138. URGENT BUSINESS

There were no items of urgent business.

139. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 9 March 2021 at 5:30pm as a Microsoft Teams meeting.

Work programme – Improving Lives Select Commission – Updated 19 July 2021

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.	That the report be noted.
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme	That the Work Programme be noted and updated as discussed.
	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	That the report be noted.

27 July 2021	Adult Safeguarding	<p>Resolved at January 2021 meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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. 	
	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.	

21 September 2021	YOT Improvement Plan	Resolved at January 2021 meeting to receive a progress update.	
	Radicalisation of young people and extremism	Referred to ILSC from OSMB	July 2021 – Chair and Vice Chair will be receiving a briefing in order to consider the focus of the subsequent report to the committee.
	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.	
26 October	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	

2021			
	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.	
7 December 2021	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.	
25 January 2022	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.	
8 March 2022	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	
	Project group	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an	

	updates	update on the work of the project groups.	
	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.	
26 April 2022	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
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Post-CSE Support	To receive the report from the sub-group of ILSC on Post-CSE Support.	To be scheduled
Missing from Home/Education (Update from Strategic Missing Group)	Progress report	To be scheduled
Adult Safeguarding	Resolved at January 2021 meeting. 1. 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.	To be scheduled
Counter extremism in schools	Resolved in September 2019 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. That an update on its counter extremism work be submitted to this Commission as part of 2020/21 work programme. 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. Focus to be on work being done in schools.	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	Resolved at June 2020 meeting to receive a progress report at December 2020 meeting. Nov 2020 – Rescheduled to March 2021 Feb 2021 – Chair deferred item as data on this was not highlighting an areas of additional concern.	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 2021/22	To feed into development of 2021/22 Work Programme.
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.	<p>To be scheduled or linked into OSMB pre-decision work.</p> <p>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”</p>

Sub and Project Group Work

Updated: 19 July 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)	Report completed. To be presented at ILSC meeting TBC
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"> 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.
Food Poverty/Holiday Hunger		February 2021 - 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.	June 2021 – 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