

## IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

- Date and Time :-** Tuesday 8 March 2022 at 10.00 a.m.
- Venue:-** Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham.
- Membership:-** Councillors Pitchley (Chair), Cooksey (Vice Chair), Andrews, Aveyard, Bacon, Barley, Browne, Z Collingham, Elliott, Griffin, Haleem, Jones, Hughes, Khan, Mills, Monk, and Thompson

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 25 January 2022 (Pages 5 - 10)**

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 January 2022 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. Corporate Parenting Panel - Update**

To receive an update from the Chair on the work of the Corporate Parenting Panel.

**8. Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership - Annual Report (Pages 11 - 46)**

**9. Ofsted/ Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection - Written Statement of Action inclusive of update on SEND Sufficiency Phase 3 (Pages 47 - 103)**

**10. Work Programme (Pages 105 - 119)**

To consider and approve the Commission's Work Programme.

**11. Improving Lives Select Commission - Sub and Project Group Updates**

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

**12. Urgent Business**

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

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

The next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 3 May commencing at 10am in Rotherham Town Hall.



Sharon Kemp,  
Chief Executive.

**IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION**

Tuesday 25 January 2022

Present:- Councillor Pitchley (in the Chair); Councillors Andrews, Aveyard, Barley Cooksey, Z. Collingham, Elliott, Griffin, Haleem, Jones, Khan, Mills, Monk and Thompson.

Apologies for absence: - Apologies were received from Councillors Bacon, Browne and Hughes.

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

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

**61. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21 DECEMBER 2021**

**Resolved:** - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission, held on 21 December 2021 be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

**62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

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

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

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

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

**65. COMMUNICATIONS**

The Chair advised that the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel was scheduled for 15 February and that a report on the meeting would be provided at the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

**66. ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT**

The Acting Strategic Director – Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health attended the meeting to present the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board 2020/21 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 Acting Strategic Director – Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health made a presentation to the meeting that included information on:

- The priorities of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board, that were:
  - Prevention and Early Intervention
  - Making Safeguarding Personal
  - Quality Assurance
  - Service User Engagement
  
- Key achievements from 2020/21, that included:
  - Online bespoke training being commissioned on Making Safeguarding Personal
  - The RSAB Policy for Self-Neglect and Hoarding being launched.
  - One Safeguarding Adults Review being published in March 2021
  - The delivery of Safeguarding Awareness Week in November 2020.
  
- Plans for future activity that included:
  - For Safeguarding Adults Review action plans to be used to share and develop learning across the Partnership
  - To carry on the work around increasing awareness of Self–Neglect and Hoarding across the Partnership
  - To Continue to develop joint working with Community Safety and Safeguarding Children’s Partnership in order to share learning and training opportunities.

The full Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board 2020/21 Annual Report was attached as an appendix to the officer’s report.

Members noted the importance of early intervention with regard to adult safeguarding and the importance of members of the public making safeguarding referrals. Members asked for further information on how awareness of safeguarding issues was promoted with the public. The Acting Strategic Director - Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health noted the activities that had taken place as part of Annual Safeguarding week but advised that on the issue of awareness raising that there would always be more to do. The Acting Strategic Director advised that communications activity around the previous Safeguarding week had been coordinated across the four South Yorkshire authorities, but that

plans to engage with the local media had not been as effective as hoped. The Acting Strategic Director advised that the communications programme and media engagement activity was an area of the Board's work that did need further development.

Members noted the information contained in the report regarding performance against key objectives. Members asked how performance against objectives was monitored and recorded and whether this information could be shared with members of the commission. The Acting Strategic Director confirmed that there was a performance dashboard that was reviewed regularly that highlighted areas of activity that required further attention and that informed the direction of future activity for the Board. The Acting Strategic Director advised that this performance information could be shared with members of the commission.

Members asked for further information on the training that had been delivered across the partnership. The Acting Strategic Director noted the important part that training played in developing effective safeguarding activity across the partnership advised how training had been delivered virtually during the pandemic. The Acting Strategic Director advised that whilst the programme of training that had been delivered virtually had been successful that it did have its limitations in comparison to training activity delivered in person. The Acting Strategic Director assured members that the uptake of training across the partnership was closely monitored and that there was an expectation that all partners participated fully in the programme of training.

Members noted the Hoarding and Self Neglect Policy and asked what training across the partnership had taken place on the policy. The Acting Strategic Director noted that the policy and its implementation was a key objective for the Board and as such a comprehensive programme of training had been delivered across the partnership that had been well received. The Acting Strategic Director noted that further face to face training on the policy was being prepared for delivery across the partnership. Members asked how the link between mental health and hoarding/self-neglect was understood across the partnership and asked what activity was taking place to increase this understanding. The Strategic Director advised that this was an area of key focus of activity by the Board and assured members that activity was taking place with partners such as tenancy support workers to enable them to pick up the early signs of this behaviour.

Members noted the record of attendance at meetings of the Board that had been included in the Annual Report and asked what activity was being carried out to increase attendance from the partners who had lower attendance at meetings. The Acting Strategic Director noted that good attendance from all partners was essential to have an effective Board that could drive effective safeguarding activity. The Acting Strategic Director assured members that the Independent Chair was focussed on increasing attendance at meetings from all partners. The Acting Strategic Director

advised that activity was also taking place to see how the voluntary sector could be better engaged with the activity of the Board as voluntary organisations played an essential role in delivering effective safeguarding activity.

The Chair noted the number of safeguarding referrals that were reported by South Yorkshire Police via their Safeguarding app that were in fact not safeguarding cases that were subsequently referred to other Adult Care service pathways. The Chair asked whether any further work had taken place in changing how referrals were made by the Police via the app. The Acting Strategic Director noted that the roll out of the app had resulted in an increase in referrals from the police, many of which were general concerns and that were often requests for other Adult Care services. The Acting Strategic Director advised that in Rotherham work had been carried out with the Police on how the app should be used and how referrals should best be made. The Acting Strategic Director advised that as a result of this activity the number of referrals that were more general requests for services had stabilised after an initial sharp increase. The Acting Strategic Director advised that all referrals made via the app were looked at carefully to ensure that all safeguarding concerns were picked up and acted upon.

Members asked for further information regarding the planned peer review of the RSAB. The Acting Strategic Director noted the important role that the peer review would play in developing the work of the RSAB and advised that once the review had been completed that the outcomes could be shared with the Improving Lives Select Commission.

Members noted that a safeguarding referral could often come after a single incident highlighted a safeguarding need. Members asked how the safeguarding needs of older people whose needs gradually emerged over time were identified as those developing needs may not be as apparent to the people and services that were supporting that individual. The Acting Strategic Director agreed that identifying safeguarding needs that emerged gradually over time was more challenging than those created by a single incident. The Acting Strategic Director advised that in these circumstances that the partnership working with GP's and other health partners and their use of the NHS Frailty index was key to identifying these needs. The Acting Strategic director advised that the frailty index that GP's monitored regularly enabled them to monitor the situation of individuals and their health and support needs that then enabled them to make appropriate referrals for Adult Care services in an appropriate and timely manner. Members noted how the NHS Frailty index was used differently in other areas and the benefits that this had provided. Members agreed that it would be useful for a piece of scrutiny work to be carried out to see how the approach taken in Rotherham could be developed by learning from practice elsewhere.

The Chair asked for further information on how RSAB and the partnership were tackling the problem of loneliness, noting that loneliness often

created safeguarding needs for individuals. The Acting Strategic Director assured the Chair that the issue of loneliness was an issue of key concern across the partnership and noted that the pandemic and the related loss of opportunities for social interaction had had a serious impact on the levels of loneliness felt by many adults. The Acting Strategic Director advised that work was taking place across the partnership in order to support individuals who were experiencing loneliness and to help re-establish their social networks.

Members noted the very significant rise in safeguarding referrals that had been received during 2020/21 compared to 2019/20 and asked what the cause had been of this. The Acting Strategic Director confirmed that as previously noted the increase had been due to the implementation of the Safeguarding app across South Yorkshire Police and the resulting increase in the number of referrals made through it that did not meet the statutory definition of a safeguarding referral.

Members noted the issue of service user engagement and the RSAB strategic priority of improving this and asked how work was progressing on the development of an exit questionnaire for those leaving the safeguarding process. The Acting Strategic Director confirmed that the exit questionnaire was now in place and noted that the most important measure of effective safeguarding activity, and the objective of “making safeguarding personal” was the experience each individual and how they felt they had been supported into a sustainable situation.

Members asked whether the issue of modern slavery was an issue in Rotherham. The Acting Strategic Director advised that the issue of modern slavery was involved in less than one percent of safeguarding cases but noted that the issue of modern slavery went far wider than that of the RSAB and Adult Care. The Acting Strategic Director noted that the issue of modern slavery would be being looked at by the Safer Rotherham Partnership.

The Chair thanked the Acting Strategic Director – Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health for attending the meeting and answering member questions.

**Resolved: -**

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That the Acting Strategic Director – Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, in consultation with the Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission considers how performance data with regard to Adult Safeguarding be shared with members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
- 3) That the Independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding attends a future meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to

present a report detailing the findings of the upcoming Peer Review of the Rotherham Safeguarding Board.

- 4) That the Independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding attends the July 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to present a progress report on the progress being made in delivering the strategic objectives of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 5) That it be recommended to the Chair of the Health Select Commission that consideration be given to carrying out a joint piece of work on how the NHS Frailty Index is used by health services in Rotherham.

**67. WORK PROGRAMME**

The Committee considered its Work Programme.

**Resolved:** - That the Work Programme for 2021/22 be approved.

**68. 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.

**69. URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

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

**Resolved:** - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 8 March 2022 at 10am at Rotherham Town Hall.

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**Improving Lives Select Commission**

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**Improving Lives Select Commission: 8 March 2022****Report Title**

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership – Annual Report 2020 - 2021

**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 of Children and Young People's Services

**Report Author**

Phil Morris, Partnership Manager, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership

**Ward(s) Affected**

All wards

**Report Summary**

The purpose of this report is to introduce the second Annual Report of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP). It is a statutory requirement under the *Children Act 2004* for the safeguarding partners to produce an annual report setting out about the activity undertaken by safeguarding partners in the previous twelve months and how effective these activities have been in safeguarding and promote the welfare of children in their local areas.

**Recommendations**

That the Improving Lives Select Commission receive and consider the RSCP Annual Report 2020 – 2021.

**List of Appendices Included**

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020 - 2021

**Background Papers** None**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

The report will also be considered by the two other safeguarding partners governance arrangements and submitted to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.

**Council Approval Required:** No

**Exempt from the Press and Public: No**

## Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership – Annual Report 2020 - 2021

### 1. Background

- 1.1 The Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP) has been operational for 2 years. The RSCP provides the safeguarding arrangements under which the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies work together to coordinate their safeguarding services, identify, and respond to the needs of children in Rotherham, commission and publish local child safeguarding practice reviews and provide scrutiny to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements.
- 1.2. Statutory guidance, *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)*, sets out that the partnership annual report should provide transparency for children, families and practitioners about the activity undertaken by safeguarding partners in the previous twelve months. It must also set out what the partnership have done because of the arrangements, including learning and improvement from local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.
- 1.3. As part of the governance arrangements, it is a requirement that the RSCP Annual Report 2020 – 2021 is presented through Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's own scrutiny arrangements as well as the other safeguarding partners own governance arrangements.

### 2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The RSCP annual report reflects on the activities undertaken in relation to its core business and priorities identified for the year 2020 - 2021. It considers how well it has worked to the priorities and objectives within its Strategic Business Plan 2020 - 2021 as follows:
  - **Safe at Home**
  - **Safe in the Community**
  - **Safe Safeguarding Systems**
- 2.2. Key areas of progress achieved against each of these objectives and areas of priority are as set out in the attached RSCP Annual Report 2020 - 2021. Section 3.0 provides an analysis by the Independent Chair in their scrutiny role regarding the activities undertaken by the safeguarding partnership and their effectiveness in delivery their safeguarding plan against the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in place.
- 2.3. As well as identifying what went well, the report sets out that there are areas of activity that could be done differently or better and some of the challenges faced in achieving the priorities over the year. It also acts as an executive summary for the detailed reporting and analysis of the priorities by the safeguarding partners as well as their plans for the coming year. This analysis shows that much progress has been made but areas for development remain.

2.4. As part of continual assurance, the following areas are highlighted in the report:

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

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

3.1 n/a

### **4. Consultation**

4.1 All members of the RSCP Executive Group have contributed and been consulted on the content of the report.

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

5.1 n/a

### **6. Financial and Procurement Implications**

6.1 n/a

### **7. Legal Advice and Implications**

7.1. The requirement for the safeguarding partners to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding children in the local area is mandated in the *Children Act 2004, section 16G (7)* as amended by the *Children and Social Work Act 2017* which sets out that:

At least once in every 12-month period, the safeguarding partners must prepare and publish a report on —

- (a) what the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies for the local authority area have done because of the arrangements, and
- (b) how effective the arrangements have been in practice.

- 7.2. Statutory guidance within Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) also sets out that:

*To bring transparency for children, families and all practitioners about the activity undertaken, the safeguarding partners must publish a report at least once in every 12-month period. The report must set out what they have done because of the arrangements, including on child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.*

In addition, the report should also include:

- Evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, including training, on outcomes for children and families from early help to looked-after children and care leavers
  - An analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities
  - A record of decisions and actions taken by the partners in the report's period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, including any resulting improvements
  - Ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision
- 7.3. Safeguarding partners should make sure the report is widely available, and the published safeguarding arrangements should set out where the reports will be published.
- 7.4. A copy of all published reports should be sent to the *Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel* and the *What Works Centre for Children's Social Care* within seven days of being published.
- 7.5. Where there is a secure establishment in a local area, safeguarding partners should include a review of the use of restraint within that establishment in their report, and the findings of the review should be reported to the Youth Justice Board
- 7.6. The three safeguarding partners should report any updates to the published arrangements in their yearly report and the proposed timescale for implementation.

## **8. Human Resources Implications**

- 8.1 None

## **9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

- 9.1 Publication of this report is one of ways of holding RMBC and other safeguarding partners as well as relevant agencies to account in relation to their safeguarding children arrangements and seeking assurance regarding the effectiveness of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

## **10. Equalities and Human Rights Implications**

10.1 Equality & diversity issues are reflected in the report

## **11. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates**

11.1 Publication of this report is one of the ways of holding RMBC, other safeguarding partner agencies to account over their safeguarding arrangements for children.

## **12. Risks and Mitigation**

12.1. There is clear evidence in the RSCP Annual Report 2020 – 2021 that progress made to ensure the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard children has been far reaching despite the challenges experienced over the year, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic. The RSCP has met its full range of its statutory responsibilities including those for assurance of safeguarding effectiveness across its three priorities.

12.2. While there is further work to be done in delivering on the RSCP strategic priorities and objectives, there is a strong commitment from the partnership, led by the Executive Group, and relevant agencies to ensure children and young people are at the forefront of their activities. In addition, the review of the safeguarding arrangements will ensure that the structures and governance in place will continue to provide the necessary focus in achieving the priorities and principles within its safeguarding business plan.

## **13. Accountable Officer(s)**

Approvals Obtained from:

- Jenny Myers – Independent Chair, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Suzanne Joyner - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sue Cassin - Chief Nurse, NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
- Steve Chapman – Temp Chief Superintendent, Rotherham District Commander, South Yorkshire Police

*Report Author: Phil Morris, Business Manager, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership*

This report is published on the RSCP 's website or can be found at:

[http://www.rscp.org.uk/downloads/download/3/annual\\_reports\\_and\\_business\\_plans](http://www.rscp.org.uk/downloads/download/3/annual_reports_and_business_plans)

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# ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL ASSURANCE REPORT

OCTOBER 2020 – SEPTEMBER 2021

# Contents

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# Introduction

Welcome to the second annual assurance report from the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP). This annual report is a summary of the assurance we have sought over the last year to keep children and families safe in Rotherham. In line with statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, it:

- gives an overview and provides transparency about the activity undertaken by safeguarding partners between October 2020 and September 2021.
- highlights how the safeguarding partners have committed to work together effectively in a multi-agency approach to identify where action can be taken to improve the services provided to children and their families.
- provides assurance as well as identified areas for further development including identifying learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews, rapid reviews and serious incidents.
- provides evidence of how the RSCP have worked together to deliver services to children and families effectively through the continued and unprecedented times of the COVID -19 pandemic.
- demonstrates that despite such adversity the challenges presented by the pandemic also provided an opportunity to work in new and innovative ways, embrace technology and use this to develop partnership relationships, communicate faster and be more productive.

The RSCP priorities set out in 2020 have continued to be themed under three key headings:

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

The above priorities were also informed by key principles which underpinned all activity undertaken by the partnership to safeguard promote the welfare of children in Rotherham as follows:

- Principle 1** Championing the interests and rights of children and young people
- Principle 2** Involving all partners in Rotherham in a duty to cooperate on safeguarding matters
- Principle 3** Receiving independent challenge and scrutiny, to ensure feedback, accountability, and learning
- Principle 4** Change is led by measurable improvements in the safeguarding systems and outcomes for children and their families.

**Chris Edwards**, Chief Officer, NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group

**Sharon Kemp**, Chief Executive, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

**Sarah Poolman**, Assistant Chief Constable, South Yorkshire Police

# Governance and Effectiveness

The Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership was established in September 2019 in accordance with the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017) and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

A review of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements was written into the constitution and on the appointment of a permanent Director of Children’s Services, a review of the Executive Group was undertaken to strengthen governance, accountability, and assurance.

The Executive Group, which includes Suzanne Joyner, Director of Children’s Services, Stephen Chapman, Chief Superintendent District Commander for Rotherham, Sue Cassin, Chief Nurse, Executive Lead for Safeguarding, Rotherham Clinical was restructured to include Safeguarding Partners and the Independent Chair, providing a more focused

approach to decision making, challenge and assurance. They have undertaken significant review and activity to strengthen the partnership. They monitor and drive the partnership action plan, allocate resources, commission high quality services and monitor performance via subgroups, and through seeking assurance.

Joint meetings with the Chief Officer Group have provided clarity of decision making and accountability at the most senior level across the safeguarding children partnership. The Executive Group has evidenced robust challenge and assurance on some key aspects of safeguarding, including Elective Home Education and Babies born into vulnerable families during the pandemic. Broader issues have been supported and led by the Executive Group at the Wider Partnership meetings including Neglect and the effectiveness and challenges in relation to the Front Door MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).

## RSCP Structure October 2021



The partnership has concentrated on specific assurance areas to drive further child focussed, self-reflective practice with strong challenge within and across agencies, with a particular spotlight on:

- **Child Exploitation (CE)**
- **Neglect and Early Help**
- **Safeguarding vulnerable children during the pandemic**

# Independent Scrutiny from the Chair, Jenny Myers

Independent scrutiny in Rotherham continues to be through the role of the RSCP chair, alongside external inspection, and peer review. This is my second year in the role where I have provided an element of assurance, monitoring & challenge to the quality of RSCP and their work. I have focused on:

- Providing assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard & promote the welfare of all children, including arrangements to identify & review serious child safeguarding cases
- Acting as a constructive critical friend, promoting a culture of reflection for continuous improvement
- Judging how effectively the arrangements are working for children & families as well as for practitioners; and how well the safeguarding partners are providing leadership.

The approach taken by me over the last 18 months has involved:

- Chairing the Executive Group of the RSCP
- Chairing the Wider Safeguarding Partnership Group
- Scrutinising the work of RSCP the serious child safeguarding case Practice Review Group to ensure the effectiveness of arrangements to identify & review serious child safeguarding cases
- Chairing the Chief Officer's group
- Scrutinising the work of the RSCP delivery groups, including their work plans and outputs
- Reviewing reports into multi agency audits, training and performance data

- Resolving partnership escalation and conflict resolution process including around capacity in the RSCP business unit and budget contributions, especially from the South Yorkshire OPCC.
- Ensuring that the partnership response to COVID -19 effectively safeguarded the most vulnerable children.

In addition to the above, I meet with the Lead Member for children, the Safeguarding Adults Board chair, chairs of other key strategic partnerships for Rotherham and the lead officer for NCA Operation Stovewood. As independent chair for Rotherham I have participated in national and regional safeguarding forums and government round table events to ensure that I can continue to bring challenge and learning to the role.

The RSCP has continued to evolve and increase confidence in its ability to challenge and scrutinise each other and hold each other to account.

Examples of this has included:

- Developing the governance framework to revise membership and ensure that only the key statutory safeguarding partners are on the Executive Group, strengthening accountability.
- A joined-up approach to protecting vulnerable children during the COVID -19 pandemic both at a strategic and operational level.
- Strengthening the process of serious incident management and decision making around notification and local child safeguarding practice reviews.
- Revising and developing the work of the delivery groups to align better with the business priorities and strengthen leadership by the Executive.

- Holding agencies to account when they consider there are serious cross agency working issues that are not being managed well at operational level. An example of this was around the CQC inspection of The Rotherham Foundation Trust (TRFT) where Chief Officers and me, as Independent Chair, held assurance meetings with the Chief Executives of the hospital around their improvement plan. Another was around the availability of Tier 4 beds where children with severe eating disorders were being left waiting on wards at Rotherham Hospital for appropriate Tier 4 beds (this is a national issue).
- Development of a forward plan with regular assurance reports around key areas of concern. Over the last 12 months these have included reports on; Safeguarding vulnerable children in the pandemic, with a focus on safeguarding children in education, assurance around numbers of children home educated, CAMHS provision and waiting lists, the child criminal exploitation pilot (EVOLVE), child sexual exploitation.

### Scrutiny of the RSCP work on ensuring vulnerable children are kept safe during the pandemic

This year has been unprecedented in the challenges arising from the COVID -19 pandemic, but in my view, agencies have pulled together and kept services to children running effectively including ensuring priority face to face visits to those most vulnerable. The RSCP continued to hold assurance meetings both at an operational and strategic level throughout 2020. I chaired the strategic meetings to ensure scrutiny and challenge. The RSCP agreed at the end of 2020 to cease additional meetings and brought the assurance within the business-as-usual work of the Executive. For example, in January 2021 we requested an assurance report from the responsible officer for Education on the actions taken to respond to the increase in children Electively Home Educated (EHE) and the response of the Council to ensure as far

as possible their support and safety. Other examples are provided in the report.

The other key area of my scrutiny has been around reducing serious harm and preventing deaths caused by abuse and neglect in under 1s. Rotherham was identified as a contributor to the national review published in September 2021, **“The myth of invisible men”** (Safeguarding Children Practice Review Panel Sept 2021) and played an active role in the review resulting in the national report.

A good example of innovative partnership work was the creation of a regular ‘baby clinic’ where practitioners in health could bring concerns about unborn babies to children’s social care services for discussion and planning. This resulted in an improvement in timeliness of notifications of pregnancies, leading to an improvement in the timeliness of referrals.

This in turn allows social care assessments to be completed in a timely manner ensuring clear safety and support plans / expectations for the families prior to the birth of the baby.

I presented to the Executive in July 2021 on key wider themes coming out of the Child Practice Review Panel’s work and asked some reflective questions of the Executive which need to be considered over the next year:

- How do safeguarding partners model personal leadership of, and accountability for, the dissemination and embedding of learning in their local area?
- How do they know that the local child practice reviews and rapid reviews are making an impact? What are the key barriers?
- How can RSCP make better use of national reviews to support learning and improvement
- How RSCP work together to give practitioners a sense of confidence, support and progress in addressing the stubborn challenges in child safeguarding?

## Wider partnership meetings and learning

As independent chair of RSCP I have chaired three wider partnership meetings over the last year. These have a specific area of focus and are intended to provide a forum both for learning but also challenge and discussion. All meetings were held virtually and well attended across statutory, independent, and voluntary agencies.

My scrutiny comments about these issues are in the report:

- Nov 2020 - Thematic Spotlight on Child Exploitation (CE), adolescent neglect and Contextual Safeguarding
- June 2021 - Spotlight on Neglect and the launch of the Rotherham Neglect Strategy
- Oct 2021 - The remit and function of the Front Door

## Joint Adult and Children Safeguarding

The two independent chairs meet quarterly to look at cross partnership issues and to ensure there is good joint working. They also meet annually with the RMBC Chief Officer. As part of the commitment to work together, provide independent scrutiny and to meet statutory guidance (for children around Section 11 safeguarding self-assessment) we facilitated two virtual self-assessment sessions as well as joint involvement in the Safeguarding Awareness Week (SAW21).

## Self-Assessment Challenge sessions

The sessions drilled down on two aspects of the Section 11 standards which had been broadened for use across the adult and child agenda. Both sessions were well attended, and the challenge conversations drew out areas for individual improvement alongside some cross agency areas for improvement and learning.

## Summary

The RSCP has concentrated over the last year on embedding the changes to the partnership and evolving the three statutory partners' joint accountability and responsibility to work together more equitably. I am assured that the representation at all levels of meetings from strategic to operational is appropriate and that partners are committed to multi agency working. The response by agencies to safeguarding children during the first 18 months of the pandemic, as evidenced in this report and by Ofsted has been robust.

Last year I made comment on the need for more scrutiny of the Front Door, and I believe this has been achieved and that development plans are in place. The Section 11 self-assessment tried to capture how well the voice of children was represented in services and whilst there was some evidence of good practice there is still more to do on a wider partnership level to really achieve this.

## Performance Monitoring & Assurance

As highlighted in this report there has been scrutiny of both single and multi-agency performance and assurance information and audit. Whilst multi agency training has been run virtually, it has continued and a successful Safeguarding Awareness Week (SAW21) was held over a week in November 2021, 28 different events were attended by 386 attendees.

However, there is still much more to do. The past year has created challenge in capacity of the RSCP Business Unit to respond to demand following the previous year's reduction in staffing. This has been impacted further by staff sickness, retirement of the Safeguarding Education lead and maternity leave of the Policy and Quality Assurance Officer. As scrutineer I have challenged some of the decision making about the partnership budget restrictions and slowness to recruit or cover these

posts which has created additional pressure on the Partnership Manager and a lack of follow through on some actions and audits.

**As part of our continuous assurance activity we focussed on:**

- Embedding learning from national and local reviews better and ensuring that actions are followed through, and assurance gained as to the impact of such learning.
- More work with delivery groups, to consider a refresh to any membership, chairing and ensure increased communication and oversight by the Executive
- Ensuring that multi agency policy and procedures are kept up to date and that there is a planned programme to address changes.
- Transition from children to adults' services and a joint piece of work with adult safeguarding board around current practice improvements and assurance
- Assurance on how well the Neglect Strategy has been embedded and evidence of improvement.
- More assurance on the move to contextual safeguarding (CE), and the revision of CE strategy
- Ensuring the outcome of the RSCP Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) review (Jan-March 2022) addresses concerns raised in the Conservative briefing report to Council and the subsequent approved motion (Nov 2021).



# Learning and Improvement

Learning and Improvement		
Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<b>Overview</b>	Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership promotes a culture of continuous learning and improvement across all organisations that work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, to identify what works well, what promotes good practice and outcomes for children, and where changes need to be made to improve the effectiveness of practice and service delivery.	
<b>Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG)</b>	<p>The Safeguarding Practice Review Group - SPRG (formerly the Serious Case Review subgroup) ensures that cases requiring a Child Safeguarding Practice Review or a local safeguarding review. Where a serious child safeguarding incident is identified and notified to the National Panel, an immediate Rapid Review is undertaken within the partnership to identify learning and establish whether a more comprehensive Child Safeguarding Practice Review is required.</p> <p><b>CR - 19</b></p> <p>A review of a case was commissioned by the RSCP in May 2020, and this was published in January 2021. There are 5 learning points contained within the report, alongside recommendations given. The main improvement actions sit with Social Care, Early Help and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. The report has been published on the RSCP website.</p> <p><b>Rapid Review</b></p> <p>In March 2021 a 10-month-old baby died, and a Rapid Review was conducted. The case was discussed at the SPRG and it was decided that a full safeguarding practice review was not required. The case was submitted to the National Panel who concurred with that decision and noted it as an exemplary Rapid Review. An improvement action plan was developed to provide assurance from the learning points and that the improvement actions identified are completed.</p>	SPRG monitors review action plans to ensure implementation of the learning and improvements identified.

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>The Learning and Improvement Delivery Group</b></p>	<p>The Learning and Improvement Delivery Group is the lead delivery group for taking learning across the partnership forward. The learning and development prospectus for inter-agency safeguarding training and workforce development is published annually. Inter-agency training is mostly delivered from safeguarding leads within the partnership; however, some specialist training will be commissioned and from external provider where a need is identified, and this is a priority. Training is at no cost to any safeguarding partner organisation within Rotherham. Every participant is required to provide feedback in relation to the training course received and then as a follow up so that all learning activity can be monitored for impact on practice and outcomes for children.</p> <p><b>What's Worked Well</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Links to CE Delivery Group and P&amp;Q Delivery Group re learning</li> <li>● Safeguarding Awareness Week – variety of sessions and topics covered</li> <li>● Learning on a page from audit findings</li> <li>● Recent Practitioner Event – Neglect, Trauma/impact on parenting</li> <li>● Practitioner Event for National Panel – learning across the Partnership</li> </ul>	<p>The partnership has a valued learning and development offer, delivered free to all partner organisations, including schools and the voluntary sector.</p> <p>Additionally, a termly Education Safeguarding Forum provides opportunities for all education providers to network and engage with other statutory partners on key initiatives.</p>
<p><b>Practice Standards Group</b></p> <p><b>Subgroup of Learning and Improvement Delivery Group</b></p>	<p>The Practice Standards Group (the Group) – with representatives from Education, Social Care, Early Help, Youth Offending Service, South Yorkshire Police, NHS Trusts (TRFT and RDaSH), and Voluntary Sector Agencies – monitors multiagency practice, reporting to the Learning and Improvement Delivery Group. Standards are upheld with reference to relevant safeguarding procedures and practice guidance, and the standards of conduct set out by professional bodies.</p> <p>The Group uses the Story on a Page model for reporting, and 7-Minute Briefings to disseminate learning; but will consider other methods on a case-by-case basis, including training events, whole service events, mentorship and work-based learning.</p>	<p>The Practice Standards Group provides the partnership with a mechanism to review, and learn from, individual cases which are not serious incidents.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>“The Myth of Invisible Men”</b></p> <p>September 2021</p>	<p>The national Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel published a report to which Rotherham contributed. The report focusses on the circumstances of babies under 1 year old who have been harmed or killed by their fathers or other males in a caring role.</p>	<p>The themes from this report are being considered by the Child Death Overview Panel.</p>
<p><b>Performance and Quality Assurance Delivery Group</b></p>	<p>The Performance and Quality Assurance Delivery Group’s remit includes:</p> <p>Use key data from across the partnership to inform the Performance Assurance Framework (PAF) and use it to monitor the effectiveness of work undertaken by Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership and partners, in relation to the safeguarding of children from harm and promotion of their welfare.</p> <p>The commissioning of multi-agency audits against key priorities or emerging themes. These evaluate individual cases to identify effective practice and any learning for services individually and collectively across the partnership. Evidence of these audits are detailed elsewhere in this report.</p>	<p>The PAF is scrutinised to seek assurance of partnership performance and the effectiveness of the local safeguarding system and outcomes for children against RSCP priorities.</p>
<p><b>Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)</b></p>	<p>There have been improvements in the effectiveness of child death review process due to the role of lead nurse for child death in The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. An audit of safe sleep, in children’s maternity and acute services was carried out and this was key in identifying further developments. The role of lead nurse for child death, and a keyworker role for families, has greatly improved the effectiveness of the child death review process</p>	<p>New processes are still being embedded and more consistency for Joint Agency Response (JAR) processes.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Vulnerable Child Partnership Group</b></p>	<p>The Vulnerable Children’s meeting has been running since March 2020 in response to the COVID -19 outbreak, recognising the need for a partnership approach to best support our children. Includes representation from Children’s Social Care, Early Help, Education, LAC Nurse, TRFT, RDaSH, CCG, Police, CGL (Change Growth, Live – drugs services), 0 -19 service.</p> <p><i>The areas of focus have included:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Partnership updates recognising areas pressures</li> <li>● Use of PPE when working with children</li> <li>● Distribution of laptops to vulnerable children during school closures</li> <li>● Sharing of direct work tools to assist children in understanding the changes the pandemic was bringing about.</li> <li>● Review of teenage pregnancies – following a peak over a few months</li> <li>● Impact of the pandemic on drug using parents, and what this means for children</li> <li>● Hidden harm</li> <li>● S85 Assessment for Children – where children are likely to be in hospital for longer than 12 weeks</li> <li>● Eating disorders</li> <li>● Single view of childhood</li> <li>● Neglect – case study presentation from social worker</li> <li>● Baby clinic – referred to elsewhere in this report</li> </ul>	<p>The Vulnerable Child Partnership Group has provided an invaluable forum for problem solving and planning for vulnerable groups of children during the pandemic and lockdown periods.</p>

## Update on RSCP Key Priorities

Safe at home		
Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Children at risk from FGM (FGM)</b></p> <p>October 2020</p>	<p>A Multi-Agency Audit Report about Children at Risk from Female Genital Mutilation was finalised in October 2020. This was a re-audit using a dip sample to seek assurance from a similar audit conducted in 2018. At that time an Action Plan had been agreed and completed. This audit found there have been a lot of positive changes and positive information sharing, most notably within the referral information provided to MASH. A report was presented to the Executive Group and a new action plan agreed.</p>	<p>The Action plan was monitored through the Performance &amp; Quality Assurance Delivery Group and all actions were signed off and completed by December 2021.</p>
<p><b>Babies born into vulnerable families</b></p> <p>February 2021</p>	<p>In October 2020, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families requested that Local Authorities undertake work alongside wider safeguarding partners to review circumstances of families who have historically caused significant concern, have recently 'turned a corner' but have had a new baby in the last 6 months. There had been several serious notifications/incidents involving injuries to babies in the last 2 years in Rotherham. An audit of 8 families was completed and action plan agreed.</p>	<p>Audit findings presented at Executive Group in February 2021 and action has been monitored through the Performance &amp; Quality Assurance Delivery Group. Most actions have been completed.</p>
<p><b>Teenage pregnancies</b></p> <p>March 2021</p>	<p>The Named Midwife for TRFT flagged what was thought to be a spike in the number of teenage pregnancies during the first COVID -19 lockdown. A Task and Finish Group was convened, and a piece of work conducted to examine the issue.</p>	<p>Investigation of data proved otherwise, but this review allowed scrutiny of issues such as contraception and isolation for this cohort and changes made to working practice.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Safeguarding in Education and Elective Home Education (EHE)</b></p> <p>March 2021</p>	<p>During the Inspecting Local Authority Children’s Services (ILACS) in October 2020, it was noted that the number of children who are electively home-educated (EHE) has significantly increased. Assurance was sought by the Executive Group from the EHE service.</p>	<p>Assurance was provided to Executive Group: EHE has a multi-agency governance group that oversees EHE work, holds EHE Officers to account and has oversight of all children who are EHE.</p>
<p><b>Baby Clinic</b></p> <p>April 2021</p>	<p>Baby clinic was initiated as part of a local learning process which produced a published report overseen by Safeguarding Practice Review Group. Outcomes included improvement in timeliness of notifications of pregnancies, leading to an improvement in the timeliness of referrals and social care assessments.</p>	<p>There has been improved operational relationships between social care, midwifery, and early help with improved understanding of each other’s roles.</p>
<p><b>Launch of the Rotherham Neglect Strategy</b></p> <p>June 2021</p> <p><b>Spotlight on Neglect and the launch of the Rotherham Neglect Strategy</b></p>	<p>The <b>Rotherham Neglect Strategy</b> was launched in June 2021. The strategy was developed through a multiagency task and finish group process. Through participation in the process, partner agencies reviewed their procedures and training offers to ensure neglect is understood and acted upon through the workforce.</p> <p>The RSCP Independent Chair led a session for the wider partnership to assist in revising the Neglect Strategy. There was an overview of local data presented and how it relates to neglect, the local context and prevalence and a look at what systems and initiatives were in place to tackle it.</p>	<p>The Graded Care Profile 2 (assessment tool for use by all safeguarding partner practitioners) is being re-launched. Program of core training rolled out across the workforce. Police Officers are receiving a bespoke education package supported by the NSPCC. Future: Action plan needs to be monitored through the P&amp;QA delivery group.</p>
<p><b>Safeguarding children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)</b></p> <p>July 2021</p>	<p>Ofsted visited in July 2021 to conduct a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) inspection. The inspection identified that the partnership had not fully implemented the national reforms although several strengths were identified across all aspects of Rotherham’s SEND services.</p>	<p>Partner agencies responses are through a written plan of action to the SEND Improvement Board. The RSCP Executive will provide scrutiny of this process.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<b>Effectiveness of services for Early Help</b>	<p>The Early Help offer in Rotherham forms part of a continuum of support, to respond to a range of needs in children and families. The responsibility for preventative and early help work lies across the multi-agency partnership, and the Early Help Service forms part of this wider system, providing targeted family support as well as outreach and engagement across the 0-19 age range. The partnership contributes to the early help offer by offering support and this is underpinned by an Early Help Assessment and Plan, to ensure shared visibility of concerns.</p>	<p>We know from extensive quality assurance, audit and performance data that the Early Help Service is well established and ‘mature’ in Rotherham. We know that early help improves the child and family situation and reduces escalation to Children’s Social Care as CIN numbers have consistently dropped year on year from 2016 when the offer was launched.</p>
<b>Early Help the wider system</b>	<p>Extensive work has taken place during the period October 2020 to September 2021 to embed integrated early help pathway with Midwifery and work is also taking place to co-locate midwifery services into Children’s Centres. Integrated Working Leads (IWLs) are responsible for supporting partners in completing Early Help Assessments and carrying out the Lead Professional role. This includes training and quality assurance support for partners.</p>	<p>The establishment of a partnership ‘Baby Clinic’ has enabled those vulnerable families where there is an unborn baby have their needs identified and Early Help support provided where appropriate.</p>
<b>Scorecard</b>	<p>October 2020 – September 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In September 2021 there were 1356 families (2902 children) open to the Early Help Service.</li> <li>● Initial Engagement: 88.8% within three days</li> <li>● Early Help Assessments: 93.9% completed in the 45-day timescale</li> <li>● 10698 home visits completed within the period of Oct 20- September 21</li> <li>● 4993 virtual visits within the period of October 20- September 21</li> <li>● Re-referral rate to Early Help has decreased to 14.4%</li> </ul>	<p>During the period Oct 2020 - Sep 2021, partners completed 343 Early Help Assessments which was 24.2% of all EHAs completed in the timeframe. The current year to date performance is 28.7%.</p> <p>Whilst the number of Early Help Assessments completed by partners needs further commitment from across the partnership, there has been an increase year on year for the past 2 years.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Keeping Children Safe in Rotherham – South Yorkshire Police</b></p> <p>March 2021</p>	<p>Recognising the importance of always keeping children safe, with a real focus on child neglect SYP has developed (and delivered) a one-day training/awareness package for all its officers, regardless of rank and some of its Partners. This package looks at the indicators for child neglect such as poor health, poor living conditions, lack of parental engagement with children and poor school attendance. The training makes the links with children subject of neglect, being at increased risk of exploitation. This training has been supported with a central audit and scrutiny function to ensure officers /staff/ partners are doing the very best for our children. SYP now record many more offences of neglect, and ensure the supporting investigation is to the appropriate standard.</p>	<p>South Yorkshire Police provided assurances on keeping children safe in the home from their perspective.</p> <p>NSPCC referrals, non-crime, neglect, investigations over 2yrs. The work has identified improvements across Partnerships e.g., seeking timely strategy minutes and medical records/examinations, these improvements have been implemented across Rotherham. SYP work in this area is now informing policing nationally.</p>
<p><b>Effectiveness of services for Looked After Children and Care Leavers</b></p> <p>CYPS audits</p> <p>February 2021</p>	<p>Learning from audit: LAC Care Plans - Key themes from the audit sample</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In all the cases audited, it was felt the best outcome had been pursued through the child’s care plan</li> <li>● Auditors gave children, young people and families the opportunity to have a voice as part of the audit process.</li> </ul> <p>These are highlighted as a reminder of the impact and outcomes Social Workers practice and approach has on lives.</p>	<p><i>I feel I can trust her; she was reliable and open and honest. She left us with “no doubts” or any unanswered questions. She is always available and responsive. She has been the consistent person in [child’s] life; and [child] would give her 10 as well!</i></p> <p><i>She has kept me and [young person] informed on all aspects of the care plan. She will be coming out on the next visit to share a calendar with the young person of her family time with her mum and journey back home.</i></p>

Safe in the community		
Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Operation KeepSafe</b></p> <p>Prevention work</p>	<p>Operation Keepsafe is led by RMBC Early Help and South Yorkshire Police. It is an intelligence led, multi-agency initiative that enables a proactive response to safeguard children and young people in communities.</p>	<p><b>From April - November 2021</b> - Early Help and South Yorkshire Police led on <b>26</b> Operation KeepSafe interventions across the Borough. There has been <b>1602</b> young people engaged in KeepSafe operations since the start of April 2021.</p>
<p><b>Operation MakeSafe</b></p>	<p>It is rightly to be expected that South Yorkshire Police and its Partners across Rotherham prioritise any form of child exploitation, seeking to prevent it where possible, and should an offence be committed, give our children the very best care, while seeking to identify/bring to justice identified offenders. Operation MakeSafe has been running over the last 12 months, focussed on educating hotels and the staff within on the indicators for child exploitation. Providing guidance on what they can do to help prevent exploitation of our children e.g., challenge anyone who may be seeking a room with someone who appears to be a minor, what questions to ask and how best to contact the police/authorities</p>	<p>The Partnership has conducted assurance visits using couples who would fit this profile, establishing how well hotels have responded. Most of the visits went well, however, there remains some work still to do with some establishments, and this continues.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Children Missing from Home and Care</b></p> <p><b>April 2021</b></p> <p><b>The Philomena Protocol - piloted in Rotherham by South Yorkshire Police</b></p>	<p>An audit was conducted by CYPS regarding children who go missing from home or care. Rotherham offers Return Home Interviews for all children that have had a missing from home episode, allowing independent (of the police/ social worker etc) exploration of the reasons for the child going missing, and working sensitively with young people (and carers) to prevent further episodes.</p> <p>The <b>Philomena Protocol</b> clarifies expectations on placements of Looked After Children when they think a young person is missing, and the measures they should take before reporting that young person missing to avoid unnecessary Police involvement.</p>	<p>From April 2021- September 2021 - 197 children were reported missing from home: 42 had 3 or more episodes. 425 Return Home Interviews were conducted.</p> <p>The Philomena Protocol - piloted in Rotherham by South Yorkshire Police in 2020 and is now being rolled out across the region.</p>
<p><b>Child Exploitation (CE) Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Contextual Safeguarding</b></p>	<p>The <b>Child Exploitation Delivery Group</b> meet quarterly. The group is well represented across the partnership including South Yorkshire Police, Children’s Social Care, National Crime Agency (NCA), Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG), The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT), Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH), National Probation Service, Community Safety, Housing &amp; Estates, Children, Young People and Families Consortium (CYPF) consortium.</p>	<p>The Child Exploitation Delivery Group brings together all the key stakeholders from across the Partnership. It oversees the implementation of the Child Exploitation Strategy and maintains a dynamic Delivery Plan and Scorecard to monitor progress.</p>



Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Child Criminal Exploitation Pilot</b></p>	<p>Additional resources have been made available to the Evolve Team to incorporate working with children at risk of Child Criminal Exploitation (CE). The pilot will run for 6 months from July 2021: 4 social workers, a Youth Offending Service (YOS) worker, 2 missing advocates. In addition, there is a Health CSE nurse. SYP and YOS are also co-located in the office.</p>	<p>This will be reported on in the next annual report.</p>
<p><b>Nov 2020</b></p> <p><b>Thematic Spotlight on Child Exploitation (CE), adolescent</b></p>	<p>The RSCPC Chair spotlighted the work of Bedfordshire University under Carlene Firmin at a wider partnership level. An overview was given by the police on progress and local data on CE within a Rotherham context – and evaluation as a partnership of views around effectiveness in this area of practice, and the move forward from child exploitation to more of a contextual safeguarding framework. The Chair presented the recommendations from National Review by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, <i><b>It was Hard to Escape</b></i> (2020).</p>	<p>The question was asked: What would help Rotherham take a more systemic approach to Contextual Safeguarding with adolescents?</p> <p>The Child Exploitation Delivery Group will be refreshing the Rotherham Child Exploitation Strategy in 2022.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Neglect and Contextual Safeguarding</b></p>	<p>South Yorkshire Police (SYP) and its Partners</p> <p>There were over 75 investigations which were reviewed to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● correct identification/flagging</li> <li>● victims/survivors appropriately safeguarded</li> <li>● all opportunities to identify suspects maximised.</li> </ul> <p>Except for some inaccuracies in the flagging and disposal, this review confirmed investigation were of the appropriate standard.</p>	<p>The final phase of this review is to ensure the voices of victim/survivors are heard, to ensure the Partnership is as good as it can be, and in being so, listening to our children. This review is ongoing with an independent organisation, with information obtained being overlaid with investigation findings, and recommendations progressed.</p> <p>South Yorkshire police recognise that there is a real opportunity for Rotherham/ South Yorkshire Police to lead the way nationally in this area of policing and are taking steps with Partners to move closer to this aim.</p>

Safe Safeguarding Systems		
Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Effective leadership across whole safeguarding system</b></p>	<p>Together We are Stronger - Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partners undertook a “what went well” exercise around COVID -19 resulting in the one-page “Together We Are Stronger” article with actions to be taken “Going Forward”.</p>	<p>RSCP Chair meets with Chairs of other key strategic partnerships (Safeguarding Adults Board, Safer Rotherham Partnership, Health &amp; wellbeing Board) to ensure that any cross-cutting issues can be addressed collectively.</p>
<p><b>Effective Front Door and Early Help Services</b></p> <p><b>October 2020</b></p>	<p><b>Ofsted</b> conducted an inspection in October 2020 under the Inspecting Local Authority Children’s Services (<b>ILACS</b>) framework.</p> <p>There were no recommendations for changes in front door services. Their findings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Early help services and children’s social care are integrated, promoting positive working relationships and a clear understanding of thresholds. This has been maintained during COVID -19.</li> <li>● Effective multi-agency working in the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) and the wider partnership means that children and families receive an appropriate response to identified need.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Front Door Health Check (FDHC)</b></p> <p><b>May 2021</b></p>	<p>A <b>Front Door Health Check</b> was completed in May 2021. Findings identified positives for both a safe front door and partnership working.</p> <p>Challenges relating to the RSCP:</p> <p>Holding partners to account for referral-in culture - too many contacts being sent through to the Front Door that may be dealt with effectively by partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Safeguarding Partnership issue - would recommend that this issue is taken to the Children Safeguarding Partnership Board to be discussed</li> </ul>	<p>The Executive received a presentation in August 2021 and a themed discussion was held at the Wider Partnership Group. A task and finish group has been set up. The outcomes of this will be reported in the next annual report.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Safeguarding Awareness Week</b></p> <p><b>November 2020</b></p>	<p>SAW21 Events included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Advocacy working with Children &amp; Young People</li> <li>● Launch of the People in Positions of Trust (PIPOT)</li> <li>● Neurodiversity and the Criminal Justice System</li> <li>● Spot the Signs – CSE</li> <li>● CSE Video Launched (SYP)</li> <li>● Thinking Family – Trauma Informed consultation - Stovewood Survivors - CYPS</li> <li>● Contextualised Safeguarding</li> </ul>	<p>There were 28 different events hosted with a total of 386 attendees over all the events.</p> <p>The week was held as a South Yorkshire initiative, and in conjunction with the Safeguarding Adults Boards, with local activity in each area.</p>
<p><b>Achieving Best and Timely Outcomes for Children &amp; Young People</b></p> <p><b>December 2020</b></p>	<p>This audit requested by RSCP focused on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assure that appropriate organisational values and attitudes underpin the management and delivery of services across key agencies.</li> <li>● Assure there is sufficient rigour in the system to demonstrate the interest of the child (as a victim or perpetrator) is pursued through robust approaches, appropriate safeguarding, and support to the child and to the criminal investigation, from any agency.</li> </ul>	<p>The audit was presented to the RSCP Executive Group, and the resulting action plan continues to be monitored through the Performance and Quality Assurance Delivery Group.</p>
<p><b>Public health Pathways Inc 0 – 19 services</b></p> <p><b>July 2021</b></p>	<p>Assurance given through presentation by Director of Public Health - health and wellbeing strategy: Key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Best start portfolio priorities</li> <li>● Recommission of 0-19 services &amp; proposed timetable</li> <li>● Community water fluoridation</li> <li>● Child Death Overview Panel</li> </ul>	<p>Presentation to Executive Group for scrutiny.</p>
<p><b>Care Quality Commission (CQC) Improvement Plan for TRFT</b></p> <p><b>Update September 2021</b></p>	<p>The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust (TRFT) Improvement Plan completed on schedule. All 184 improvement actions have now been completed and closed. The CQC no longer request minutes of all executive meetings and is now business as usual.</p>	<p>Assurance was requested in relation to improvement plan. This was provided by a presentation by the Chief Nurse, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust.</p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress	Impact and future challenges
<p><b>Effective Workforce Development</b></p> <p><b>RSCP multi-agency training</b></p>	<p>As part of its Learning and Development Strategy, the RSCP provides partner-led, multi-agency safeguarding training workshops, e-learning, briefing / bite size sessions and conferences. A prospectus is published annually. The RSCP multi-agency safeguarding training is offered free to staff and volunteers from all partner agencies who encounter children, young people and / or their families within Rotherham in the course of their work.</p>	<p>The Learning and Development Offer is well received across the partnership inc vol sector. Key challenge - organisations should have their own core offer for their workforce, not solely rely on the RSCP offer.</p>

# Listening to the views of children and their families

Listening to the views of children and their families	
Assurance Through	Actions and Progress
<p><b>Ofsted - Inspecting Local Authority Children's Services (ILACS)</b></p> <p>October 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and young people are encouraged to have a voice and influence the design and delivery of services. Senior leaders talked warmly of their input, and members of the Looked After Children Council regularly attend the corporate parenting board.</li> <li>The Looked After Children Council coordinator has been central in ensuring that laptops are available for members of the Looked After Children Council, and online sessions have been completed for approximately 50 children during COVID -19 restrictions. The focus of these sessions was mental health and well-being, getting children prepared for returning to school, and offering an opportunity to discuss any concerns.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Looked After Children's Council (LAC Council)</b></p>	<p>The Looked After Children's Council (LAC Council) and Lil' LAC Club enable children and young people to meet up in a safe and welcoming environment where they can talk about the issues that affect them whilst they are in the care of Rotherham Council. This gives the young people the chance to share their experiences, and gives our looked after children a voice, which also helps Rotherham Council to make important decisions that help improve the lives of young people in care. Activities over the past year include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Big Ask - The LAC Council invited by the Children's Commissioner to engage in 'the Big Ask', the largest ever survey of children in England, designed to find out what their concerns and aspirations about the future are.</li> <li>LAC Council have given their views to be heard in a national consultation of children in care into the Independent Review of Children's Social Care.</li> <li>Neglect Strategy</li> <li>Consultation on LAC Nurses Trial Questions - The Looked After Children's Nurses are compiling a questionnaire to gain feedback regarding their involvement with LAC to ensure young people have an opportunity to share their thoughts with the team after their health assessments.</li> </ul> <p><i>Take time to build a positive relationship with me, hear my voice, my choice, my feelings &amp; emotions, make me feel important &amp; valued, recognise the power imbalances between us, get to know who I am not what my notes say, understand what is important to me as this will guide you to keep your promises to me. (Rotherham LAC COUNCIL members)</i></p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress
<b>Right to Rights Service</b>	<p>Children or young people who are, or have ever been, looked after can get support from the Right to Rights Service. The service provides information, advice and assistance to help put things right or to help the child or young person to understand what's happening and why. The services also include independent advocacy to make sure that their voice is heard and acted upon. Some feedback from young people:</p> <p><i>"I feel like you and my old PA help me and you are only 2 people that I can call. [PA] does care and you can tell and not just after the job for the money"</i></p>
<b>Feedback from children and families about health professionals (TRFT)</b>	<p><i>"My school nurse has been amazing with me. She has helped me get through everything and is one of the kindest people I have met. She has helped me turn everything from upside down to the right way round and positive. The more I saw her the more confident I became"</i></p> <p><i>"The school nurse just has this way of making you feel that you could talk to her about anything. She is so good at her job and we honestly can't thank her enough for the work she has done with me and my family. She will always have a place in my heart for the time and care she has given us"</i></p>
<b>Barnardo's Child Protection Conference (CPC) Advocacy Service</b>	<p>This service provides Advocates who are independent of CYPS to support children and young people who are attending an Initial or Review Child Protection Conference. All children aged above 8 years are given the opportunity to be supported.</p> <p>In November 2020 the service implemented Child Friendly Plans created by the Advocates following attendance at Conference or receipt of minutes. These plans are clarified with the Conference Chair and then shared with the child/young person in a child friendly age/need appropriate format. Feedback from children has been positive.</p> <p><i>"... the plan that you did helped me last time (Child Friendly Plan that the Advocate completes). It really helped and if it weren't for that I wouldn't have known anything or understood anything."</i></p>

Assurance Through	Actions and Progress
<b>Rotherham Youth Cabinet</b>	<p>Rotherham Youth Cabinet are a group of young people aged 11 to 18 from across Rotherham, who work on campaigns and help make decisions which have a positive difference to the lives of young people in Rotherham. Youth Cabinet members attended a RCPC Partnership Board Meeting and gave a presentation on their activities and campaigns. The Board offered their support to various elements of their work. The Youth Cabinet contributed to gathering feedback from young people in Rotherham in relation to the Neglect Strategy.</p>
<b>COVID -19 Survey – Voice of Children &amp; Young People</b>  <b>June 2021</b>	<p>Findings from consultation during May/June 2021, with children and young people in Rotherham to inform planning for emotional health and wellbeing support for young people. Public Health England recommended local authorities capture the views of children and young people to establish the state of their mental health and wellbeing during lockdown in March 2020. A second piece of consultation work was carried out in October 2020, to capture the views from young people around the impact of the pandemic and school closures and how these were affecting their health and wellbeing. It was agreed that Rotherham would carry out a third consultation with students. 4,118 young people participated in the June 2021 survey.</p>
<b>Rotherham Young Inspectors</b>	<p>The Rotherham Young Inspectors Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Inspect services to make sure they are doing what they should be doing.</li> <li>● Give feedback to services including what’s good and what could be made better.</li> <li>● Make sure that children, young people &amp; families are listened to.</li> <li>● Raise young people’s confidence and self-esteem.</li> <li>● Get young people engaged with the services.</li> </ul> <p>During September 2020 to October 2021 the Young Inspectors were limited to the inspections and meetings that could be held due to the COVID -19 Pandemic and the restrictions and guidance.</p>



**w:** [www.rscp.org.uk](http://www.rscp.org.uk)  
**e:** [cyps-safeguardingboard@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:cyps-safeguardingboard@rotherham.gov.uk)

**Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting**

Improving Lives Select Commission – 08 March 2022

**Report Title**

Ofsted/ Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection – Written Statement of Action inclusive of update on SEND Sufficiency Phase 3

**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 of Children and Young People's Services

**Report Author(s)**

Nathan Heath, Assistant Director, Education, and inclusion  
nathan.heath@rotherham.gov.uk

**Ward(s) Affected**

Borough -Wide

**Report Summary**

Between 5 July 2021 and 9 July 2021, Ofsted, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Rotherham to judge the effectiveness of the area in implementing the disability and special educational needs reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND (Special Education Needs and Disability) Code of Practice.

Following conclusion of the inspection it was judged that Rotherham local area should have a Written Statement of Action (WSOA), Rotherham WSoA, as a result of four areas of identified significance weakness.

Attached to report is a power point presentation which provides an update in relation to the implementation of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy Phase 3.

**Recommendations**

1. That the Committee note the presentation and associated updates in relation to Rotherham SEND Local Area Inspection and subsequent Written Statement of Action.
2. That ongoing updates are provided to the Commission on the SEND Local Area – Written Statement of Action and its progress.
3. Updates to SEND Sufficiency phase 3 and any further phases of the programme are provided to Improving Lives Select Commission.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 Rotherham Written Statement of Action.

Appendix 2 Power point slides updating on SEND Sufficiency Phase 3

**Background Papers**

1. [Local area SEND inspection: framework - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
2. <https://moderngov.rotherham.gov.uk/documents/g15315/Public%20reports%20pack%20Tuesday%2026-Oct-2021%2010.00%20Improving%20Lives%20Select%20Commission.pdf?T=10>

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

N/A

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

**Ofsted/ Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection – Written Statement of Action inclusive of update on SEND Sufficiency Phase 3**

**1. Background**

- 1.1 Between 5 July 2021 and 9 July 2021, Ofsted, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), conducted a joint inspection of the local area of Rotherham to judge the effectiveness of the area in implementing the disability and special educational needs reforms as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice.
- 1.2 Following conclusion of the inspection it was judged that Rotherham local area should have a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) – (Appendix 1), as a result of four main areas of identified significance weakness:
- The variability in the quality of EHC plans, including the contribution of health and social care partners.
  - The effectiveness of the graduated response to identify and meet children and young people’s needs, especially in key stages 1 and 2.
  - The quality of provision for children and young people’s preparation for, and transition to, adulthood.
  - Communication with all parents and carers of children and young people with SEND about the local offer, and the accessibility of the very valuable information included within the local offer

**2. Key Issues**

- 2.1 Ofsted/CQC through the SEND Local Area Inspection framework determine that both the Local Authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) are jointly responsible for submitting the written statement to Ofsted on 20 January 2022. This was submitted on time and the response received from Ofsted one week after submission, which was supportive of the actions identified.
- 2.2 Across the period following the local area inspection in Rotherham there has been significant focus on addressing the direction given. Senior leaders across Education, Social Care, Health and the CCG have met to ensure that processes are in place to address the delivery of Rotherham’s Written Statement of Action over the next calendar year. This includes the creation of a SEND Executive Group that includes RMBC Directors of Children’s/Adult Services/ Senior Leaders from across a range of health partners and other leaders across education/health. The Executive Group will be a key decision-making group addressing any identified challenges and support the subgroups for the four areas of identified weakness to make continued progress/improvements.
- 2.3 The SEND Strategic Partnership Board, jointly chaired by RMBC Director of Children’s services and CCG Executive Place Officer has met to address the outcome of the inspection and agreed that there should be four subgroups established each one of them leading on an area of weakness. The subgroups have been set up and have met at least once. Each

subgroup reflects the make-up of the Board and has representatives from each sector as well as from stakeholders and parent/carers. Two chairs for each group have been identified. It is essential that the WSOA developed is co-produced and owned by all partners including parent/carer groups. Extensive work including a range of listening events linked to all areas of our SEND partnership have been held to support the development of the WSOA for Rotherham.

2.4 Through strong engagement in the development of the subgroups it has allowed a clear contribution to the WSoA to be developed, this includes agreeing on focus actions, impact measures and outcomes. This will support long term collective ownership of our improvement journey

2.5 Key partners including leaders from Genuine Partnerships and Guiding Voice's (SEND Young people) have also had the opportunity to contribute to the WSoA and will continue to do so in various ways. Our Parent Carer Forum plays an integral part throughout and it is vital the WSoA reflects both the language and practice model of the Four Cornerstones of co-production. All Sub – groups delivering the improvements of the WSOA have parental/carer representation. The Local Offer subgroup is jointly chaired by Rotherham Parent Carers forum leaders.

2.6 There have been opportunities to meet with the regional SEND leads from Department for Education (DfE) and National Health Service England Improvement (NHSEI) as part of the development of the WSOA. This allowed there to be scrutiny of a draft WSoA creating suggestions for adaptations ready for submission. Both the DfE and NHSEI will hold accountability for the delivery of our WSOA and Rotherham's SEND improvement journey.

2.7

As part of work with DfE/NHSEI additional support from external providers has already been triggered to support our improvement journey moving at pace. This includes;

- Whole School SEND (WSS) will deliver training to promote SEND as part of full school improvement and the implementation of the graduated response.
- The Council for Disabled Children will support with the quality of and involvement in the Education, Health, Care Plans planning process across key partners.
- The National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) will support work related to preparation for adulthood.

2.8

Rotherham will be revisited by Ofsted/CQC around June 2023 to allow inspectors to judge the Rotherham area on progress made against the four main areas of weakness. There will be a new inspection framework for local area SEND inspections and we have been advised that we will be inspected under the new framework.

2.9

Following the Ofsted approval of the Rotherham WSoA more detailed action plans have been developed and driven through each sub-group. Updates on progress related to each plan will be reported into the Executive Group, as well as the monitoring visits made by the DfE and NHSEI.

2.10

The finalised WSoA was signed off within the CCG governance arrangements in parallel to RMBC processes. The collective ownership of the SEND improvement journey across all key partners is essential to ensure that we collectively achieve the strong outcomes for children, young people, and young adults in the borough.

### **3. Options considered and recommended proposal**

3.1 N/A.

### **4. Consultation on proposal**

4.1 N/A

### **5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

- 5.1
- February 2022 – the finalised Written Statement of Action is published on the Rotherham Local Offer and Clinical Commissioning Group Websites.
  - New inspection framework and outcomes from the national SEND review are due to be launched for consultation before July 2022
  - A review on progress against the Written Statement of Action is planned for June 2023. It is not yet confirmed if an official review will be carried out or if we will form part of a new inspection timetable in relation to the new framework.

### **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 N/A

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

7.1 N/A

### **8. Human Resources Advice and Implications**

8.1 N/A

**9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

9.1 Referenced within report and appendix 1.

**10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications**

10.1 Referenced within report and appendix 1.

**11. Implications for CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Climate Change**

11.1 All areas of SEND Sufficiency, Student placed planning, and educational placements have a direct environmental impact, consideration of this element is informed in provision development and provision enhancement in the borough due to direct impact this will have to limiting students travelling outside the borough. This would support reduced emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>.

11.2 Wider consideration of indirect implications or unintended consequence of work in this area has on CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Climate Change is considered across all partners as we are committed to long term targets to mitigate these areas of concern in the borough.

**12. Implications for Partners**

12.1 Ongoing updates are provided to key stakeholders including Parent/carers forum, health leaders, school leaders, Schools Forum, and other associated stakeholders. The SEND executive and SEND Partnership board involve all Key Stakeholders and SEND is a Place Priority for Rotherham.

**13. Risks and Mitigation**

13.1 All areas of SEND Written Statement of Action report to SEND Executive Board with all risks and mitigations accountable to the board. SEND is an also a Rotherham Place Board Priority.

**Accountable Officer(s)**

Suzanne Joyner, Strategic Director, Children's Services

Nathan Heath, Assistant Director, Education, and Inclusion

*Nathan Heath, Assistant Director, Education, and Inclusion  
nathan.heath@rotherham.gov.uk*

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

# Rotherham Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 0-25

## Written Statement of Action

JANUARY 2022

Between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021, Ofsted, and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) undertook a joint inspection of Rotherham to judge the effectiveness in identifying and meeting the needs of children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities, as prescribed in the Children's and Families Act 2014.

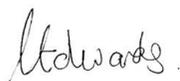
The inspection identified 4 areas of significant concern and prescribed that a Written Statement of Action (WSOA) be produced to outline how the areas of significant concern will be addressed. This WSoA, focuses on those 4 specific areas of concern.

1. The variability in the quality of EHC plans, including the contribution of health and social care partners.
2. The effectiveness of the graduated response to identify and meet children and young people's needs, especially in key stages 1 and 2.
3. The quality of provision for children and young people's preparation for, and transition to, adulthood.
4. Communication with all parents and carers of children and young people with SEND about the Local Offer, and the accessibility of the very valuable information included within the Local Offer.

This (WSOA) identifies the actions the partnership will undertake to address the areas of concern, how we will measure success and what difference this will make to Rotherham's children and young people with SEND and their parents and carers. Ensuring that our children and young people with special educational needs are identified early and provided with the right support in line with their needs at the right time from childhood through to transition into adulthood.



**Sharon Kemp**  
Chief Executive  
Rotherham Borough Council



**Chris Edwards**  
Chief Officer  
Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group



**Suzanne Joyner**  
Director of Children's Services  
Rotherham Borough Council



**Ian Atkinson**  
Executive Place Director  
Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group

## Strategic Aim & Vision

### Our vision for children with SEND

Rotherham is ambitious for all children and young people to achieve their potential and have the best start in life. We recognise that children and young people have different strengths and needs, and that services and provision need to be differentiated so that all children and young people have their needs met and experience success.

We recognise that for children and young people to achieve their potential then all services need to work together with parents, carers, children, and young people being equal partners and their voices heard at all levels.

Services and organisations should support people and families to live independently in the community, with prevention and self-management at the heart of our delivery. The vision and priorities for Children in Rotherham with SEND is described within our Voices work and focuses on three priority areas:

- Believe me and believe in me.
- Get me help quicker.
- Plan for my adulthood with me.

Underpinning Rotherham's vision and priorities are shared co-production values the Four Cornerstones, at the heart of which is trust:

welcome and care

value and include

communicate

work in partnership

## Governance

The actions in this Written Statement of Action form part of a wider SEND Improvement Plan which is monitored as part of routine governance and accountability processes within the local area. SEND is already an existing priority at the Rotherham Place Board and at the Health and Wellbeing Board, SEND is area with strong political oversight from political leaders and the portfolio holder for Children and young people within Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council (RMBC) with scrutiny held through the Improving Lives Select Committee. Within the Clinical Commission Group (CCG) SEND governance is held within the Operational Executive Group. Within RMBC Children's and Young People services SEND improvement is a key priority through the Performance and Assurance Board and Transformation Board.

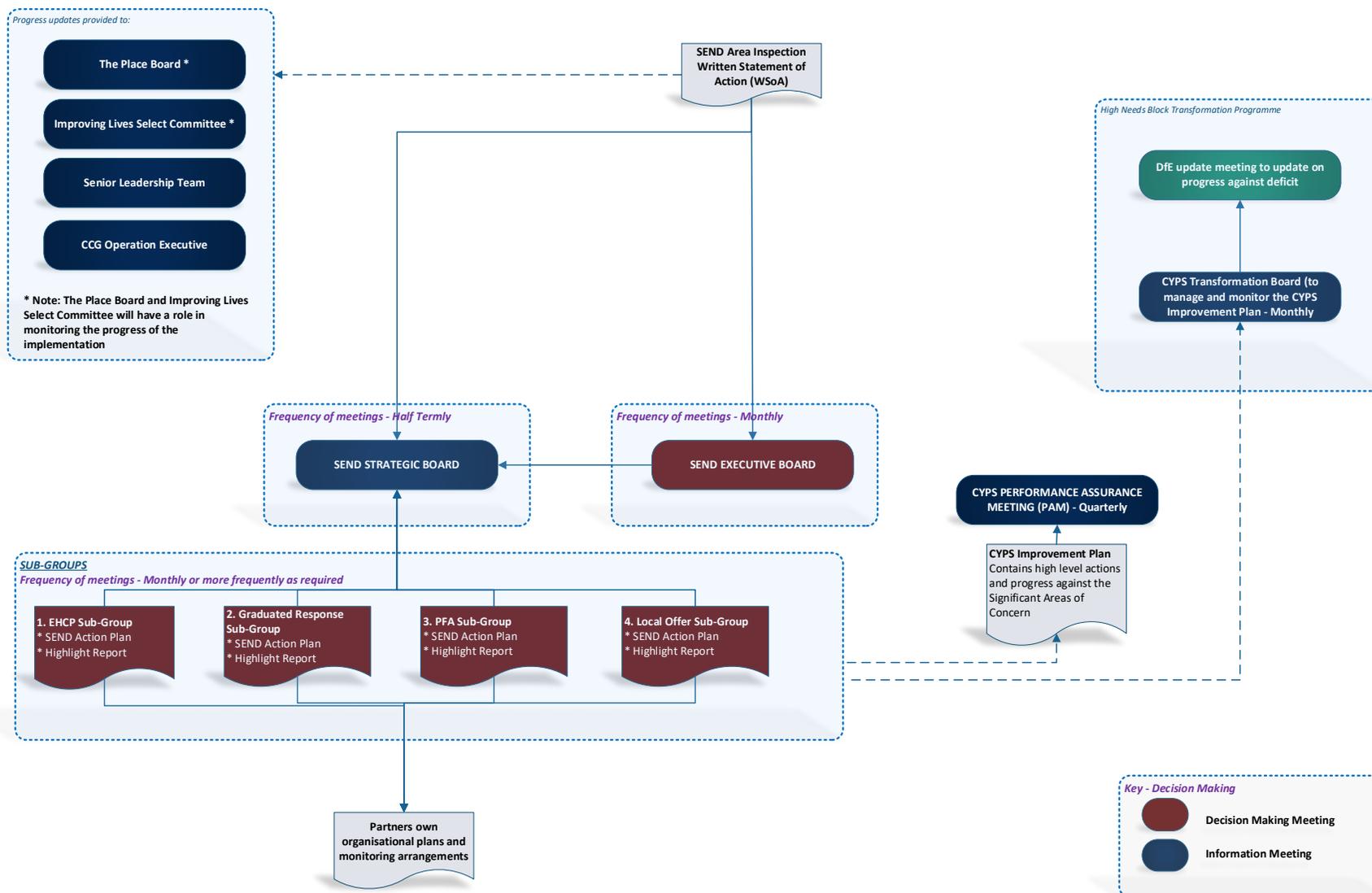
This WSOA affirms and enhances the commitment to the areas of SEND Improvement for Rotherham local area.

Oversight and accountability of progress against the actions contained in this Written Statement of Action sits with the SEND Strategic Board. The responsibility for overseeing the partnership response and checking and evaluating the effectiveness of the actions will sit with the SEND Executive Board which will include the chairs of all 4 sub-groups managing the detailed improvements. Both the SEND Strategic and Executive Boards are co-chaired by the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive of the CCG.

Membership of the SEND Board has been recently enhanced to ensure that attendance covers the right balance of partners who will drive forward these improvements.

*See governance structure below:*

## Governance Structure



## Monitoring Process

Regular monitoring of progress against milestones and success measures will take part and be embedded as part of our governance structure and process.

There is a forward plan in place for the SEND Executive Board to receive monthly “spotlight” updates from one of the WSOA subgroup chairs (on a rota basis), in addition the other 3 chairs that month will submit a highlight report to give ongoing assurance to the members of the Executive Board and to give opportunity to raise any emerging concerns. Each of the sub-group leads will have overall accountability for the actions in the relevant sections of the plan.

\* Progress on implementing the plan will be subject to support and challenge at The Place Board chaired by the Chief Executive of the Council and the Chief Executive of the CCG on a 6-monthly basis. The Improving Lives Select Committee will scrutinise progress across multi-agency partners.

A performance monitoring scorecard (a subset of the wider CYPS performance reporting) will be in place which covers the key measures for each of the 4 WSOA areas and to monitor the progress quarterly of these from a baseline position the time of the inspection (end of Quarter 1 June 2021).

Action plans will be monitored for each of the 4 WSOAs and any completed actions will form part of the routine Evidence Challenge Panel process already in place in CYPS (a multi-agency panel of senior officers) which receives and reviews evidence of change, outcomes, and impact to ensure actions are signed off as complete and fully embedded.

## Written statement of Action Plan

### Rotherham Local Area Four Areas of Significant Concern

1.	The variability in the quality of EHC plans, including the contribution of health and social care partners.
2.	The effectiveness of the graduated response to identify and meet children and young people's needs, especially in key stages 1 and 2.
3.	The quality of provision for children and young people's preparation for, and transition to, adulthood.
4.	Communication with all parents and carers of children and young people with SEND about the Local Offer, and the accessibility of the very valuable information included within the Local Offer

## Progress to Date

### Area of focus 1 – The variability in the quality of EHC plans, including the contribution of health and social care partners.

- Appointment of Head of Safeguarding, Quality and Learning to support Education, Health and Care leads to embed quality assurance process across the full children and young people's service.
- Links to Council for Disabled Children (CDC) have been established. The CDC have submitted a bid to DfE to request implementing a support package for Rotherham.
- Training has been provided to social care staff to increase the % and quality of the care input into plans.
- Training has been provided to therapy services and CAMHS to increase the % and quality of the health input into plans.
- Quality assurance in therapy services and CAMHS has been reviewed and now includes audit focussing on the quality of EHCPs. Audit recommendations associated with the quality of EHCP's now inform service improvement activity.
- Quality assurance in Children's Social care has been reviewed and now includes audit focussing on the quality of EHCPs. Audit recommendations associated with the quality of EHCP's will now inform service improvement activity.
- Designated Social Care Officer role for SEND appointed.
- Training provided to EHCP staff on how to write a good quality contribution to EHCPs and signposting to appropriate support if/when needed.
- Interim capacity in the EHCP Team increased by four officers to focus on statutory annual reviews.

### Area of focus 2 – The effectiveness of the graduated response to identify and meet children and young people's needs, especially in key stages 1 and 2.

- Electronic Toolkit launched in September 2021 which will provide practical support and guidance and support consistent delivery of the Graduated Response.
- Pilot outreach project set up involving one special school. Specialist staff are supporting mainstream schools to help meet the needs of those with SEND.
- Links to regional lead for Whole School SEND established and an agreed training programme has been outlined for the Spring term 2022.
- A review of arrangements for children with complex needs is underway. This includes a focus on the graduated response and appropriate stages prior to escalation.

- The SEMH strategy group Terms of Reference have been reviewed to reflect responsibility for the children's mental health section of the Place Plan.
- System implemented to allow for appropriate challenge and support in respect of schools/settings causing concern.

### **Area of focus 3 – The quality of provision for children and young people's preparation for, and transition to, adulthood.**

- Links established to the National Development Team for Inclusion to support and facilitate our access to sector led learning.
- Leading on a pilot for the PFA minimum standards as part of national PCF network.
- New transition management team in place.
- Needs analysis updated to inform service development and commissioning. Additional resource has been deployed using National Graduate Scheme to undertake a detailed cohort analysis of the PFA cohort.
- Confirmed commitment from the Rotherham's Business Growth Board in order to increase the number of employment / traineeships / supported internship opportunities.
- Secured additional resource to support Rotherham's micro enterprises to further support the development of community activities. A focus will be making this resource open to young people moving through the PFA cohort.
- Secured commitment of capital resources to create a new community resource.
- Rotherham identified as a pilot for the QDOS Network.
- Multi-agency working group mobilised to develop a new offer to support autistic young people who are moving through a PFA. This is being coordinated by RPCF.

### **Area of focus 4 – Communication with all parents and carers of children and young people with SEND about the Local Offer, and the accessibility of the very valuable information included within the Local Offer.**

- Local Offer Review framework designed and completed as part of peer review.
- A SEND Local Offer Communications and Marketing Plan is in place.
- The SEND Local Offer Strategic Group has an Action Plan in place.
- There is agreed enhanced capacity within the Parent Carer Forum to help lead on developments.

### **Overarching**

- Agreement established regarding joint commissioning agreement between CCG and RMBC for SENDIASS, the CCG are contributing 35% towards the SENDIASS service.
- Increased the capacity for the role of the Designated Clinic Officer from two to four days per week.
- Increased investment (recurrent and non-recurrent) in the Neurodevelopmental pathway to implement a 3-year plan to reduce waiting times to 18 weeks.
- The Executive Group has been established and has begun to meet.
- The SEND Strategic Board have met to address the inspection and to contribute towards the Written Statement of Action.
- Four subgroups have been established each with a responsibility for a key area of significant weakness. The subgroups mirror membership of the Strategic Board. Each subgroup has met to input into the creation of the Written Statement of Action.

**Priority 1 – EHC Plans**

**Lead Officers** – Julie Day, Head of Service Inclusion and Ian Tankard, Headteacher Coleridge Primary School

**Children and Young People with SEND in Rotherham have quality and consistent Education Health and Care Plans (EHC) which include the contribution from health and social care partners**

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
1.1	<p><b>Improve the Quality Assurance framework for Education Health and Care Plans, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All practitioners understand their role and involvement in relation to creating/contributing to the EHC plan</li> <li>All EHC plans are on the same template and are consist in relation to approach, expectations, and standards</li> <li>Children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time (including appropriate placement in education provision)</li> <li>Children and young people and their families feel more involved in and in control of their EHC plan and support which will be person centred and co-produced</li> <li>Children and Young People make progress in relation to targets and outcomes and are in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> <li>Partners jointly commission services for children and young people wherever it is possible to do so</li> <li>There are clear pathways so that people understand how to find the appropriate support</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased number of EHC plans audited rated as good or better from 52.5% to 75%</li> <li>Increase in the timeliness of EHCPs issued within 20 weeks from 57.5% to 70%</li> <li>Increase in the timeliness of Review recommendations being actioned from 27.1% to 100% by June 2023</li> <li>Maintain the number of EHC plans being ceased due to Children and Young People successfully achieving outcomes</li> <li>Reduce the number of mediations and tribunals (16 mediations and 8 tribunals)</li> </ul>				
1.1.1	Integrate EHCP and SEND into full CYPS framework	<b>Julie Day</b>	July 2022		
1.1.2	Review the Health and CCG framework alongside the CYPS framework to ensure consistency	<b>Helen Sweaton</b>	July 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
1.1.3	Establish internal QA processes within the EHCP Team and wider Inclusion Service	<b>Julie Day</b> Vicki Ingram	September 2022		
1.1.4	Embed 'lessons learned' including outcomes from audits and Practice Learning Days and benchmarking data to inform service improvement	<b>Julie Day</b> Vicki Ingram	December 2022		
1.1.5	Facilitate parents, carers, and young people to enable them the opportunity to audit and QA independently	<b>RPCF group</b> <b>Scott Johnson</b> Guiding Voices	July 2022		
1.1.6	CYPS commissioning responsible for commissioning all external SEND placements (education and care) based on the EHCP	William Shaw <b>Helen</b> <b>Sweaton</b>	December 2022		
1.1.7	Develop a Communications Strategy to ensure key messages are communicated to stakeholders	<b>RMBC/CCG</b> <b>Comms leads</b>	December 2022		
1.1.8	Embed a process to track the impact of EHC plans in relation to outcomes e.g., academic achievement, EET, EHCP outcomes achieved	<b>Julie Day</b> Vicky Whitfield Vicki Ingram	September 2022		
<b>1.2</b>	<p><b>Provide a range of CPD opportunities for practitioners, schools/settings, parents/carers, children, and young people to ensure that the quality of EHCP Plans improve across the local area, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All practitioners understand their role and involvement in relation to creating/contributing to the EHC plan</li> <li>• All practitioners understand their role in relation to implementing or monitoring strategies and subsequent progress/developments</li> <li>• All Partners jointly commission services for children and young people wherever it is possible to do so</li> <li>• Children and Young People and their families feel more involved in and in control of their EHC plan and support (this should be person centred and co-produced)</li> <li>• Children and Young People make progress in relation to targets and outcomes and are in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> <li>• Children and Young People are engaged with the right support at the right time (including appropriate placement in education provision)</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are clear pathways so that people understand how to find the appropriate support</li> <li>All EHC plans are on the same template therefore showing consistency of approach, expectations, and standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of EHC plans audited rated as good or better from 52.5% to 75%</li> <li>Increase in the timeliness of Review recommendations being actioned from 27.1% to 100% by June 2023</li> <li>Maintain the number of EHC plans being ceased due to Children and Young People successfully achieving outcomes. (52 plans ceased between January and June 21.)</li> <li>Reduce the number of mediations and tribunals (16 mediations and 8 tribunals)</li> </ul>				
1.2.1	Work with training providers to coordinate and deliver a CPD offer	<b>Julie Day</b> Vicki Ingram <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>	June 2023		
1.2.2	Deliver CPD to Parents and Carers	NDTi, CDC	June 2023		
1.2.3	Deliver CPD to Health/CCG Practitioners	NDTi, CDC	June 2023		
1.2.4	Deliver CPD to Social Care Practitioners	NDTi, CDC	June 2023		
1.2.5	Deliver CPD to Schools and Settings	NDTi, CDC	June 2023		
<b>1.3</b>	<p><b>Ensure that all current EHCP templates in use are transferred to one single template, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All EHC plans are on the same template and are consist in relation to approach, expectations, and standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of EHC plans audited rated as good or better from 52.5% to 75%</li> <li>An increase in the timeliness of Review recommendations being actioned 27.1% to 100% by June 2023</li> </ul>				
1.3.1	Develop a new agreed EHCP template	<b>Vicki Ingram</b>	April 2022		
1.3.2	All new EHCP Plans to be on the new template	<b>Vicki Ingram</b>	June 2023		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
1.3.3	Transfer old EHCP Plans onto electronic template as part of annual review process.	<b>Vicki Ingram</b>	June 2023		
<b>1.4</b>	<p><b>Implement the review reset project to increase capacity in the EHC Team to enable an increase the number of annual reviews that are actioned in time, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and Young People are engaged with the right support at the right time (including appropriate placement in education provision)</li> <li>Children and Young People make progress in relation to targets and outcomes and are at least in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in the timeliness of Review recommendations being actioned from 27.1% to 100% by June <b>2023</b></li> </ul>				
1.4.1	Undertake a review of current internal practice and operational processes	<b>Julie Day</b> Vicki Ingram	July 2022		
1.4.2	Develop and implement new operating procedures	Vicki Ingram <b>Julie Day</b>	October 2022		
1.4.3	Deliver training to the team on the new operating procedures	<b>Vicki Ingram</b>	December 2022		
<b>1.5</b>	<p><b>Develop a management information system to enable measurement of the effectiveness of EHCPs for individual children and young people, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children and Young People make progress in relation to targets and outcomes and are in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> <li>All practitioners understand their role and involvement in relation to creating/contributing to the EHC plan</li> <li>All practitioners understand their role in relation to implementing or monitoring strategies and subsequent progress/developments</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in the timeliness of Review recommendations being actioned from 27.1% to 100% by June 2023</li> <li>Increase the number of EHC plans audited rated as good or better from 52.5% to 75%</li> </ul>				
1.5.1	Develop a management information system to track effectiveness	<b>Sue Wilson</b>	January 2023		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
1.5.2	Undertake both internal and external benchmarking to measure progress of changes implemented	<b>Nathan Heath</b>	June 2023		
1.5.3	Undertake peer review of EHCPs in Borough to measure progress of changes implemented	<b>Nathan Heath</b>	June 2023		
<b>1.6</b>	<b>To carry out a review of progress to identify ongoing areas for development from June 2023</b>				
1.6.1	Undertake an annual review to assess progress against the identified outcomes and impact measures	<b>Nathan Heath</b> Julie Day	June 2023		
1.6.2	Undertake ADCS Peer Review	ADCS <b>Nathan Heath</b> Julie Day	September 2023		

<b>Delivery Partners</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent, carers, and children and young people</li> <li>• Council for Disabled Children</li> <li>• National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)</li> <li>• RMBC</li> <li>• Health services</li> <li>• Education settings</li> <li>• Rotherham Parent Carers forum</li> <li>• Genuine Partnerships</li> <li>• Guiding Voices</li> </ul>

**Priority 2 – Graduated Response**

Lead Officers – Carol Taylor and Rachel Amos, Principal Educational Psychologists

**Children and Young People with SEND in Rotherham experience an effective graduated response to identify and meet their needs, especially in key stages 1 and 2**

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
2.1	<p><b>Continue to embed the Four Cornerstones Approach and the Rotherham Charter Gold Accreditation process across the local area, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is an understanding across the local area that co-production with children, young people and their families is the best foundation for the graduated response</li> <li>• Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> <li>• Practitioners from different organisations work together to support a child and have high aspirations for them.</li> <li>• All children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time (Including accessing the appropriate strategies and interventions as advised by specialist services)</li> <li>• Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>• All practitioners in education, health, and care work on and are familiar with the graduated response offer to support children and young people with needs identified in the SEND Code of Practice</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of schools engaging with the Four Cornerstones Approach to achieve Rotherham’s Charter Gold Accreditation from 23 to 25 – (23 schools already achieved since inception, currently 21 schools actively engaged process in this academic year 21/22)</li> <li>• Increase in the number of ‘hits’ on the graduated response electronic portal from 6,132 as at June 2021 to 15,000</li> </ul>				
2.1.1	Introduce the Four Cornerstones Approach self-evaluation tool and training opportunities to all schools via the SENDCO network	<b>Claire Whiting</b>	April 2022		
2.1.2	Extend support to strengthening co-production and inclusive practice by drawing upon the best practice of	<b>Claire Whiting</b>	July 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	Charter Gold schools to create a peer support network				
2.1.3	Develop a Co-production and Inclusive Practice toolkit which highlights best practice under each of the Cornerstones accessible via the SENDCo electronic resource and the Genuine Partnerships website	<b>Genuine Partnerships</b> Kelly Crompton SEMH school leads	December 2022		
2.2	<p><b>Audit Outreach Support and provide recommendations for developments (if appropriate), this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>• Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> <li>• All practitioners in education, health, and care work on and are familiar with the graduated response offer to support children and young people with needs identified in the SEND Code of Practice</li> <li>• Parents are aware of what a Graduated Response means and that an EHC Plan is not always necessary</li> <li>• Quality First Teaching is delivered to adapt learning</li> <li>• Children and young people have the opportunity to be educated in their local mainstream education setting whenever it can meet their needs</li> <li>• Education settings will be well equipped to understand and meet the child's needs and know how to access specialist support when it is required</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce the number of requests for EHCP Assessment from 64 per month to 50 per month (baseline July 2021)</li> <li>• Reduce the number of young people who are excluded using academic year 2020/2021 as baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fixed term exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 913 to 880</li> <li>○ Fixed term exclusions – EHCP from 192 to 162</li> <li>○ Permanent exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 22 to 12</li> <li>○ Permanent exclusions – EHCP from 5 to 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reduce the number of inappropriate transfers of children and young people from mainstream to special school (85 transfers overall, September 2021)</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
2.2.1	To audit outreach support and provide recommendations for developments if appropriate for <b>Specialist schools or settings</b>	<b>Nathan Heath</b>	July 2022		
2.2.2	To audit outreach support and provide recommendations for developments if appropriate for <b>RMBC central services</b>	<b>Julie Day</b>	December 2022		
2.2.3	To audit outreach support and provide recommendations for developments if appropriate for <b>Health/CCG providers</b>	<b>Helen Sweaton</b>	July 2022		
2.2.4	To audit outreach support and provide recommendations for developments if appropriate for <b>Social Care</b>	<b>Matthew Boud</b>	July 2022		
2.2.5	To audit outreach support and provide recommendations for developments if appropriate for <b>other local providers</b>	<b>Nathan Heath</b>	September 2022		
<b>2.3</b>	<p><b>Integrate SEND into full school improvement processes to enable support and challenge to schools, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality First Teaching is delivered to adapt learning</li> <li>• All practitioners supporting children and young people with SEND are supported and have adequate time dedicated to allowing them to undertake the required work to support the children and young people in their setting</li> <li>• Children and young people have the opportunity to be educated in their local mainstream education setting whenever it can meet their needs</li> <li>• Education settings will be well equipped to understand and meet the child's needs and know how to access specialist support when it is required</li> <li>• Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>• All children and young people make progress in relation to SEND targets and outcomes and are in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> <li>• There is an understanding across the local area that co-production with children, young people and their families is the best foundation for the graduated response</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> <li>All practitioners in education, health, and care work on and are familiar with the graduated response offer to support children and young people with needs identified in the SEND Code of Practice</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number and percentage of schools engaging in Whole School Support project (WSS/NASEN/DfE) from 0 to 60 (50% of schools)</li> <li>Increase the number and percentage of schools/SENCOs engaged in SENCO network events from 43 schools represented to (35.8%) to 90 (75%)</li> <li>Reduce the number of requests for EHCP Assessment from 64 per month to 50 per month (baseline July 2021)</li> <li>Reduce the number of young people who are excluded using academic year 2020/2021 as baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed term exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 913 to 880</li> <li>Fixed term exclusions – EHCP from 192 to 162</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 22 to 12</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – EHCP from 5 to 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>Increase the number of schools engaging with the Four Cornerstones Approach to achieve Rotherham’s Charter Gold Accreditation from 23 to 25 (23 schools already achieved since inception, currently 21 schools actively engaged in this academic year 21/22)</li> </ul>				
2.3.1	Introduce and embed Whole School SEND (NASEN/DfE/Gateway) with a focus on self-evaluation framework, effective use of data and every leader a leader of SEND.	Julie Day <b>Carol Taylor</b> Helen Bacon	June 2023		
2.3.2	Deliver presentations at Governors meetings	<b>Pam Ward</b>	June 2022		
2.3.3	Recognise positive judgements related to SEND in school/setting Ofsted’s and share as examples of good practice.	<b>Pam Ward</b>	Ongoing – July for 1 <sup>st</sup> annual report		
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Continue to develop tools to promote the graduated response, this will mean that:</b>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time (including accessing and implementing the appropriate strategies and interventions as advised by specialist services)</li> <li>• Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>• Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> <li>• Parents are aware of what a Graduated Response means and that an EHC Plan is not always necessary</li> <li>• All practitioners in education, health, and care work on and are familiar with the graduated response offer to support children and young people with needs identified in the SEND Code of Practice</li> <li>• Practitioners from different organisations work together to support a child and have high aspirations for them.</li> <li>• Quality First Teaching is delivered to adapt learning</li> <li>• All practitioners supporting children and young people with SEND are supported and have adequate time dedicated to allowing them to undertake the required work to support the children and young people in their setting.</li> <li>• Children and young people have the opportunity to be educated in their local mainstream education setting whenever it can meet their needs</li> <li>• Education settings will be well equipped to understand and meet the child's needs and know how to access specialist support when it is required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number and percentage of schools/SENCOs engaged in SENCO network events from 43 schools represented to (35.8%) to 90 (75%)</li> <li>• Reduce the number of young people who are excluded using academic year 2020/2021 as baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fixed term exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 913 to 880</li> <li>○ Fixed term exclusions – EHCP from 192 to 162</li> <li>○ Permanent exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 22 to 12</li> <li>○ Permanent exclusions – EHCP from 5 to 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increase the number of 'hits' on graduated response electronic portal from 6,132 as at June 2021 to 15,000A reduction in the number of requests for EHCP Assessment from 64 per month to 50 per month (baseline July 2021)</li> <li>• Increase the number of EHCP requests that have been at panel that have full evidence of graduated response. Baseline and measure to be developed</li> </ul>				
2.4.1	Develop the Graduated Response electronic portal	<b>Vicky Whitfield</b> <b>Rachel Amos</b>	February 2023		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
		<b>Carol Taylor</b>			
2.4.2	Implement networking/communication opportunities including SENCO Padlet	<b>Helen Bacon</b>	April 2022		
2.4.3	Develop and implement internal mechanisms within Health/CCG and RMBC including membership of the EHCP panel	<b>Helen Sweaton</b>	February 2022		Review of arrangements for children complex needs underway. Graduated response highlighted as appropriate stage prior to escalation
<b>2.5</b>	<p><b>Provide system wide CPD which includes a refresh and promotion of the SENCO network event, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All practitioners in education, health, and care work on and are familiar with the graduated response offer to support children and young people with needs identified in the SEND Code of Practice</li> <li>There is an understanding across the local area that co-production with children, young people and their families is the best foundation for the graduated response</li> <li>All children and young people make progress in relation to SEND targets and outcomes and are in line with national averages (where comparisons can be made)</li> <li>All children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time (including accessing and implementing the appropriate strategies and interventions as advised by specialist services)</li> <li>All children and young people make progress in relation to individual targets and outcomes and families are fully involved in reviews</li> <li>Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> <li>Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number and percentage of schools/SENCOs engaged in SENCO network events from 43 schools represented to (35.8%) to 90 (75%)</li> <li>Reduce the number of young people who are excluded using academic year 2020/2021 as baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed term exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 913 to 880</li> <li>Fixed term exclusions – EHCP from 192 to 162</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 22 to 12</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – EHCP from 5 to 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>Increase the number of ‘hits’ etc on graduated response electronic portal from 6,132 to 15,000 (June 2021 – 6,132)</li> <li>Reduce the number of requests for EHCP Assessment from 64 per month to 50 per month (baseline July 2021)</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of EHCP requests that have been at panel that have full evidence of graduated response. Baseline and measure to be developed</li> </ul>				
2.5.1	Deliver training on provision mapping and the graduated response	<b>Helen Bacon</b> Kelly Crompton Paul Theaker Helen Leadley James Chapman	April 2022		
2.5.2	Deliver training on assess, plan, do review cycle and support plans	<b>Julie Day</b> <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>	September 2022		
2.5.3	Deliver training on person centred planning	<b>Educational Psychology Service</b> Parents Carer Forum	April 2022		
2.5.4	Deliver training on The Local Offer	<b>William Shaw</b>	September 2022		
2.5.5	Deliver training on school information reports	<b>Performance rep</b>	July 2022		
2.5.6	Deliver training on parent/carers and children and young people's voice and involvement (co-production)	<b>RPCF</b> Guiding Voices participation groups	April 2022		
2.5.7	Deliver accredited training for emotionally literate support assistance (ELSA) and maintain accreditation through supervision	<b>Karen Davies</b> Chris Dawson	June 2023		
<b>2.6</b>	<p><b>Audit the Graduated Response and continuum of provision in line with the SEND Code of Practice, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time (including accessing and implementing the appropriate strategies and interventions as advised by specialist services)</li> <li>Early intervention is in place to prevent needs escalating</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education settings, parents/carers, and health/care practitioners are aware that an EHCP is not appropriate for every child with additional needs, and they will explore other options through the graduated response where suitable</li> <li>Children and young people have the opportunity to be educated in their local mainstream education setting whenever it can meet their needs</li> <li>Education settings will be well equipped to understand and meet the child's needs and know how to access specialist support when it is required</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number and percentage of schools/SENCOs engaged in SENCO network events from 43 schools represented to (35.8%) to 90 (75%)</li> <li>Reduce the number of young people who are excluded using academic year 2020/2021 as baseline: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fixed term exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 913 to 880</li> <li>Fixed term exclusions – EHCP from 192 to 162</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – SEN Support CYP from 22 to 12</li> <li>Permanent exclusions – EHCP from 5 to 3</li> </ul> </li> <li>Increase the number of 'hits' on graduated response electronic portal from 6,132 as at June 2021 to 15,000A reduction in the number of requests for EHCP Assessment from 64 per month to 50 per month (baseline July 2021)</li> <li>Increase the number of schools engaging with the Four Cornerstones Approach to achieve Rotherham's Charter Gold Accreditation from 23 to 25 (23 schools already achieved since inception, currently 21 schools actively engaged in this academic year 21/22)</li> <li>Increase the number of EHCP requests that have been at panel that have full evidence of graduated response. Baseline and measure to be developed</li> </ul>				
2.6.1	Link to other working groups where appropriate in relation to provision and practice for SEMH	Helen Sweaton/ <b>Kelly Crompton</b>	June 2023		
2.6.2	Provide mechanisms to gain stakeholder experiences and opinions to identify strengths and weaknesses related to provision meeting need	<b>Rachel Amos/Carol Taylor</b>	June 2023		
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Carry out a review of progress to identify ongoing areas for development from June 2023</b>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
2.7.1	Undertake an annual review to assess progress against the identified outcomes and impact measures	<b>Nathan Heath</b> Julie Day	June 2023		

Delivery Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent, carers, and children and young people</li> <li>• Council for Disabled Children</li> <li>• National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)</li> <li>• RMBC</li> <li>• Health services</li> <li>• Education settings</li> <li>• Rotherham Parent Carers forum</li> <li>• Genuine Partnerships.</li> </ul>

### Priority 3 – Preparing for Adulthood and Transitions

**Lead Officers** – Ian Spicer – Assistant Director of Adult Care and Integration, Helen Sweaton - Joint Assistant Director of Commissioning Performance and Quality (RMBC and RCCG)

**Children and Young People with SEND in Rotherham experience quality provision for their preparation for, and transition to adulthood. This will be across Employment and Learnings(E&L), Friends, Relationships and Communities (FR&C), Independence (I) and Health (H).**

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
3.1	<p><b>Embed NDTi PfA minimum standards ensuring person-centred and strength-based approaches in education, health and care services involved in transition planning. This will improve the quality of planning and provision for young people in preparation for and transition to, adulthood. It will also embed co-production into planning, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FR&amp;C: All young people have a choice about their future and are in control of their support as they move into adulthood</li> <li>E&amp;L: Plans and next steps following education are person-centred and are co-produced with young people and their families</li> <li>I: Parents, carers and young people have the support and information they need to feel confident to live independently at home and in the wider community</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the number of practitioners who have completed NDTi person centred/PFA training from 0 to 50</li> <li>Increase the number of practitioners who have completed multi-agency training from 0 to 50</li> </ul>				
3.1.1	Agree a joint multi-agency standards and quality assurance framework for transition for young people with SEND in line with NDTi minimum standards	<b>Garry Parvin</b> <b>Helen Sweaton</b> Julie Day	June 2022		
3.1.2	Co-produce with education, health and care providers, good practice guidance for protocols of effective transitions	<b>Helen Sweaton</b> Education representative Social Care representative	December 2022		
3.1.3	NDTi training for up to 50 staff working in schools, colleges, and	<b>Vicky Whitfield</b>	March 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	support services to develop an understanding of Preparing for Adulthood.	Education representative Social Care representative			
3.1.4	Deliver a multi-agency training programme which embeds the Four Cornerstones of Co-production, person centred and strength-based approaches (link to 3.4.3)	<b>Jo Hinchcliffe</b> Genuine Partnerships C&YP	June 2023		
3.1.5	Implement Quality Assurance Framework and develop an action plan to address areas for improvement (including impact of training programmes)	<b>Helen Sweaton</b> <b>Garry Parvin</b>	June 2023		
<b>3.2</b>	<p><b>To complete a gap analysis of support service, health services and provision for young people in preparation for and transition to adulthood. This will be based on the NDTi PfA minimum standards. This will identify areas which require development work or where there are commissioning gaps. Identifying gaps and issues will enable appropriate plans to be put in place to address these, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E&amp;L: All young people have access to appropriate education, training, and employment opportunities</li> <li>• E&amp;L: All young people have access to clear and transparent information about education, training, and employment opportunities</li> <li>• E&amp;L: All children and young people from year 9 to aspire for their future and can explore opportunities for learning and development in readiness for purposeful activity and work</li> <li>• E&amp;L: Curriculum pathways for different groups of learners have a clear emphasis on progression to employment and include a pre-supported and supported internship programme</li> <li>• H: Clear multi-agency transition pathways which include consideration of health needs are in place. These will ensure a holistic transition, based on shared principles, co-produced with young people, their families, and other stakeholders</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of EHC plans audited rated as good or better from for those aged 14 years and above</li> </ul>				
3.2.1	Review local needs and identify gaps in current provision or areas	<b>Helen Sweaton</b> <b>Garry Parvin</b>	July 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	for development against NDTi/PfA minimum standards				
3.2.2	Develop an action plan to address the areas identified as high priority through the above gap analysis	<b>Helen Sweaton</b> <b>Garry Parvin</b>	December 2022		
3.2.3	Produce transition pathways for Rotherham's Preparing for Adulthood Cohort for four prioritised Health Services	Helen Sweaton <b>Garry Parvin</b> Vicky Whitfield	June 2023		
<b>3.3</b>	<p><b>To develop a communication strategy to ensure Rotherham's PFA offer is known, accessible and visible. This will include clear links to the Local Offer. By communicating effectively with young people and their families, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E&amp;L: All young people have access to clear and transparent information about education, training, and employment opportunities</li> <li>• E&amp;L: All children and young people from year 9 to aspire for their future and can explore opportunities for learning and development in readiness for purposeful activity and work</li> <li>• FR&amp;C: All young people have a choice about their future and are in control of their support as they move into adulthood.</li> <li>• I: Parents, carers and young people have the support and information they need to feel confident to live independently at home and in the wider community</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes for EET with SEND are in line with national averages or better.</li> <li>• Increase the number of young people in supported internships through Project Search from 6 to 10</li> <li>• Maintain 100% of Rotherham Special Schools being involved with the Sheffield City Region Careers Hub SEND Community of Practice</li> </ul>				
3.3.1	NDTi to review the Local Offer from a Preparing for Adulthood perspective and make recommendations for improvement	<b>William Shaw</b>	June 2022		
3.3.2	Participate in the Local Offer subgroup to implement recommendation (4.4.1)	<b>Jayne Fitzgerald</b> <b>William Shaw</b> Helen Sweaton	March 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
3.4	<p><b>To confirm processes, roles, and responsibilities to support transition arrangements in Year 9 onwards. Greater clarity will enable the system to work in a better co-ordinated way and more efficiently which will ensure that young people and their families have a better experience, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I: Preparation for Adulthood is included as part of all EHCPs</li> <li>• H: Clear multi-agency transition pathways which includes consideration of health needs are in place. These ensure a holistic transition, based on shared principles, co-produced with young people, their families, and other stakeholders</li> <li>• FR&amp;C: All young people have a choice about their future and are in control of their support as they move into adulthood</li> <li>• FR&amp;C: There is a strong multi-agency commitment to deliver and improve services for young people and their families with clear pathways, processes, and provision from children into adult's services</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the % of Care Act assessments in place by age 17.5 years or earlier, for young people eligible for Adults Transition Team from 65.2% to 70%</li> <li>• Increase % of young people aged 14 or over with learning disabilities offered enhanced GP Annual Health Checks from 70% to 75%</li> </ul>				
3.4.1	Review the EHCP outcomes for post 16 students against the NDTi minimum standards to ensure that they demonstrate aspirations, progression, and independence, making best use of advice and guidance within the PfA outcomes framework	<b>Garry Parvin</b> Direct link to EHCP QA group which will have PfA representation	June 2022		
3.4.2	Develop an action plan to address the areas identified as high priority through the above review	Helen Sweaton <b>Garry Parvin</b>	December 2022		
3.4.3	Deliver NDTi training for up to 60 staff across education, health and care services who write Education, Health and Care Plans and contribute advice following Education Health and Care statutory assessments	<b>Garry Parvin</b> Julie Day	March 2022		

**Delivery Partners**

- RMBC and RCCG Communications Team
- Rotherham Parents Carers Forum
- Rotherham's micro enterprises.
- Voluntary Action Rotherham
- RdaSH
- TRFT
- South Yorkshire TCP/ ICS
- Rotherham Industrial Development Office (RiDO)
- QDOS
- Chat 'n' Chill
- Different but Equal Board
- Neighbourhoods team
- RMBC Housing
- RNN colleges
- NDTi
- Guiding Voices
- Genuine Partnerships

**Priority 4 – Local Offer**

**Lead Officers** – William Shaw, Head of Service Commissioning and Jayne Fitzgerald, Rotherham Parents Carers Forum

**All parents and carers of children and young people with SEND in Rotherham are aware of the Local Offer and able to access the very valuable information included in it.**

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
4.1	<p><b>Reconstitute the Local Offer steering/reference Group comprised of practitioners, parents/carers, to lead a review of our Local Offer website, alongside our key services/practitioners/stakeholders and children and young people, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is up to date information on how and where to access support is available and easy to access allowing children, young people, and their families to make informed decisions about relevant provision to meet needs</li> <li>• There are good levels of satisfaction</li> <li>• There is a knowledge and confidence related to a wealth of provision</li> <li>• Practitioners understand their role in ensuring that information is put on the Local Offer (including the role of the school/setting)</li> <li>• SENCos understand their role in supporting parents/carers to access appropriate provision and services</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b> (baseline and reporting to be established)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the timeliness of content and update requests in relation to provision identified on the Local Offer completed within agreed timescales</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from parents/carers on the effectiveness of the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from ‘secret shoppers’ in relation to the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Every school/setting is linked to Rotherham’s Local Offer via their school information reports</li> <li>• 20% increase in number of ‘hits’ on the Local Offer</li> </ul>				
4.1.1	Undertake benchmarking against other Local Authorities to identify best practice	<b>William Shaw</b>	June 2022		
4.1.2	Increase the accessibility of the Local Offer site with a partner friendly plan	<b>Helen Sweatton</b>	April 2022		

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
4.1.3	Increase and develop the content of the Local Offer so that is representative of Rotherham and the wider SEND system	<b>William Shaw Jayne Fitzgerald</b>	September 2022		
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Develop ongoing and sustainable systems and processes, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is good, regular communication between children and young people, parents/carers and all practitioners involved so that children and young people's needs are met</li> <li>• Children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b> (baseline and reporting to be established)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the timeliness of content and update requests in relation to provision identified on the Local Offer completed within agreed timescales</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from parents/carers on the effectiveness of the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from 'secret shoppers' in relation to the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> </ul>				
4.2.1	Collate engagement activity and ensure it is used to develop site	<b>Local Offer engagement lead</b>	June 2022		
4.2.2	Provide feedback to stakeholders	<b>Local Offer engagement lead</b>	June 2022		
4.2.3	Measure and monitor the use, accessibility, and effectiveness of the Local Offer site	<b>Local Offer engagement lead</b>	June 2022		
<b>4.3</b>	<p><b>To review and refine internal processes, roles and responsibilities for the promotion and upkeep of the Local Offer which will include being part of regional Local Offer Groups, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is good, regular communication between children and young people, parents/carers and all practitioners involved so that children and young people's needs are met</li> <li>• Children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time</li> <li>• There is up to date information on how and where to access support is available and easy to access allowing children, young people, and their families to make informed decisions about relevant provision to meet needs</li> <li>• There are good levels of satisfaction</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a knowledge and confidence related to a wealth of provision</li> <li>• Practitioners understand their role in ensuring that information is put on the Local Offer (including the role of the school/setting)</li> <li>• SENCOs understand their role in supporting parents/carers to access appropriate provision and services</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b> (baseline and reporting to be established)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the timeliness of content and update requests in relation to provision identified on the Local Offer completed within agreed timescales</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from parents/carers on the effectiveness of the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from 'secret shoppers' in relation to the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Every school/setting is linked to Rotherham's Local Offer via their school information reports</li> <li>• 20% increase in number of 'hits' on the Local Offer</li> </ul>				
4.3.1	Establish a clear role to hold responsibility for Local Offer to embed improvements and support communication/engagement with Local Offer	<b>Nathan Heath</b>	September 2022		
4.3.2	Develop a process across the SEND system and the Place Partnership to maximise the use of the Local Offer	<b>Jayne Fitzgerald</b>	April 2022		
4.3.3	Develop a steering group mechanism so that children and young people's voice/activity is central in Rotherham Local Offer	<b>Scott Johnson</b>	April 2022		
4.3.4	Audit regularly education settings engagement and link to Local Offer	<b>Julie Day/Pam Ward/Nathan Heath</b>	June 2023		
<b>4.4</b>	<b>Develop and deliver a joint communications and engagement strategy to promote the Local Offer, this will mean that:</b>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is good, regular communication between children and young people, parents/carers and all practitioners involved so that children and young people's needs are met</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is up to date information on how and where to access support is available and easy to access allowing children, young people, and their families to make informed decisions about relevant provision to meet needs</li> <li>• There are good levels of satisfaction</li> <li>• There is a knowledge and confidence related to a wealth of provision</li> <li>• Practitioners understand their role in ensuring that information is put on the Local Offer (including the role of the school/setting)</li> <li>• SENCOs understand their role in supporting parents/carers to access appropriate provision and services</li> <li>• Children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time</li> </ul> <p><b>Key Impact Measures</b> (baseline and reporting to be established)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the timeliness of content and update requests in relation to provision identified on the Local Offer completed within agreed timescales</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from parents/carers on the effectiveness of the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from 'secret shoppers' in relation to the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Every school/setting is linked to Rotherham's Local Offer via their school information reports</li> <li>• 20% increase in number of 'hits' on the Local Offer</li> </ul>				
4.4.1	Implement a clear and accessible long term communication plan that develops the local offer to support all areas of SEND system	<b>William Shaw</b> Comms lead	March 2022		
<b>4.5</b>	<p><b>Promote the Local Offer, this will mean that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is good, regular communication between children and young people, parents/carers and all practitioners involved so that children and young people's needs are met</li> <li>• Up to date information on how and where to access support is available and easy to access allowing children, young people, and their families to make informed decisions about relevant provision to meet needs</li> <li>• There are good levels of satisfaction</li> <li>• There is a knowledge and confidence related to a wealth of provision</li> <li>• Practitioners understand their role in ensuring that information is put on the Local Offer (including the role of the school/setting)</li> <li>• SENCOs understand their role in supporting parents/carers to access appropriate provision and services</li> <li>• Children and young people are engaged with the right support at the right time.</li> </ul>				

Ref	Action	Lead	Target End Date	RAG	Progress Update
	<b>Key Impact Measures</b> (baseline and reporting to be established) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the timeliness of content and update requests in relation to provision identified on the Local Offer completed within agreed timescales</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from parents/carers on the effectiveness of the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Increase the number of positive responses from 'secret shoppers' in relation to the Local Offer (to increase month on month)</li> <li>• Every school/setting is linked to Rotherham's Local Offer via their school information reports</li> <li>• 20% increase in number of 'hits' on the Local Offer</li> </ul>				
4.5.1	Promote the Local Offer across the wider SEND system for example SENCO Network events	Julie Day <b>Helen Bacon</b>	January 2022		
4.5.2	Audit the use of the Local Offer across the wider SEND system for example Education Settings and partners	<b>Pam Ward</b>	Re-occurring action Sequence to be agreed Dec 2022		
<b>4.6</b>	<b>To carry out a review of progress to identify ongoing areas for development from June 2023</b>				
4.6.1	Undertake an annual review to assess progress against the identified outcomes and impact measures	<b>Nathan Heath</b> Julie Day	June 2023		

<b>Delivery Partners</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent, carers, and children and young people</li> <li>• Council for Disabled Children</li> <li>• National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)</li> <li>• RMBC</li> <li>• Health services</li> <li>• Education settings</li> <li>• Rotherham Parent Carers forum</li> <li>• Genuine Partnerships</li> </ul>

- Guiding Voices

RAG Status	
<b>Blue</b>	Action complete, impact measures achieved and approval to close obtained from the SEND Executive Board
<b>Green</b>	Action on track to achieve the impact measures and within the timelines set.
<b>Amber</b>	Action <b>at risk</b> of not achieving the impact measures and/or completion within the timelines set.
<b>Red</b>	Action <b>at significant risk</b> of not achieving the impact measures and completion within the timelines set.
<b>Grey</b>	Action awaiting start.

**Priority Workstream Subgroups**

Group	Chair	Members
<b>Education Health Care Plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Julie Day</b>, Head of Service Inclusion</li> <li>• <b>Ian Tankard</b>, Head of Coleridge Primary School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Vicki Ingram</b>, Head of EHCP Team CYPS</li> <li>• <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>, Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</li> <li>• <b>James Chapman</b>, Designated Social Care Officer for SEND</li> <li>• <b>Ellen Senior</b>, Children's Disability Family Support &amp; Autism Information and Advice Service Manager</li> <li>• SENDIASS</li> <li>• <b>Kayleigh Harrison</b>, Parents Carer Forum</li> <li>• <b>Laura Gough</b>, CYPS Head of Service Quality and Learning Safeguarding, Quality and Learning</li> <li>• <b>Carlene Devereux</b>, Service Manager Disabilities Services</li> <li>• <b>Catherine O Sullivan</b>, NHS</li> <li>• <b>Sally Brice</b>, CAMHS Service manager</li> <li>• <b>Christina Harrison</b>, RDASH Director Children's Care Group</li> <li>• <b>Gemma Thomas</b>, With Me in Mind Mental Health Support Team</li> </ul>
<b>Graduated Response</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carol Taylor</b>, Principal Educational Psychologist</li> <li>• <b>Rachel Amos</b>, Principal Educational Psychologist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rotherham Parents Carer Forum representative</b></li> <li>• <b>Head Teacher or SENCO</b></li> <li>• <b>Ashlea Harvey</b>, CYPS Young Inspectors Coordinator</li> <li>• <b>Carlene Devereux</b>, Service Manager Disabilities Services</li> <li>• <b>Cheryl Barquero</b></li> <li>• <b>Dean Fenton</b>, HoS Access to Education</li> <li>• <b>Greg Raynor</b>, Principal Brinsworth Academy LEAP Multi-Academy Trust</li> <li>• <b>Helen Bacon</b>, Service Leader Inclusion Support Services</li> <li>• <b>Kelly Crompton</b>, Strategic Lead for Inclusion and Alternative Provision</li> <li>• <b>Mark Windle</b>, Head Teacher, Badsley Moor Lane Primary</li> </ul>

Group	Chair	Members
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Melanie Allen</b>, Thomas Rotherham College</li> <li>• <b>Pam Ward</b>, Strategic Lead for School Effectiveness</li> <li>• <b>Paula Williams</b>, Service Lead Early Years</li> <li>• <b>Susan Claydon</b>, Head of Service, Early Help and Family Engagement</li> <li>• <b>Tina Hohn</b>, Primary and Early Years Virtual Head Teacher</li> <li>• <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>, Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</li> <li>• <b>Louise Graham</b>, Rotherham Parents Carers Forum</li> <li>• <b>Catherine O'Sullivan</b> – CAMHS</li> </ul>
<b>Preparing for Adulthood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ian Spicer</b>, Assistant Director Adult Care, and Integration</li> <li>• <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>, Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Garry Parvin</b>, Joint Head of Learning Disability, Autism and Transition Commissioning Adults Social Care</li> <li>• <b>Harry Clarkson</b>, RMBC, Programme Development Officer, Service Improvement and Governance, Adult Care &amp; Integration</li> <li>• <b>Helen Sweaton</b>, RMBC Joint AD Commissioning, Quality and Performance</li> <li>• <b>Julie Day</b>, RMBC Head of Service Inclusion</li> <li>• <b>Jenny Lawless</b>, RMBC Senior Employment Initiatives Officer Rotherham Initiatives Development Office</li> <li>• <b>Alison Cowie</b>, Head of Nursing, Children's Services the Rotherham Foundation Trust</li> <li>• <b>Matthew Boud</b>, Head of Service Locality and Children's Disability Service</li> <li>• <b>Carlene Devereux</b>, Service Manager Disabilities Services</li> <li>• <b>Paul Theaker</b>, Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group Commissioning Manager for Children and Young People and Maternity Services</li> <li>• <b>Sally Brice</b>, CAMHS Service manager</li> <li>• <b>Claire-Marie Whiting</b>, Genuine Partnerships</li> <li>• <b>Sue Wilson</b>, CYPS Head of Service Performance and Quality</li> <li>• <b>Paul Silvester</b>, Head Teacher Newman Special School</li> </ul>

Group	Chair	Members
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ashley Leggott</b>, Voluntary Action Rotherham</li> <li>• <b>Vicki Ingram</b>, RMBC Education Health &amp; Care Assessment Team Manager</li> <li>• <b>Rachel Jackson</b>, RMBC Early Help Senior Practitioner, Family Support and Early Help</li> <li>• <b>Sophie Astin</b>, Job Centre Plus DEA/Disability Employment Adviser Lead</li> <li>• <b>Helen Fisher</b>, Adult Social Care, Head of Service, Targeted Review and Transitions</li> <li>• <b>Sarah Watts</b>, Adult Care Strategic Housing Manager</li> <li>• <b>William Shaw</b>, RMBC Head of Service Commissioning</li> <li>• <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>, Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</li> <li>• <b>Emma Royle</b>, RMBC Senior Commissioning &amp; Improvement Manager, Adult Services</li> <li>• <b>Jayne Fitzgerald</b>, Rotherham Parents Carers Forum</li> <li>• <b>Kayleigh Harrison</b>, Rotherham Parents Carers Forum</li> <li>• <b>Catherine Hancox</b>, Family Peer Support Co-ordinator, Rotherham Parents &amp; Carers Forum</li> <li>• <b>Deborah Johnson</b>, Adults Social Care, Performance &amp; Business Intelligence Service Manager</li> <li>• <b>Melanie Allen</b>, Head of Faculty Learning Support and Student Wellbeing, Thomas Rotherham College</li> </ul> <p>This membership will be reviewed in January 2022 with a view to streamlining and creating a smaller group to sit alongside the PfA strategic group.</p>
<b>Local Offer and Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>William Shaw</b>, Head of Service Commissioning</li> <li>• <b>Jayne Fitzgerald</b>, Rotherham Parents Carers Forum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Catherine Hancox</b>, Rotherham Parent Carer Forum</li> <li>• <b>Karen Surtees</b>, RMBC Inclusion Service</li> <li>• <b>Ellen Senior</b>, Children's Disability Family Support &amp; Autism Information and Advice Service Manager</li> <li>• <b>Rachel Amos/Carol Taylor</b>, Principal Educational Psychologist</li> </ul>

Group	Chair	Members
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>James Chapman</b>, Designated Social Care Officer for SEND</li> <li>• <b>Emma Lingwood</b>, Early Help</li> <li>• <b>Emma Royal</b>, CCG Adult Health</li> <li>• <b>Garry Parvin</b>, Joint Head of Learning Disability, Autism and Transition Commissioning Adults Social Care</li> <li>• <b>Helen Wyatt</b>, CCG Patient and Public Engagement Manager</li> <li>• <b>Vicky Whitfield</b>, Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</li> <li>• <b>Rob Shirley</b>, RMBC Communications Manager</li> <li>• <b>John Kelly/Nick Fisher</b>, RMBC Website Design</li> <li>• <b>Gordon Laidlaw</b>, CCG Communications</li> <li>• <b>Kelly Hurst</b>, Early Years</li> <li>• <b>Tracey Mace-Ackroyd</b>, High Education</li> <li>• <b>Andy Lound</b>, RMBC SENDIASS</li> <li>• <b>Kerry Taylor</b>, RMBC SENDIASS</li> <li>• <b>Jenny Lawless</b>, RMBC Senior Employment Initiatives Officer Rotherham Initiatives Development Office</li> <li>• <b>Ashley Leggott</b>, CYPF VAR Consortium</li> <li>• <b>Scott Johnson</b>, Guiding Voices</li> <li>• <b>Harry Clarkson</b>, Community Catalyst</li> <li>• <b>Helen Bacon</b>, CYPS Learning Support Service</li> </ul>

**SEND Executive Board Membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
Suzanne Joyner (Joint Chair)	Director of Children's Services
Ian Atkinson (Joint Chair)	Executive Place Director Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
Nathan Heath	Assistant Director, Education, and Inclusion
Julie Day	Head of Service Inclusion
Michelle Veitch	Chief Operating Officer Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
Christina Harrison	RDASH Director Children's Care Group
Michael Wright	Deputy Chief Executive the Rotherham Foundation Trust
Alison Cowie	Head of Nursing, Children's Services the Rotherham Foundation Trust
Helen Dobson	Deputy Chief Nurse the Rotherham Foundation Trust
Sue Wilson	CYPS Head of Service Performance and Quality

**SEND Strategic Board Membership**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
<b>Children and Young People's Services Representatives</b>	
Suzanne Joyner (Joint Chair)	Director of Children's Services
Nathan Heath	Assistant Director, Education, and Inclusion
Helen Sweaton	Joint AD Commissioning, Quality and Performance
Julie Day	Head of Service Inclusion
Laura Gough	Head of Service Quality and Learning
Matthew Boud	Head of Service Locality and Children's Disability Service
Sue Wilson	Head of Service Performance and Quality
William Shaw	Head of Service Commissioning
Carlene Devereux	Service Manager Disabilities Services
Carol Taylor	Principal Educational Psychologist
Rachel Amos	Principal Educational Psychologist
Dean Fenton	HoS Access to Education
Paula Williams	Service Lead Early Years
Alex Hawley	Public Health Specialist Rotherham Council
Ian Spicer	Assistant Director of Adult Care and Integration
Garry Parvin	Joint Head of Learning Disability, Autism and Transition Commissioning Adults Social Care
<b>Health Representatives</b>	
Ian Atkinson (Joint Chair)	Executive Place Director Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
Vicky Whitfield	Designated Clinical Officer for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group
Christina Harrison	RDASH Director Children's Care Group
Sally Brice	CAMHS Service manager
Julie Lodge	Associate Nurse Director Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
James Townsend	General manager Family Health Division the Rotherham Foundation Trust
Alison Cowie	Head of Nursing Children's Services, The Rotherham Foundation Trust
Paul Theaker	Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group Commissioning Manager for Children and Young People and Maternity Services
<b>Voluntary Sector Representatives</b>	
Ashley Leggott	Voluntary Action Rotherham
Claire-Marie Whiting	Genuine Partnerships
Jayne Fitzgerald	Rotherham Parents Carers Forum

Louise Graham	Rotherham Parents Carers Forum
Kayleigh Harrison	Rotherham Parents Carers Forum
<b>Education Representatives</b>	
Mark Windle – Primary Representative	Head Teacher, Badsley Moor Lane Primary
Greg Raynor – Secondary Representative	LEAP Multi-Academy Trust
David Burnham – Secondary Representative	Head of Thrybergh Academy
Tracey Mace-Akroyd – Further Education Representative	Head of RNN Group
Melanie Allen – Further Education Representative	Thomas Rotherham College
Rachel Booth – Special School Representative	Head of The Willows

## Useful links and documents

[SEND Code of Practice January 2015.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#)

[Equality Act 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

[send-local-area-ofsted-cqc-inspection-july-2021 \(rotherhamsendlocaloffer.org.uk\)](#)

[Homepage – Rotherham SEND Local Offer](#)

[RPCF Rotherham Parent Carers Forum](#)

[Homepage – Rotherham SENDIASS](#)

[Rotherham Charter](#)

## Glossary

**ASC** Adult Social Care

**C&F** Children and Families

**CCG** Clinical Commissioning Group

**CoP** Code of Practice

**CQC** Care Quality Commission

**DCO** Designated Clinical Offer

**EHC** Education, Health and Care

**EHCP** Education, Health and Care Plan

**JSNA** Joint Strategic Needs Analysis

**LAC** Looked After Child

**NASEN** National Association of Special Educational Needs

**PEP** Personal Education Plan

**QA** Quality Assurance

**SEND** Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities

**TACAF** Team around the Child and/or Family

**C&YP** Children and Young People

**CAMHS** Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**CEO** Chief Executive Officer

**CPD** Continuing Practitioner Development

**CSC** Children's Social Care

**DCS** Director of Children's Services

**EHCNA** Education, Health Care Needs Assessment

**Health** Relates to Primary care, Secondary Care and Community Care Providers

**LA** Local Authority

**LO** Local Offer

**Ofsted** Office for Standards in Education

**PfA** Preparation for Adulthood

**SENCo** Special Educational Needs Coordinator

**SMART** Specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, timely

**ToR** Terms of Reference

# SEND Sufficiency update

## Improving Lives Select Commission

8 March 2022

# Definition of SEND

- Special Education Needs are defined within the Code of Practice 2015 as:

“A child or young person has SEN if they have a learning difficulty or disability which calls for special educational provision to be made for him or her”.

“A child of compulsory school age or a young person has a learning difficulty or disability if he or she has a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age, or has a disability which prevents or hinders him or her from making use of facilities of a kind generally provided for others of the same age in mainstream schools or mainstream post-16 institutions”.

# What is the SEND Sufficiency?

Rotherham Borough Council has a statutory duty under The Education Act 1996 Section 14(1) to ensure that it provides sufficient school places for all pupils who are resident within the Borough. It has specific duties to ensure that there is sufficient provision for pupils with SEND where an Education Health and Care (EHC) plan has determined that the provision should be met in designated specialist provision.

# SEND Sufficiency in Rotherham

- Our SEND Sufficiency Strategy set out a plan to look at meeting our emerging SEND provision needs against a structured profile of identified SEND needs in Rotherham.
- Three phases of SEND Sufficiency aiming to address key areas of need against a context of increasing SEND demand.
- Fourth phase is in initial planning informed by SEND areas of demand.

# Three Phases: Current Position

- Phase one completed: **additional places in special schools**
- Phase two 90% completed: **resource units at mainstream schools**, post-16 provision

Key update – awaiting Department of Education Approval to support 16-19 academies to take post 19 SEND students to access Level 3 Learning

## Three Phases: Current Position

- Phase three: Rebuild of Newman Upper School/ movement to Dinnington site. **New SEMH Special School** due for completion in 21/22 academic year (transferring students with EHCPs from AP)

Key update – Newman Special School upper students moved into Dinnington campus in November 21

Free School Presumption is due to be discussed by Regional Schools Commissioner Advisory Board on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022 with decision expected.

Newman upper school rebuild – moving through approval process to seek to start demolition and start of rebuild from April 2022 for a one year programme of rebuild.

# Future Phases and link to strategy a.

- Ongoing work to refresh needs assessment has started with identified needs linked to Autism Spectrum Conditions and Social, Emotional and Mental Health as key areas of need and demand
- Refresh of needs assessment to be completed by early March 2022.
- Work to focus on developing a range of mainstream SEND resource bases which are SEND specialist provision built into mainstream schools.

# Future Phases and link to strategy b.

- SEND Capital allocations to support investment in building SEND provision will be shared with Local Authorities by end of March 2022, early indications are additional investment will be made in this area from central government.
- Impending national SEND review from Department of Education (DfE) along with Education White Paper will inform next stage of planning and updates to our SEND strategy.
- RMBC is working closely with DfE to look at development of sustainable High Needs budgets and capital investment to support long term SEND provision development in the borough.

# Any questions?

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Work programme – Improving Lives Select Commission – Updated 21 February 2022

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"> <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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That members of the Improving Lives Select Commission be further consulted on the development of the revised Domestic Abuse Strategy.</li> <li>3. That further information on the number of incidents and their outcomes related to female genital mutilation and so called "honour based" violence be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>4. That further information on work conducted with perpetrators of domestic abuse be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>5. That consideration be given to providing all elected members the opportunity to access an appropriate training session on domestic abuse.</li> </ol>
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	That the work programme be approved
	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.

<b>21 September 2021</b>	YOT Improvement Plan	Resolved at January 2021 meeting to receive a progress update.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That a further report be brought to the March 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to provide a progress report on the implementation of the YOT Inspection Action Plan.</li> <li>3. That a briefing for members of the Improving Lives Select Commission be arranged in order to provide an overview of the work of the YOT and to detail how it has positively impacted on the lives of the children and young people that it has worked with.</li> </ol>
	One Adoption South Yorkshire	To scrutinise how the new arrangements are working.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That a report on the performance of the One Adoption South Yorkshire regional adoption agency be brought to the September 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>3. That consideration be given to how all elected members can be involved in promoting the work of One Adoption South Yorkshire in their wards and in encouraging potential adoptive parents to come forward.</li> </ol>
	Food Poverty/Holiday Activity Programme	To receive a report on previous activities and plans for the future.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That the information collated regarding attendance and uptake around the programme of activities delivered via the Holiday Activities Fund Grant be circulated to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission as soon as it is available.</li> </ol>
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	That the work programme be approved
	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.

<p><b>5 October 2021</b></p>	<p>Adult Safeguarding</p>	<p>Follow up report on Adult Safeguarding issues.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the report be noted.</li> <li>2. That a further report regarding Adult Safeguarding, with a focus on the approach and activity being carried out in Rotherham, be brought to the April 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>3. That an all member seminar be delivered in order to share information and case studies on how Adult Safeguarding activity in Rotherham had impacted on the lives of individuals.</li> <li>4. That the Strategic Director of Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, in consultation with relevant delivery partners, give consideration to how elected members can work to raise awareness of Adult Safeguarding issues within their communities.</li> </ol>
<p><b>26 October</b></p>	<p>SEN</p>	<p>Resolved December 2020 to request an update</p>	<p>1) That the report be noted.</p>

2021	Strategy/Sufficiency	Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work Programming session.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2) That a further progress report on the implementation of Phase Three of the SEND Sufficiency and other activity surrounding SEND Sufficiency in Rotherham be brought to the March 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>3) That a written update regarding the opening of the Newman Special School at the Dinnington SEND Campus be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission by the end of 2021.</li> <li>4) That the Assistant Director for Education and Inclusion liaises with Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission to arrange visits for members of the Commission to the Newman Special School at the Dinnington SEND Campus.</li> <li>5) That a briefing be provided to the members of the Improving Lives Select Commission on the written statement of action drafted in response to Ofsted/CQC SEND Local Area Inspection once it is available.</li> </ol>
	Children's Mental Health	Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work Programming session.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) That the report be noted.</li> <li>2) That information on the Mental Health Trailblazer pilot scheme be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>3) That the Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission liaises with the Chair of the Health Select Commission regarding a joint piece of scrutiny work regarding children and young people's mental health issues and services in Rotherham.</li> </ol>
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	That the Work Programme be approved.

	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.	That the update be noted.
<b>22 December</b>	Education Recovery	Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work	1. That the report be noted.

2021	(including Elective Home Education)	Programming session.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. That information detailing the results of the phonics testing carried out with Year 2 children across the Borough be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission once available.</li> <li>3. That a briefing note be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission on the impact of the revised Elective Home Education Policy.</li> </ol>
	Post-CSE Support	To receive the report from the sub-group of ILSC on Post-CSE Support.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) That the report be noted, and the following recommendations be submitted to OSMB and Cabinet for approval: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>That post-CSE services are transferred to the Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health directorate to enable the greater integration and coordination of support pathways that are available to adult victims of trauma as children.</i></li> <li>b) <i>That further work is undertaken with relevant partners and survivors to improve the ways in which survivors' voices are captured to inform future reviews of post-abuse services (for example drawing on the research from Sheffield Hallam University, the development of voice and influence groups or other survivor's forums).</i></li> <li>c) <i>That consideration is given to appropriate governance arrangements to enable elected members to provide a steer on the activity that is taking place within the Borough to stop CSE/CCE and support survivors.</i></li> <li>d) <i>That the Improving Lives Select Commission continue to monitor the provision of post-abuse support to survivors of CSE.</i></li> <li>e) <i>In relation to recommendations c) and d), that consideration is given how survivors' voices to inform these processes.</i></li> <li>f) <i>To emphasise the shared responsibility of all elected members, that an annual training event/workshop is delivered. This is to ensure that all elected members are kept up to date with the activity within the Borough to protect young people from being at risk of harm</i></li> </ol> </li> </ol>

			<p><i>from CSE/CCE and support adult survivors to move forwards in their lives.</i></p> <p><i>g) That the relevant Strategic Directors explore options for sharing best practice with other local authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber Region.</i></p> <p><i>h) Drawing on the good practice from Durham County Council, that consideration is given is given to the language used in the provision of post-CSE support to ensure that it is positive and inclusive of the needs of those accessing services.</i></p> <p>2) That the response of Cabinet to the recommendations be reported back to Council within two calendar months of its submission.</p>
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	That the Work Programme be approved.

<p><b>25 January 2022</b></p>	<p>Adult Safeguarding Annual Report</p>	<p>To receive and consider the annual report.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) That the report be noted.</li> <li>2) That the Acting Strategic Director – Adult Care, Housing and Public Health, in consultation with the Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission considers how performance data with regard to Adult Safeguarding be shared with members of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</li> <li>3) That the Independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding attends a future meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to present a report detailing the findings of the upcoming Peer Review of the Rotherham Safeguarding Board.</li> <li>4) That the Independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding attends the July 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to present a progress report on the progress being made in delivering the strategic objectives of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board.</li> <li>5) That it be recommended to the Chair of the Health Select Commission that consideration be given to carrying out a joint piece of work on how the NHS Frailty Index is used by health services in Rotherham.</li> </ol>
	<p>Work Programme</p>	<p>To consider the committee’s work programme.</p>	<p>That the Work Programme be approved.</p>
	<p>Project group updates</p>	<p>For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.</p>	<p>That the update be noted.</p>

8 March 2022	SEND Sufficiency	<p>Resolved at the 26 October 2021 that</p> <p>That a further progress report on the implementation of Phase Three of the SEND Sufficiency and other activity surrounding SEND Sufficiency in Rotherham be brought to the March 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</p> <p>To receive a report on the actions taken in response to the outcomes of the SEND inspection report.</p> <p>Representatives of the Parent and Carer's forum to be invited.</p>	
	Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership – 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.	

3 May 2022	Adult Safeguarding	<p>Resolved 5 October 2021:</p> <p>That a further report regarding Adult Safeguarding, with a focus on the approach and activity being carried out in Rotherham, be brought to the April 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.</p>	
	YOT Improvement Plan	Resolved at the September 2021 meeting to bring a further report in 6 months' time.	
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	
	Project group updates	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.

<b>7 June 2022</b>	End of year performance report on Child Exploitation	To review the Council's activity over the past year with regard to Child Exploitation.	
	Work Programme	Project group updates	For the Chair/project group leads to provide an update on the work of the project groups.
	Project group updates	ILSC Monitoring Report	To monitor the progress of recommendations made by ILSC.

## Items pending scheduling or removal

Item	Details	Status
Support for Young Carers	Raised as an area of interest by members following a report on Carers at HSC.	To be scheduled/considered for a sub-group project.
Rotherham Adult Safeguarding Board – Peer Review	Resolved January 2022 to receive a report once completed.	To be scheduled
Counter extremism in schools/ Radicalisation of young people and extremism	<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> <p>Referred to ILSC from OSMB</p>	<p>To be scheduled</p> <p>July 2021 – Chair and Vice Chair will be receiving a briefing in order to consider the focus of the subsequent report to the committee.</p>
Youth Offending Team – Service Provision	To look at the processes and journey that young people go through who are accessing YOT services	Agreed September 2021 to provide a briefing for members.
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>	To be scheduled

	Feb 2021 – Chair deferred item as data on this was not highlighting an areas of additional concern.	
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
Children’s Mental Health	That the Chair of the Improving Lives Select Commission liaises with the Chair of the Health Select Commission regarding a joint piece of scrutiny work regarding children and young people’s mental health issues and services in Rotherham.	To discuss with HSC Chair and KH
CYPS - High Needs Block Update and Recovery Plan	<p>Scrutiny acknowledged that it was early days in the recovery plan process with steps outlined to reduce the deficit. Overall position.</p> <p>OSMB had other updates on this particular issue and other services within CYPS, but Chair confirmed continuation at work planning meeting on 27 May 2020.</p> <p>June 2021 – Strategic Director Children’s and Young Peoples Services/Assistant Director – Education/Chair and Vice-Chair to meet to discuss focus of the report.</p> <p>Moved from OSMB Work Programme December 2021</p>	To be scheduled

**Items to be scheduled during 2022/23**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Status</b>
Rotherham Adult Safeguarding Board – Performance against strategic priorities	Resolved January 2022 to receive a report on performance against strategic priorities.	To be scheduled for July 2022 meeting
Post-CSE Support	To receive a report on the implementation of the ILSC Report recommendations approved by Cabinet 14 February	To schedule for September 2022 meeting
One Adoption South Yorkshire	Resolved September 2021 to bring a further report in 12 months' time.	To be scheduled for September 2022
Carers Strategy/Support for Carers	Joint item with HSC	To be considered at July 2022 HSC meeting.

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