

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION

Date and Time :- Tuesday 3 May 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

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 8 March 2022 (Pages 3 - 16)

To consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 March 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

8. Rotherham Youth Offending Team. HMIP Inspection Action Plan Progress Report (Pages 17 - 50)

To consider a report providing a summary of progress against the action plan submitted to the Youth Justice Board and examples of current practice.

9. Scrutiny Review Recommendations - Cultural Strategy (Pages 51 - 55)

10. Work Programme (Pages 57 - 72)

To consider and approve the Commission's Work Programme.

11. Urgent Business

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

12. Date and time of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on 14 June 2022 commencing at 10am in Rotherham Town Hall.



Sharon Kemp,
Chief Executive.

IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION
Tuesday 8 March 2022

Present:- Councillor Cooksey (Vice-Chair in the Chair); Councillors Bacon, Barley, Z. Collingham, Elliott, Haleem, Jones and Monk.

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Aveyard, Browne, Griffin, Hughes, Khan, Mills, Pitchley and Thompson.

The webcast of the Council Meeting can be viewed at: -
<https://rotherham.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

71. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25 JANUARY 2022

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission, held on 25 January 2022 be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

73. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

74. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

75. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

76. CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL - UPDATE

The Vice-Chair provided a verbal report on the meeting of the Corporate Parenting Panel that had been held on 15 February 2022.

77. ROTHERHAM CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP - ANNUAL REPORT

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

The Independent Chair was accompanied by the District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman and Sue Cassin, Chief

Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director Education, the Acting Assistant Director – Children's Social Care and the Assistant Director: Early Help and Family Engagement were also in attendance at the meeting.

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

The Independent Chair advised that the RSCP Annual Report detailed the activities that had been undertaken in relation to its core business and priorities for the year 2020/21 and considered how well it had worked towards the achievement of the priorities and objectives as detailed in its Strategic Business Plan 2020-2021 that were:

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

The Annual Report detailed the key areas of progress that had been achieved against each of the objectives and areas of priority. The Independent Chair noted how well the different members of the partnership had worked together and advised that the frequent meetings that had been held between partners had enabled effective oversight to be carried out and actions to be taken to deliver on the key priorities of the partnership. The Independent Chair also provided details of how she had challenged performance and sought assurance regarding safeguarding performance as part of her role in delivering independent scrutiny of activity across the partnership.

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

- 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.

The District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman highlighted the activity that had been carried out by South Yorkshire Police (SYP) with regard to supporting the objectives of the RSCP and noted how well the organisations across the partnership had worked together. The District Commander advised that as a result of increasing awareness across SYP regarding the issue of child neglect that the number of reported incidents and recorded crimes had increased over the past year. The District Commander also noted the benefits that weekly children in need meetings had had in driving and focussing performance on children's safeguarding across SYP.

The Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG, Sue Cassin summarised the activity that had taken place with regards to the role of health care provision in delivering the objectives of the partnership over the previous year. The Chief Nurse noted that a good example of innovative partnership work had been 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. The Chief Nurse advised that the "baby clinic" had resulted in an improvement in timeliness of notifications of pregnancies that had then led to an improvement in the timeliness of referrals. The Chief Nurse also noted the success of the Safeguarding Awareness Week that had taken place and that had combined virtual and in-person events.

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

Members asked for further information regarding how school closures during the pandemic had impacted on the ability of partners to maintain lines of sight regarding the welfare of children, and in particular Looked After Children. Members also asked that when schools had reopened whether there had been a rise in previously unidentified concerns being reported regarding children and families. The Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services assured members that strong lines of sight had been maintained across the partnership during periods of school closures that had ensured that safeguarding issues were identified in timely manner. The Strategic Director noted that when schools had been closed that they had still been open to vulnerable children to attend and advised that a process of risk assessing families had taken place that had ensured that good lines of sight had been maintained on children who could potentially have been at risk. The Acting Assistant Director – Children's Social Care provided further information on the robust

processes and effective cross partnership working that had ensured that when schools had been closed safeguarding issues had been able to be picked up and addressed in a timely and appropriate manner. The Acting Assistant Director emphasised the cross partnership Vulnerable Children's Group had been an essential part of the partnership's response in ensuring that children had remained safe during the challenges that had been created by the pandemic. The Assistant Director – Education provided further information on how schools had worked with other partners to ensure that vulnerable children had remained safe during the pandemic and noted how schools had been able to escalate any concerns that they had had directly to the Vulnerable Children's Group. The Assistant Director also noted how Ofsted had supported the response provided by schools with regard to safeguarding and how they had provided assurance that the response that had been provided by schools had been robust. The Assistant Director advised that whilst attendance at school by vulnerable children had generally been good during periods of school closures that some families had struggled to send their children to school. The Assistant Director advised that in response schools had supported families to send their children to school by providing wraparound support through the attendance pathway.

Members asked whether the partnership's response to the challenges presented by the pandemic had identified any children and families who had previously not been known to services. The Strategic Director advised that the support provided by schools to families during the pandemic, that had gone over and above the support that they would normally have provided, had identified some families who had not previously been known to services and who did require additional support. The Assistant Director – Early Help and Family Engagement noted how the Humanitarian Hub had worked during the pandemic to identify families who were not previously known to services and detailed how the Early Help service had worked with the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub to support these families.

Members noted the implementation of Operation Makesafe by South Yorkshire Police that aimed to educate hoteliers to the warning signs of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and asked what further work was being carried out in its implementation. The District Commander advised that the delivery of the scheme has been in two parts, firstly the education of hoteliers regarding the warning signs of potential CSE, and secondly the carrying out of assurance visits to ensure that hoteliers were picking up the warning signs of potential CSE activity. The District Commander advised that further work was being carried out with the hoteliers who had not picked up on the warning signs of CSE and who had not provided an appropriate response when they had been subject to an assurance visit.

The Vice-Chair noted that there had been several serious notifications/incidents involving injuries to babies in the last two years in Rotherham who had been born into vulnerable families and sought assurance that processes across the RSCP were robust enough to

ensure that these types of incidents were minimised. The Independent Chair assured members that she was confident that processes in this area were robust enough and advised that this area of concern had been subject to significant scrutiny by herself and the RSCP Executive Group. The Vice-Chair asked that as some injuries to babies had occurred in families where similar incidents had happened previously whether in such circumstances it had always been appropriate to give these families a second chance. The Independent Chair noted that an audit had been completed of eight families where such incidents had occurred. The Independent Chair advised that the action plan that had been created as a result of the audit had worked to further strengthen the partnership's activities when dealing with risk and responding to issues in this area. The Independent Chair noted how the RSCP's Rapid Response Review to a very serious incident involving an injury to a baby had been praised by the national panel who had been looking at such incidents as an example of best practice. The Strategic Director advised that families where injuries to babies and children had occurred in the past would always receive extensive support and assured members that processes were in place to ensure that further intervention would always take place if needed. The Vice-Chair asked for further information on the actions that remained to be completed on the action plan that had been completed in response to the audit that had taken place. The Independent Chair advised that she would submit this information to members in writing.

Members asked for further information on the activities that were being carried out in the Borough regarding Female Genital Mutilation. The Chief Nurse provided information on the work that had been completed with GP's regarding the risk factors and warning signs regarding FGM. The Acting Assistant Director assured members that the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub had strong procedures in place regarding FGM and advised that health professionals across the partnership had a good understanding of the issues surrounding FGM.

Members asked what plans the RSCP had in relation to children who may be at risk of not having enough to eat due to the cost of living crisis. The Independent Chair advised that the partnership through the Vulnerable Children's Group would be looking at how poverty could pose a risk of neglect that was not the fault of a family in order to establish an appropriate response. The Independent Chair advised that the RSCP's response would involve work with the voluntary sector across Rotherham. The Assistant Director noted the additional support that had been provided to families in receipt of free school meals during the pandemic and advised that the role of schools in providing support in this area would continue to be developed. Members noted that for many children in receipt of free school meals that the provision of a good meal at lunchtime was essential for their health and wellbeing and noted with concern that the quality and quantity of meals in schools across the Borough varied widely. The Strategic Director acknowledged members concerns and advised that they would be looked into further.

Members noted with approval the actions that the RSCP had taken when there had appeared to be an increase in the number of teenage pregnancies during the pandemic and noted their assurance that the subsequent investigation that had been carried out had shown that there was no cause for any additional concern regarding this issue. Members asked for further information on the data that had raised these concerns. Members also asked whether young people accessing sexual health service were monitored to ensure that they were in age appropriate relationships. The Acting Assistant Director advised that it was a statutory legal requirement that when a young person accessed sexual health services that appropriate questions would be asked to ascertain the nature of their relationship. The Strategic Director noted that the apparent increase in teenage pregnancies had been identified and addressed swiftly and advised members that the data that prompted these concerns would be shared members outside of the meeting.

Members sought assurance around the capacity of the RSCP Business Unit to respond to demand following the previous year's reduction in staffing. The Independent Chair assured members that whilst she had expressed concerns in this area, she was now confident that the issues related to business support staffing had now been addressed and were not negatively impacting on the ability of the RSCP to carry out its work.

The Vice-Chair noted that there appeared to be a high number of child neglect cases reported in South Yorkshire and asked whether in these circumstances the neglect training that had delivered by South Yorkshire Police to all of its staff should be followed up. The District Commander advised that the training that had been delivered around neglect had heightened awareness of the issue and had ensured that incidents and crimes related to neglect were now being recorded as such, which had not always been the case in the past. The District Commander advised that further training on other important issues including violence against women and girls and on CSE would be delivered to all staff in the future.

Members asked for further information on how the RSCP ensured that Rotherham's Looked After Children who were placed outside the Borough remained safe. The Acting Assistant Director noted that when placing any child in or outside of the Borough that the question that was always asked would be "would this be good enough for our child". The Acting Assistant Director advised that clear procedures were in place that ensured that all Rotherham Looked After Children were placed in a high quality and suitable placement. The Acting Assistant Director detailed the high levels of assurance that were sought both in advance of a placement being made and during a placement and assured members that managers closely monitored the welfare of all children in placements. The Strategic Director advised that there was a robust national system regarding Looked After Children who were placed out of area that ensured that she would be notified immediately if concerns about a Looked After Child placed outside of Rotherham were raised that would then initiate an appropriate response. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young

People's Services noted the role of the Council's Corporate Parenting Panel and how it was focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for all of Rotherham's Looked After Children.

Members sought further information regarding the issue of children missing from education. The Independent Chair noted that the RSCP had recently received an assurance report on this issue. The Strategic Director noted that the potential risks regarding children missing from education were distinct from the issues relating to children in receipt of Elective Home Education (EHE) and that as such there were very distinct ways of working with each group. The Assistant Director – Education provided assurance regarding the processes that were in place for monitoring children who moved in and out of the area, and in some cases abroad in order to ensure their welfare. The Assistant Director – Education noted the commitment across partnership to monitoring children in receipt of EHE and advised that EHE would remain an issue of high priority across the partnership.

The Vice Chair asked for further information regarding the RSCP Child Sexual Exploitation review and how it was addressing the concerns that had been raised in the Conservative briefing report to Council and the subsequent motion that had been passed at the November 2021 meeting of Council. The Independent Chair advised that work had commenced and assured members that the first report was on track to be completed on schedule.

The Vice Chair thanked the Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Partnership, Jenny Myers, the District Commander for Rotherham, Chief Superintendent Steve Chapman and Sue Cassin, Chief Nurse at NHS Rotherham CCG for attending the meeting to present the report and for answering member questions. The Vice Chair also thanked the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director Education, the Acting Assistant Director – Children's Social Care and the Assistant Director: Early Help and Family Engagement for attending the meeting and answering member's questions.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That a progress report on the activity of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership during 2021/22 be presented at the September 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

78. OFSTED/ CARE QUALITY COMMISSION SEND LOCAL AREA INSPECTION - WRITTEN STATEMENT OF ACTION INCLUSIVE OF UPDATE ON SEND SUFFICIENCY PHASE 3

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director – Education, the Head of SEND Services and Jayne Fitzgerald of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum attended the meeting to present a report on the Ofsted/Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection – Written Statement of Action. The report also included a progress report on the implementation of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy Phase 3.

The report noted that between 5 and 9 July 2021, Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission had 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.

The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services advised that following the conclusion of the inspection it had been judged that the Rotherham local area should have a Written Statement of Action to address the four main areas that had been identified as having significance weakness that were:

- 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.

The Strategic Director – Children and Young People's Services emphasised that as the inspection had been on services delivered across the Rotherham area, and not just services delivered by Rotherham MBC that the subsequent response would be delivered by a collective approach. The report stated that during the period following the local area inspection that there had been significant activity taking place to address the issues that had been raised by the inspection, with senior leaders across Education, Social Care, Health and the CCG having met to ensure that processes were in place to address the delivery of Rotherham's Written Statement of Action over the next calendar year.

The report stated that the SEND Strategic Partnership Board, jointly chaired by the Strategic Director – Children's and Young People's Services and the CCG Executive Place Officer had met to address the outcome of the inspection and had agreed that there should be four subgroups established with each one of them leading on an area of weakness. It was noted that the subgroups had now been set up and had all met at least once. It was noted that each subgroup reflected the make-up of the Board and had representatives from each sector, as well as from stakeholders and parent/carers being represented.

The full Written Statement of Action was included as an appendix to the officer's report.

The Assistant Director – Education noted that at the start of the inspection process a self-evaluation of local SEND services had been carried out that had identified the same areas of weakness that had been subsequently identified by the formal inspection. The Assistant Director advised that this self-awareness provided a high level of assurance that the Council and partners were aware of the issues that needed to be addressed regarding the delivery of SEND in Rotherham and as such were in a good position to start delivering the required improvements. The Assistant Director advised that the inspection report had identified many areas of strength in the provision of SEND in Rotherham, notably the role of, and engagement of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum. The Assistant Director advised that creation and subsequent delivery of the actions contained in the Written Statement of Action had and would be overseen by Ofsted who had advised that the Written Statement of Action was of good quality and sharp in its focus.

Members asked whether there were any parts of the Written Statement of Action that would be more challenging to achieve than others. The Assistant Director advised that the plan of action was ambitious in its scope but noted that its delivery needed to be seen in the context of many issues that were impacting on the delivery of SEND services nationally, most notably the rise in demand for SEND services. The Assistant Director advised that the action plan was an agile document that would be updated to respond to events during its period of delivery, and as such would be able to respond to any issues raised during the planned review of SEND services. The Assistant Director assured members that the action plan would be reviewed quarterly in order to monitor progress and would be updated if required in response to events.

The Assistant Director advised that the CCG and Ofsted would be fully engaged with the delivery of the action plan. Jayne Fitzgerald of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum noted that the Parents and Carers Forum in its engagement with the delivery of the Written Statement of Action would be able support its delivery by feeding in information on the lived experience of children and young people with SEND needs and their families. Jayne Fitzgerald noted that the result of the inspection had not

come as a surprise to the Parents and Carers Forum and welcomed how the Written Statement of Action would give the required impetus and focus to enable a joined up approach to be taken that would address the areas that required improvement. Jayne Fitzgerald noted how the Written Statement of Action would also work to engage partners across Rotherham who had not been as involved with the delivery of SEND services as they needed to be. Jayne Fitzgerald also noted how the Written Statement of Action would drive improvements with regard to supporting Looked After Children with SEND needs as these children and young people were a group that was doubly disadvantaged and needed focussed and tailored support.

Jayne Fitzgerald provided the meeting with some contextual information regarding the role of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum and how it engaged with other Parent and Carers Forums both regionally and nationally. Jayne Fitzgerald also noted that Parent and Carers Forums would be being consulted with by the Government on three major pieces of legislation regarding SEND over the coming months. Jayne Fitzgerald advised that the major focus in the consultations from the Parents and Carers Forum's perspective would be to preserve the effective partnership working with the Parents and Carers Forum that had been developed across SEND services. Jayne Fitzgerald advised that the partnership working that had been delivered had had a positive impact on the delivery of SEND services as it had enabled the lived experiences of families to inform the delivery of services.

The Strategic Director reaffirmed the comments that had been made by the Assistant Director in that all the issues of concern regarding the delivery of SEND services in Rotherham raised by the inspection were issues that had been included in the self-evaluation. The Strategic Director assured members that additional resources had been made available in order to support the delivery of the required improvement activities that were detailed in the Written Statement of Action. The Strategic Director detailed the strong governance procedures that would oversee the delivery of the plan and advised that these would enable any issues with the delivery of the required activity to be identified, and for swift action to be taken if there were any issues with the delivery of the activities detailed in the action plan. The Head of SEND Services noted that each of the four sections of activity detailed in the Written Statement of Action would be reviewed during 2023 to monitor their implementation.

The Cabinet Member assured members that due to the high level of self-awareness regarding the areas of improvement required regarding the delivery of SEND services across the partners in Rotherham that improvement activities had started to be implemented before outcome of the inspection had been received. The Cabinet Member noted that that the Written Statement of Action provided a very detailed framework for the improvement of SEND services and that it would also enable members of the Improving Lives Select Commission to monitor closely the delivery of the required improvements.

Members asked for further information on how the delivery of the training that had been detailed in the Written Statement of Action would be delivered and monitored. The Assistant Director noted that training would be delivered in a variety of ways and with the support of national organisations. The Assistant Director noted the benefits of being able to deliver in person training and the successful training session that had been delivered in person by Whole School SEND for all Special Educational Needs Coordinators in the Borough. The Assistant Director advised that due to a Written Statement of Action being in place that additional support with the provision of training was available through the Department for Education in addition to the training resources that could be accessed through the Council, the CCG and the Parents and Carers Forum. The Assistant Director noted that the provision of training would be delivered widely and would also involve Children's Social Care and Early Help staff due to the interdependency of these services. The Assistant Director advised that the implementation and quality of training would be monitored via both the governance arrangements related to the Written Statement of Improvement as well as by peer review.

The Vice Chair noted her confidence that progress was being made against the actions that were detailed in the Written Statement of Action but sought assurance that if progress in its implementation stalled that processes were in place to get the required activities back on track. The Assistant Director assured members the SEND Executive Board would be monitoring the implementation of the Written Statement of Action by receiving monthly "spotlight" updates from one of the Written Statement of Action subgroup chairs. The Assistant Director noted additionally that the three other Chairs would at each meeting submit a report to give ongoing assurance to the members of the Executive Board and to give them the opportunity to raise any emerging concerns. The Assistant Director noted that each of the sub-group leads would have overall accountability for the actions contained in their relevant sections of the plan. The Strategic Director reemphasised the strengthened governance procedures that had been put in place around the Written Statement of Action and stated how the improvement of SEND was a high priority for Children and Young People's Services.

Members noted the activities detailed in the Written Statement of Action regarding the reduction of inappropriate transfers between mainstream and special schools and asked for further information on how mainstream schools supported the delivery of SEND activities. The Assistant Director advised that the activities detailed in the Written Statement of Action regarding the improvements needed with regard to Education Health and Care Plans would ensure that the most appropriate decisions regarding education and support were made for each child or young person. The Assistant Director advised that as Rotherham had more SEND capacity than other similar authorities that this showed that greater capacity needed to be developed in mainstream schools as evidence showed that children and young people, even with very complex SEND

needs, could achieve great success in mainstream educational settings. The Assistant Director advised that in order to enable this that it was essential that mainstream schools had the correct resources and knowledge in order to deliver the best outcomes for SEND children, including the ability to seek additional support and access graduated support if required. Jayne Fitzgerald noted the importance of developing a strong approach to a graduated response of SEND needs that was inclusive to the needs of children and young people and of their families.

With there being no further questions on the Ofsted/Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection – Written Statement of Action the Assistant Director made a short presentation that provided a progress report on the implementation of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy Phase 3. The presentation provided information on:

- What SEND Sufficiency was and the approach being taken in Rotherham to deliver SEND Sufficiency.
- The current position in delivering Stage 3 of the SEND Sufficiency Programme including the relocation of the Newman Upper School into a new build during the 2021/22 academic year and the appointment of the Ethos Academy Trust to run the school.
- The ongoing work that was being carried out to refresh needs assessment and how it had already identified needs linked to Autism Spectrum Conditions and Social, Emotional and Mental Health as key areas of need and demand.
- The work that was being carried out to focus developing a range of mainstream SEND resource bases which were SEND specialist provision built into mainstream schools.
- The development of further phases of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy.

The Vice Chair noted the successful visit that some members of the Improving Lives Select Commission had made to the relocated Newman Lower School at Dinnington the previous week where members had been able to learn more about the school's move to its new home.

Members asked whether there would be sufficient funding available for the delivery of SEND services to meet the increase in demand for services that was anticipated. The Assistant Director advised that as an element of funding for the delivery of SEND services was allocated on a basis of the number of children and young people who were accessing SEND provision that there would be the resources available to meet needs. The Assistant Director noted that more broadly that there were significant pressures on SEND budgets and the SEND funding system nationally and that activity was taking place nationally to increase the amount of funding available for SEND provision.

The Vice Chair asked for further information about the related communications strategy and how parents and carers would be engaged with so that they were aware of the activity around the SEND Sufficiency Strategy. The Assistant Director detailed the various methods of communication that included newsletters, listening events and provider engagement sessions. The Assistant Director advised that there would be a wide consultation carried out to decide the name of the relocated school at Dinnington.

The Vice Chair thanked the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, the Strategic Director - Children and Young People's Services, the Assistant Director – Education, the Head of SEND Services and Jayne Fitzgerald of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum for attending the meeting and answering member's questions.

Resolved: -

- 1) That the report be noted.
- 2) That a progress report on the activity surrounding the delivery of the objectives contained in the action plan relating to the Ofsted/ Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection - Written Statement of Action, be presented at the September 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
- 3) That a progress report on the delivery of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy be presented at the March 2023 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.

79. WORK PROGRAMME

The committee considered its Work Programme for 2021/22.

Resolved:

That the Work Programme be approved.

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

There were no updates.

81. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

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82. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

Resolved: - That the next meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission take place on Tuesday 3 May 2022 at 10am at Rotherham Town Hall

Public Report
Improving Lives Select Commission

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission – 03 May 2022

Report Title

Rotherham Youth Offending Team. HMIP Inspection Action Plan Progress Report

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

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Suzanne Joyner, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

This report provides a summary of progress made by Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) against the action plan submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) in January 2021 following the HMIP Inspection in September 2020 and includes the findings from the recent YJB Peer Review undertaken in March 2022 and examples of current youth justice practice.

Recommendations

That the progress made since the HMIP Inspection is noted.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Rotherham YOT Inspection Report Action Plan

Background Papers

An inspection of youth offending services in Rotherham
HM Inspectorate of Probation, December 2020

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

Improving Lives Select Commission – 03 May 2022

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

Yes

An exemption for the discussion on the item “Youth Justice Practice Examples” under Paragraph 1 (Information relating to any individual.) and Paragraph 2 (Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.) of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 is requested, as this items contains sensitive information relating to individuals’ involvement in the youth justice system which could disadvantage the individuals if the information was to be made public.

It is considered that the public interest in maintaining the exemption would outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information as the parties’ interests could be prejudiced by disclosure of this personal information.

Rotherham Youth Offending Team. HMIP Inspection Action Plan Progress Report

1. Background

- 1.1 Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) were inspected by HMIP in September 2020 under the Small YOT inspection framework. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the inspection was conducted remotely. Meetings and case interviews were arranged and facilitated using Microsoft Teams.

The Inspection report was published on 17 December 2020. The Overall judgement was Requires Improvement and HMIP report made five recommendations:

The Chair of the YOT Management Board should:

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

The YOT Management Board should:

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

The YOT Service Manager should:

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

An Inspection Action Plan was produced in January 2021 which contained 46 actions to address the areas requiring improvement which includes actions across the partnership

- 1.2 At the YOT Management Board on the 12th January 2022 the Chair (DMcW) noted that it was a year and a day from when the Board submitted the Inspection Action Plan to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

The Board noted that all 46 actions had been completed and welcomed the opportunity to further review progress by inviting a sector led, Youth Justice Peer Review.

- 1.3 The Youth Justice Peer Review (YJPR) programme operates as a tripartite agreement between the YJB in partnership with the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership (YJSIP) and The Association of Youth Offending Team Managers (AYM).

The primary purpose of a YJ Peer Review is to help a YOT and its partners identify their strengths and to highlight areas for potential improvement in the current provision of youth justice services.

The Peer Review team bring sector specific expertise and operate as a 'critical friend' and to hold up a mirror to the recipient service to support them to improve local practice

YJPRs are an opportunity for YOTs and local authorities to gain a fresh perspective from peers alongside collaborative support in improving local youth justice services. It is a supportive yet challenging process, but it is not an inspection and has a very different feel.

2. Key Issues

The Rotherham Youth Offending Team was at a time of transition when the Inspection took place. Inspectors noted that '*if they had visited in six months' time they would have seen a very different YOT.*' The Management Board and staff team have been quick to respond to the inspection findings and one of the 46 actions in the inspection action plan was to commission a peer review.

2.1 Rotherham YOT Peer Review 29th – 31st March 2022

4 Key Lines of Enquiry (KLOEs) were established:

- Whether the partnership understands the needs of the YOT cohort and its role in setting the priorities for the YOT
- The role of the partnership in relation to risk management of justice involved children
- Looked after children and the disproportionate numbers in the YOT cohort
- Early help partnership working and the impact this has locally on first time entrants.

- 2.2 Over twenty focus groups took place over the 3 days with representation from the YOT staff team as well as YOT Management Board Members, elected members, colleagues from across the Council, Early Help, Inclusion, Education, the Virtual School, Children's Social Care, MASH, South Yorkshire Police, Voluntary & Community Sector, Housing, the Safer

Rotherham Partnership (SRP), Community Safety, the Police & Crime Commissioners office, Resettlement Consortium, Young People's CHANCE Group, Probation, Remedi, EVOLVE, the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), Outdoor Learning, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Outreach and Engagement, Voice & Influence and SEND.

2.3 Across the four agreed KLOEs, the reviewers spoke of 'golden threads' which they felt were evident and consistent in their interactions with staff and partners. These included;

- *A genuine child / young person-centred approach in Rotherham at both a strategic and operational level across all aspects of the wider youth justice system*
- *A strong focus on early intervention and prevention in supporting the reduction of risk*
- *Strong integration of the YOT into other operational areas such as inclusion panels, Evolve, practice leads, Out of Court decision making*
- *Joint supervision, where Early Help and Social Care are involved with children and families.*
- *A Culture of early intervention and keeping children out of Court*
- *A very real and tangible, positive, innovative, and passionate 'culture'*
- *Staff know the young people well and are passionate advocates*
- *The CHANCE Group is exceptional and something to be proud of, along with Devon our Apprentice Youth Support Worker*
- *Evidence of the voice of the child in shaping services*
- *Highly impressed with engagement and commitment of the workforce*
- *Cohesive values across organisational layers*
- *Approachable management team and visible senior leaders*
- *Confidence in the staffing team is evident from management and partners*
- *Genuine partner relations at operational and strategic levels – clear shared language and mutual respect*
- *A Child centred Board and children at the heart of decision making*

- *The reviewers were impressed with the strength of our relational partnerships and the role of elected members*

2.4 Areas for development

- *Need to develop a new Vision for the partnership and priorities going forward*
- *Performance Information; not sufficiently understood or adapted to promote youth justice achievements*
- *YOT centric at the Board and needs extending into other partnership areas*
- *Need to retain a focus / good practice with resettlement and probation transitions despite low custody numbers.*
- *Embed the new LAC Protocol (Reducing unnecessary criminalisation of children) and consider where the operational monitoring of the strategy will be owned, tracked and reviewed. i.e. Corporate Parenting?*
- *Linking work around OOCd, screening and assessment to new HMIP standards issued in 2021.*
- *Health pathways do not enable expedited intervention to CYP open to YJS. Delays in assessments and interventions for YJ children.*

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

- 3.1 This report is for information and to provide feedback on the progress made to date on the Inspection Action Plan.

4. Consultation on proposal

- 4.1 There are no specific proposals as the report is for information purposes, however consultation with staff, partners and young people is currently taking place as we revise our YJ Plan for 2022 and consult on a name change from Rotherham Youth Offending Team (YOT) to Rotherham Youth Justice Service (RYJS). This would also require a name change for the YOT Management Board to Rotherham Youth Justice Partnership Board. (RYJPB)

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 5.1 14th -17th September 2020 – HMIP Fieldwork took place in Rotherham
14th December 2020 – YOT Management Board

17th December 2020 – HMIP Report published

11th January 2021 – HMIP Action plan submitted

19th January 2021 – SLT Report

20th January 2021 – Extraordinary YOT Board

26th January 2021 – Improving Lives Select Commission

8th February 2021 – Safer Rotherham Partnership

11th February 2021 – CEO group

2nd March 2021- Corporate Parenting Panel

15th March 2021 – YOT Management Board

16th September 2021 – CEO's

21st September 2021 – Improving Lives Select Commission

22nd September 2021 – YOT Management Board

12th January 2022 – YOT Management Board

10th March 2022 – YOT Management Board Development Day

6th April 2022 – YOT Management Board

9th June 2022 Safer Rotherham Partnership

30th June 2022 Youth Justice Plan Submission deadline

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

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

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

7.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no HR implications arising from this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 This report details the improvements made to Rotherham Youth Offending Team since September 2020 which improves outcomes for children in the Youth Justice System and those diverted from entering the system in the first instance.

- The YJ Peer review team found “*a genuine child / young person-centred approach in Rotherham at both a strategic and operational level across all aspects of the wider youth justice system, providing opportunity to young people to share their voice on their own experience in order to shape services and policies.*”

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no Equalities and Human Rights implications arising from this report.

11. Implications for CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no implications in relation to emissions or climate change arising from this report.

12. Implications for Partners

The statutory aim of the youth justice system is to prevent children from offending (section 37 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998). Rotherham Youth Offending Team is governed by a partnership management board and reports to Safer Rotherham Partnership. The YJB expects local management boards to take responsibility for all aspects of YJS governance; to lead strategically across relevant partners and to ensure a high-quality service is provided to all children. Section 39 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the co-operation of the named statutory partners to form a YJS. Section 38 (1, 2) identifies the statutory partners are;

- the local authority (this should include children’s social care and education)
- the police
- the probation service
- health

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 Inability and lack of engagement in performance management arrangements by managers and staff could lead to poor and deteriorating services for children and young people. Strong management oversight by the Service Manager and the ongoing fortnightly performance meetings mitigates this risk by holding managers and workers to account for any dips in performance and quality both at a team and at an individual child level.

Lack of engagement by partner agencies to support the peer review findings. Agencies to advocate for children and young people in the Youth Justice System within their own agencies.

Strong partnership working arrangements through the YOT board and direction from the chair of the board will improve communication and working arrangements and ensure accountability across the partnership.

Accountable Officer(s)

Approvals obtained on behalf of:-

	Named Officer	Date
Chief Executive		Click here to enter a date.
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Named officer	Click here to enter a date.
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Named officer	Click here to enter a date.
Assistant Director of Human Resources (if appropriate)		Click here to enter a date.
Head of Human Resources (if appropriate)		Click here to enter a date.

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

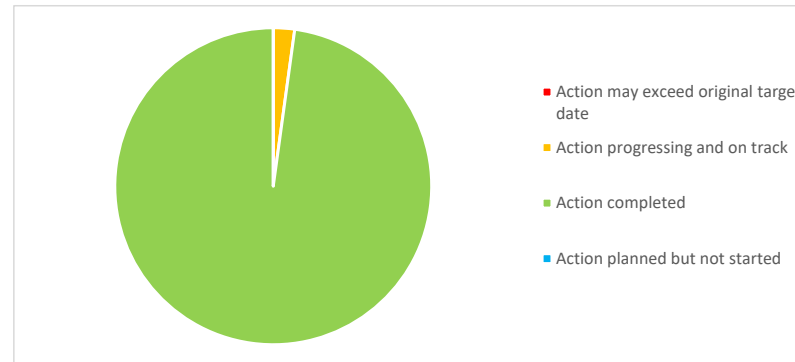
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HM Inspection of Probation report: Inspection of youth offending services in Rotherham: Inspection Action Plan 2021



CURRENT RAG STATUS	No. of actions:
Action may exceed original target date	0
Action progressing and on track	1
Action completed	45
Action planned but not started	0

Version 0.9, 15th July 2021



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

No.	Action/Notes:	Lead Action Owner	By When	Progress Update:	Status:
Recommendations					
1. Make sure that Board members understand the specific needs of children known to the YOT and advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.					
1.1	Presentation on specific needs of YOT cohort to Board members	Chair of the YOT Management Board	Jan-21	Complete -Extraordinary Board Meeting took place on 20th January 2021 and information presented to the board. EVIDENCE REQUIRED: Minutes of meeting and powerpoint.	Action completed
2. Ensure the partnership understands the reasons for the significant number of Looked After Children known to the YOT, and reviews the policies and practices of all agencies to minimise the possibility of children entering the criminal justice system unnecessarily					
2.1	Presentation to Board Members and Corporate Parenting Board regarding looked after children known to the YOT.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mar-21	Complete - Extraordinary Board Meeting took place on 20th January 2021 and information presented to the board. Corporate parenting board on 2 March 2021 EVIDENCE REQUIRED: Minutes of meeting and powerpoint.	Action completed
2.2	Review local Authority Policy – Looked after Children and Youth Justice	Head of Service LAC	Feb-21	Policy has been revised and was agreed at Board on 21/06/2021	Action completed
2.3	Hold workshops for staff across CYPs and partnership to update knowledge and skills	CYPs Training	Mar-21	Once the policy (2.2) has been agreed, training will be scheduled.	Action progressing and on track
2.4	Provide bespoke training in Restorative Justice for staff in residential care homes and foster carers	CYPs Training	Mar-21	CYPs training to coordinate – agreed 5th January 2021. Training has now been commissioned. Currently working with LAC and Placements Team to arrange suitable delivery dates. Foster Carer sessions were run on the 16th , 17th , 18th and 19th of March 2021. 75 Foster Carers trained which is the equivalent of 52 households across the borough	Action completed
2.5	Review own agency policies and procedures to ensure that these are aligned with protocol for LAC.	Management Board	Mar-21	Presented to the Board on 21/06/2021 and added to the Board's action log. To review at the next Board on 22/09/2021.	Action completed
3. Undertake a comprehensive health needs analysis of YOT children to better understand the health provision being delivered and what needs to be developed					
3.1	Health needs analysis to be completed. - SAME AS 6.1	Management Board – CCG Manager	Feb-21	Screening tools shared with CCG Manager 29/12/20 agreed to complete SALT, MH and PH Screening in January across current YOT cohort.	Action completed
3.2	Review of Health Needs Analysis Findings - SAME AS 6.2	Management Board – CCG Manager	Mar-21	Information sharing arrangement currently being worked on. Paul Theaker updated Board on 15th March 2021. Report circulated to Board members.	Action completed
3.3	Development of Health Pathways including: CAMHS, SALT, 0-19 - SAME AS 6.3	Management Board – CCG Manager	Mar-21	All pathways are now completed and operational.	Action completed
3.4	Implementation of pathways - SAME AS 6.4	Management Board – CCG Manager	Apr-21	All pathways are now completed and operational.	Action completed
4. Review the quality and accessibility of education, training and employment provision for post-16-year-old children known to the service.					
4.1	Meet with stakeholders across Sheffield City Region to ensure that provision is accessible, inclusive and sufficient to meet the needs of the cohort.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Apr-21	Met with post 16 providers in Rotherham regarding YOT cohort and contextual safeguarding <<insert date>>. Confirmed there is currently no stakeholder meeting within the region. Regular meetings with YOT heads of service across South Yorkshire to ensure consistent approach and identifying and resolving any shared barriers.	Action completed
4.2	Meet with existing post 16 providers to develop pathways for YOT young people.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub	May-21	Variety of pathways and support in place for YOT cohort.	Action completed
4.3	To attend people and skills working group. Economic recovery group to ensure YOT cohort are considered in recovery planning.	Early Help ESF Lead	Jan-21	Discussion with Jenny Lawless/ Rachel Jackson – RJ to take this action forward at next P&S Working Group. YOT cohort is considered in planning. EVIDENCE REQUIRED: Minutes from P&S Working Group.	Action completed
4.4	Provide opportunities via ESF pathway. - ESF Lead to attend YOT team meeting in January 2021	Early Help ESF Lead	Feb-21	Invited to YOT Team meeting 14th January 2021	Action completed
4.5	Undertake skills audit to identify gaps in provision, accessibility and/or barriers to inclusion and ensure that commissioning arrangements are in place to meet these gaps.	YJ Operations Coordinator	Mar-21	Skills audit undertaken - to be included in Management Board report for 15th March 2021.	Action completed
5. Review the quality of risk of harm work and improve the effectiveness of management oversight in all cases.					
5.1	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing. - SAME AS 13.1 AND 21.1	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	Meeting arranged for 13th January to develop new QA tool. Training booked for March for YJ Coordinator and Snr Practitioners. Tool been developed and first audits took place in Jan-21, now need to analyse.	Action completed
5.2	Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly - SAME AS 13.2 AND 21.2 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mar-21	QA tool has been developed. 9 audits undertaken in February and will be 9 in March. Summary of findings to be presented to YOT Board on 21st June 2021.	Action completed
5.3	Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working arrangements. - SAME AS 13.3 AND 21.3 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	CYPs QPD team and Management Board	Mar-22	Meeting arranged for 13th January to schedule MA Audits and review current audit tools.	Action completed
5.4	Senior Practitioner and YOT Social Worker to undergo Management training provided by YJSIP - SAME AS 13.4	YJ Operations Coordinator	To commence January 2021	Training booked and commencing in January 2021. (YOT Social Worker no longer doing).	Action completed
5.5	Mentor to be requested for YJ Operations Co-ordinator via YJSIP - SAME AS 13.5	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub	Apr-21	Request was signed off by YOT management board on 15th March 2021	Action completed
5.6	All YOT staff to complete refresher training on AssetPlus - SAME AS 13.6 BUT DIFFERENT COMPLETION DATE	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	May-21	Training booked through Silver Bullet training company and has commenced in March 2021. Three sessions of this training have now been completed. Feedback so far is really positive	Action completed

5.7	To commission a peer review through Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership.	Management Board	Dec-21	Request was signed off by YOT management board on 15th March 2021. However, unlikely due to pandemic backlog, that this will take place in 2021.	Action completed
Organisational delivery					
6. Although health provision is available through the Early Help Service, the arrangements do not recognise the specialised needs of children known to the YOT, including physical and emotional, mental health and wellbeing concerns.					
6.1	Health needs analysis to be completed. - SAME AS 3.1	Management Board Health representative	Feb-21	See 3.1.	DUPLICATE ACTION
6.2	Review of Health Needs Analysis Findings - SAME AS 3.2	Management Board Health representative	Mar-21	See 3.2.	DUPLICATE ACTION
6.3	Development of Health Pathways including: CAMHS, SALT, 0-19 - SAME AS 3.3	Management Board Health representative	Mar-21	See 3.3.	DUPLICATE ACTION
6.4	Implementation of pathways - SAME AS 3.4	Management Board Health representative	Apr-21	See 3.4.	DUPLICATE ACTION
6.5	Partnership training to be delivered to YOT and Health colleagues.	Management Board Health representative	Apr-21	CAMHS attended YOT team meeting on 25th March 2021 to deliver training on pathways and service offer. YOT are attending CAMHS team meeting on 21st April 2021 to deliver training around YOT.	Action completed
7. The pathways for YOT staff to access health services, for example speech, language and communication provision, lack clarity.					
7.1	Screening tools to be revised and pathways developed and communicated to all YOT staff.	Management Board Health representative	Apr-21	Complete. SALT forms agreed at YOT Team Meeting on 15/07/2021.	Action completed
7.2	Dip Sampling of cases bi monthly to QA referrals to health services.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Apr-21	Information sharing arrangement currently being worked on. Agreed at Board on 15th March 2021.	Action completed
7.3	Management oversight of all assessments to ensure multi agency contribution to assessment and plan.	YJ Operations Coordinator	Jan-21	Completed in all cases and reinforced through Triage and Outcomes panel	Action completed
8. Board members do not understand the specific needs of YOT children so cannot effectively advocate on their behalf in their own agencies.					
8.1	Quarterly presentation to YOT Board regarding current cohort status – including BAME, LAC, Health, SEND, ETE, Exclusions, re-offending	YJ Operations Coordinator	Extraordinary YOT Board Meeting took place on 20th January 2021	Analysis and data presented to YOT Management Board December 2020 and Extraordinary YOT board on 20th January 2021. EVIDENCE REQUIRED: Board reports.	Action completed
8.2	Individual Board Members to provide disproportionality analysis of own services in relation to BAME, LAC, Health, SEND, EET, Exclusions.	Management Board	Mar-21	Work progressing, awaiting final summary report with recommendations to Board on 22/09/2021. Wider conversations around disproportionality with VRU, LCJB and YOT heads of service. This is included in the delivery plan for reducing reoffending (LCJB). Will be working with the PCC's independent ethics panel to look at stop and search data.	Action completed
9. The Management Board and the partnership have not focused on why so many Looked After Children are known to the YOT.					
9.1	See also Recommendation 1 above.	Chair of the YOT Management Board	Jan-21	Complete - Extraordinary Board Meeting took place on 20th January 2021	DUPLICATE ACTION
9.2	Presentation to YOT Board in December and workshop in January. Presentation to Corporate Parenting Panel in March and ILSC January.	Chair of the YOT Management Board	Mar-21		Action completed
10. YOT figures for post-16-year-old children who are not in education, training and employment are high, and the partnership has not done enough work to review what provision is available in the locality for this cohort of children.					
10.1	See also Recommendation 4 above.	Management Board		See also Recommendation 4 above.	DUPLICATE ACTION
10.2	Audit of YOT NEET cohort – findings presented to outreach and engagement coordinators and a specific strategy developed to meet the needs of the YOT cohort.	YJ Operations Coordinator	Feb-21	Conversation has taken place re: inclusion of this in the Outreach and Engagement NEET Strategy. YOT NEET cohort audit complete.	Action completed
11. Although YOT practitioners can access the interventions that are available as part of the wider Rotherham early help offer, there is little evidence that these services are regularly used for children known to the YOT.					
11.1	Focus group arranged for January 2021 to consult with staff in YOT, EBH and EH to agree how to share good practice and obtain best outcomes for Young people.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Jan-21	Fortnightly YOT team meetings take place to share learning and good practice from locality teams. Team meetings have, to date, included input from: - Outreach and Engagement teams re Children's Centre activities - Early Help Managers – Assessment, planning and TAF reviews - Evidence Based Hub – Parenting programmes - Evidence Based Hub – Young People programmes - ICON training - Participation, Voice and Influence - CCE Pathways Focus group took place.	Action completed
11.2	YOT workers to be 'matched' to a locality team to develop a better understanding of support and services in localities and communities.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21		Action completed
11.3	Future Planned Team meetings: ESF 14/1/21 SENDIASS 28/1/21	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	Rachel Jackson attended ESF meeting. Kerry Taylor attended SENDIASS meeting.	Action completed
12. The inspection found that management oversight is poor both for post-court orders and out-of-court disposals.					
12.1	See also recommendation 5 above.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub		See also recommendation 5 above.	DUPLICATE ACTION
12.2	Case managers to record individual discussions with Managers as management oversight to ensure this is clear in case records.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Jan-21	Communicated to staff via team meeting and daily check in – reinforced through supervision of cases. Will come out through audits. Monitor going forward.	Action completed

12.3	Service Manager to continue to Moderate case file Audits and review previous Audits to draw out key learning and ensure this is communicated to all staff	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Monthly activity – to be reviewed quarterly.	CYPs audit schedule in place, audit feedback is standing item on team meeting agenda and supervision. Audit findings to be presented quarterly to Management board. Now business as usual.	Action completed
Court disposals					
13. Assessing, delivering interventions and reviewing to keep other people safe were poor areas of practice that require improvement.					
13.1	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing. - SAME AS 5.1 AND 21.1	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	See 5.1.	DUPLICATE ACTION
13.2	Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly - SAME AS 5.2 AND 21.2 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Monthly activity to be reviewed quarterly	See 5.2.	DUPLICATE ACTION
13.3	Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working arrangements. - SAME AS 5.3 AND 21.3 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	CYPs QPD team and Management Board	Mar-22	See 5.3.	DUPLICATE ACTION
13.4	Senior Practitioner and YOT Social Worker to undergo Management training provided by YJSIP - SAME AS 5.4	YJ Coordinator	Jan-21	See 5.4.	DUPLICATE ACTION
13.5	Mentor to be requested for YJ Operations Co-ordinator via YJSIP - SAME AS 5.5	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub	Apr-21	See 5.5	DUPLICATE ACTION
13.6	All YOT staff to complete refresher training on AssetPlus - SAME AS 5.6 BUT DIFFERENT COMPLETION DATE	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	May-21	See 5.6.	DUPLICATE ACTION
14. The needs and wishes of victims were not always considered, and the potential impact on victims was not adequately assessed.					
14.1	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit victim involvement.	Remedi manager	Feb-21	On target to be completed	Action completed
14.2	Review victim engagement at quarterly contract reviews with Remedi.	Remedi manager	Mar-21	Contract reviews are in place and take place quarterly	Action completed
14.3	Remedi to liaise with SYP to encourage victims to give consent to engage with services.	Remedi Manager	Mar-21	Deep dive audits being completed by Remedi. Issue of time taken from offence to sentencing has been escalated to the Local Criminal Justice Board and will be discussed at the Complete Victim Care Meeting. Remedi are liaising with adult victim services to identify good practice in engaging victims in restorative justice.	Action completed
15. A lack of health input in relevant cases meant that some children's needs were not met.					
15.1	See also recommendation 4 above.	Board Members – Rotherham CCG Representative and TRFT Manager		See also recommendation 4 above.	DUPLICATE ACTION
15.2	Health services to be represented at YMARAC and Triage and Outcome Panel. - SAME AS 18.2	Board Members – Rotherham CCG Representative and TRFT Manager	Jan-21	Complete - Liaison and diversion attending both meetings	Action completed
16. When children were discussed at multiagency meetings it was not always evident in their cases what impact this had on their level of risk and the intervention					
16.1	Monthly Dip sampling of case files to ensure case records reflect risk levels and intervention addresses risk identified.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	Dates for dip sampling scheduled for 2021 – findings to be reported to YOT management Board quarterly. Dip sampling commenced 25th January 2021, first report to Board in June 2021.	Action completed
17. Although staff had received training on signs of safety and trauma-informed practice, there was limited evidence that these approaches were used with children					
17.1	Refresher training TIP to be completed by all YOT staff and practice lead identified.	CYPs training and development Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mar-21	Agreed with CYPs Training and development. TIP has been offered and delivered by Violence Reduction Unit in line with CYPs workforce plan.	Action completed
17.2	Refresher training in SoS to be completed by all YOT staff and practice lead identified.	CYPs training and development Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	May-21	SoS training was delivered to YOT team in April and May 2021. The advanced training for managers and senior practitioners now complete.	Action completed
Out-of-court disposals					
18. The lack of health provision in relevant cases hampered the work done to keep children safe					
18.1	See also recommendation 4 above.	Board representatives – CCG Manager and TRFT Manager		See also recommendation 4 above.	DUPLICATE ACTION
18.2	Health services to be represented at YMARAC and Triage and Outcome Panel. - SAME AS 15.2	Board representatives – CCG Manager and TRFT Manager	Jan-21	See 15.2.	DUPLICATE ACTION
19. Not all children were assessed before a disposal was delivered.					
19.1	All children to be referred to the YOT for screening and initial assessment prior to outcome.	South Yorkshire Police	Mar-21	Agreed with SYP District Commander to commence March 2021. New pathway has been agreed. Review of capacity in SYP and YOT agreed on all LAC (rather than all children), and any offences committed within a child's home in order to ensure early intervention. This was rolled out on 1st March 2021.	Action completed

19.2	To establish a triage and outcomes panel to ensure Multi agency decision making regarding Domain 3 cases and PSR recommendations.	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	Panel Established – TOR have been reviewed and agreed.	Action completed
20. For out-of-court work generally, there was a capacity issue with the role of the seconded police officer, as there was insufficient resource to meet the work					
20.1	YOT Police officer to produce new pathway and identify where additional capacity is required.	South Yorkshire Police	Jan-21	Completed – SYP YOT Police officer to broker support from wider police force.	Action completed
20.2	Pathway to be presented and agreed at March YOT Management board.	South Yorkshire Police	Apr-21	Agreed at 15th March 2021 Board.	Action completed
21. Planning and the delivery of services for a child's safety and wellbeing and for keeping other people safe were poor					
21.1	Develop QA tool for Post court and out of court disposal to audit risk of Harm and Safety and wellbeing. - SAME AS 5.1 AND 13.1	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Feb-21	See 5.1.	DUPLICATE ACTION
21.2	Monthly Case audits to be undertaken and findings collated and presented to YOT management board quarterly - SAME AS 5.2 AND 13.2 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	Service Manager Evidence Based Hub and YOT	Mar-21	See 5.2.	DUPLICATE ACTION
21.3	Themed multi agency Audit to be completed bi-annually to QA partnership working arrangements. - SAME AS 5.3 AND 13.3 BUT DIFFERENT ACTION OWNERS	CYPs PQ Team and YOT Management Board	Mar-22	See 5.3.	DUPLICATE ACTION

Action may exceed original target date	0
Action progressing and on track	1
Action completed	45
Action planned but not started	0

Acronyms	
YOT	Youth Offending Team
LAC	Looked After Children
CYPS	Children & Young People's Service
SALT	Speech & Language Therapy
MH	Mental Health
PH	Physical Health
CAMHS	Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service
0-19	Health Service
ESF	European Social Fund
QA	Quality Assurance
MA	Multi-Agency
YJSIP	Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership
Asset Plus	Youth Justice Approved Assessment Tool
SEND	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicity
ETE	Education, Training & Employment
ICON	Public Health message with the ultimate purpose to reduce Shaken Baby Syndrome.
	*I – Infant crying is normal
	*C – Comforting methods can help
	*O – It's Ok to walk away
	*N – Never, ever shake a baby
ILSC	Improving Lives Select Commission
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
EH	Early Help
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation
TAF	Team Around Family
SENDIASS	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Information Advice & Support Service
TRFT	The Rotherham Foundation Trust
YMARAC	Youth Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
SOS	Signs of Safety
TIP	Trauma Informed Practice
TOR	Terms of Reference
PSR	Pre-Sentence Report
SYP	South Yorkshire Police
P&Q	Performance & Quality

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) Youth Offending Team (YOT) Inspection

Action Plan Progress Update Improving Lives Select Commission 3rd May 2022

HMIP Inspection of Rotherham YOT

- Received notification of HM Inspectorate of Probation inspection of youth justice services on **Friday 7th August 2020**. (First in 10 yrs.) – (Peer review in 2017)
- Inspected under the HMIP 'Small YOT' Inspection Framework (*3rd to be inspected under the new framework)
- Inspection was conducted remotely
- The Inspection was carried out across 3 'Domains' and 12 standards
- Final ratings were based on an algorithm and the results from 10 individual cases
- Inspection report was published on 17th December 2020
- Overall judgement was Requires Improvement
- HMIP makes five recommendations
- Inspection Action Plan submitted to Youth Justice Board (YJB) on 11th January 2021

Agreed actions from ILSC 26th January 2021

- Grip and pace from partners re Action Plan ✓
- Restorative Justice training for all residential staff and foster carers ✓
- Revise RMBC Children in care and Youth Justice policy and protocol ✓
- Work with partners to reduce disproportionality ✓
- Complete Action plan (46 Actions) within agreed time frames ✓
- Commission a Youth Justice Peer Review ✓

✓ Denotes Action Complete

Youth Justice Peer Review

29th – 31st March 2022

Key Lines of Enquiry:

- Whether the partnership understands the needs of the YOT cohort and its role in setting the priorities for the YOT
- The role of the partnership in relation to risk management of justice involved children
- Looked after children (LAC) and the disproportionate numbers in the YOT cohort
- Early help partnership working and the impact this has locally on first time entrants (FTE).

Feedback

- It was impressive to hear about such a child centred YOT Board where children are at the centre of decision making
- We observed some very strong partnerships at both operational and strategic level which is a key strength for Rotherham
- There is a genuine commitment from partners to the 'child first' approach
- It is important to mention the positive culture we experienced in Rotherham.
- There is a real sense of drive from the workforce who are clearly very proud to work in Rotherham and want the best outcomes for the children. This was evident in all of the focus groups we attended and the staff we met.

Golden Threads ...

- The voice of the child and children at the centre of decision making
- Focus on participation at the board is clearly evident
- Common thread that decision making is being made with children at the centre.
- The CHANCE group provides genuine consideration of child involvement, providing opportunities for real child empowerment, challenge and system change (i.e. CHANCE young people Meeting with Lead Member, system leaders)

*CHANCE= Change How Adults Notice Children's Experience

The Review Found

- A **positive culture** with **clear commitment to Rotherham's children**
- **Highly impressed** with engagement and commitment of the workforce
- **Cohesive values** across organisational layers
- **Approachable management team** and **visible senior leaders**
- **Confidence in the staff team is evident** from management and partners
- **Genuine partner relations at operational and strategic levels** – clear shared language and mutual respect
- There is a **culture of ensuring that children are diverted away from Court** and a **strong focus on engaging at the earliest opportunity**
- We found there was a **clear system to support risk management**
- There was a **strong commitment** from all regarding achieving good outcomes for Rotherham children. **This was observed politically, strategically, and operationally**

Whether the partnership understands the needs of the YOT cohort and its role in setting the priorities for the YOT (KLOE 1)

Strengths:

- **Child centred** Board and children at the heart of decision making
- Staff have some awareness of and involvement in the Board and work of the partnership
- Staff have some understanding of the vision and priorities
- **Strong strategic and operational partnerships**
- Involvement of Board members in **development days** with staff
- Some YOT practitioners have attended the Board
- Children open to the YOT have attended the Board and challenged members

KLOE 1

Areas for consideration:

- Unclear priorities and lack of meaningful vision
- Some confusing data and it lacks depth / analysis. Some partners / staff not familiar with YOS cohort or profile of First Time Entrants (FTE)
- Performance information not sufficiently understood/adapted to promote Youth Justice improvements.
- Disconnect with managers / strategic and what children and practitioners are saying e.g. **knife crime**
- YOT-centric focus at Board level; need evidence of actions and plans **extending into other partnership areas**
- Improvement plan – is it properly embedded and how is this measured?

The role of the partnership in relation to risk management of justice involved children (KLOE 2)

Strengths:

- **Strong focus on early intervention/prevention in supporting the reduction of risk**
- Service committed to a **child centred family approach**
- **Positive and committed partnerships**
- Commitment to the development of staff and partners
- **Systems in place to support the management of risk i.e. YMARAC**
- Evidence of the **voice of the child** in shaping services

*YMARAC = Youth Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

KLOE 2

Areas for consideration:

- YMARAC scrutiny of effectiveness in reducing and containing risk – Board confidence; suggest QA focus by management
- Development of the ETE offer and partnerships
- Victim risk management
- Resettlement and probation transitions
- Explore the disconnect between senior managers and staff/children regarding perceptions of knife crime within communities

*ETE= Education, Training, Employment

Looked after children and the disproportionate numbers in the YOT cohort (KLOE 3)

Strengths:

- Children Looked After data is **not** suggestive that there is an overrepresentation within the YOT.
- Reducing the Unnecessary Criminalisation of Looked After Children Policy is now developed.
- There is a partnership/Children Service's commitment to restorative justice and restorative captures;
i.e. Remedi offering training to children's home/placements & iteration of the 10 Point Checklist

KLOE 3

Areas for consideration:

- While the Protocol is in place, the process of embedding this/gaining sign off is in its infancy - the protocol has been developed based on current practice.
- Is the YOT Management Board the most effective governance arrangement for preventing the unnecessarily criminalisation of children.
- The story of how the positive reduction has been achieved is not consistently articulated at an operational and strategic level.

Early help partnership working and the impact this has locally on first time entrants (KLOE 4)

Strengths:

- **Strong integration** of YOS into other operational areas: inclusion panels; Evolve; practice leads; OOC decision making.
- **Strong partnerships** with a focus on achieving good outcomes for Rotherham children.
- **Efficiency of the triage and panel process** - multi-agency and well attended.
- **Information sharing with community-based partners**, such as housing dept translating to quick community response (Operation Keep Safe).
- **Joint supervision**, where Early Help & Social Care are involved with children and families.
- **Culture of early intervention** and **keeping children out of Court**

*OOC= Out of Court

KLOE 4

Areas for consideration:

- Health pathways do not enable expedited intervention to CYP open to YJS. Delays in assessments and interventions for YJ children.
- Focusing on children who are ASB, NFA, RUI or arrested to identify the potential FTE's and triage/intervene. **(Opportunities to horizon scan to capture future cohorts of FTE's)*
- Linking work around OOCd, screening and assessment to new HMIP standards issued in 2021.
- Early Help - do they need to be attending the Triage meeting?
- Understanding what are the common features of recent cohorts of FTE's through analysis and presenting at the Board to enable collaborative problem solving

ASB = Anti Social Behaviour

OOCd = Out Of Court Disposals

YJ = Youth Justice

NFA = No Further Action

RUI = Released Under Investigation

Other positives

- Rotherham's mechanisms for celebrating good practice across the whole of Children's Services (Monday Matters, Whole Service Events, Friday Reflections etc)
- Commitment in proactive approach by the whole system to early intervention.
- Devon (YOT Apprentice) and the Chance Group – Brilliant!

Recommendations

- Develop a **new vision and priorities** for the Board
- Mobilise the Board to help **problem solve** and provide specific YJ cohort data to support this
- **Broaden the agenda of the partnership board**
- Know the ongoing narrative around **how the YOT has achieved no YROs and no Custodial Sentences**
- **Senior leaders to make better use of data** to drive performance across the partnership
- Enhance **Board oversight of effectiveness of OOC decision making** across the partnership regularly.
- Needs to be **further mechanisms in place to hold partners to account** by agreeing actions and plans.
- **Widen the triage process** to include cohorts of children who are at risk of becoming FTE's
- While the **use of two systems** (CORE / EHM) appears well embedded, this may be impacting on consistent and up to date recording for the YOT
- Consider a **launch event for the Unnecessary Criminalisation Strategy**
- **Develop a clear training plan for staff and partners**
- **Update the Risk Management Policy**
- **Continue to Audit** (Thematic, across departments, crosscutting, multi-agency)

*CORE / EHM = Case Management Systems

*YROs = Youth Rehabilitation Orders

Next Steps

- Develop action plan to address the peer review recommendations
- New Name for the YOT (Rotherham Youth Justice Service)
- New name for the Board (Rotherham Youth Justice Partnership Board)
- Youth Justice Plan – Develop & Submit 30th June 2022

Public Report
Improving Places Select Commission

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Improving Lives Select Commission – 03 May 2022

Report Title

Scrutiny Review Recommendations – Cultural Strategy

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

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Jo Brown, Assistant Chief Executive

Report Author(s)

Katherine Harclerode, Governance Advisor
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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-wide

Report Summary

To receive findings and recommendations from the spotlight review on Cultural Strategy which met on 2 February 2022.

Recommendations

1. That the briefing be noted and the following recommendations be submitted to OSMB for consideration: -
 - a) That the range of available activities tailored for young residents of the Borough be prioritised for expansion.
 - b) That consideration be given to how best to expand access, especially for young people, to recreational swimming in the Borough, whilst protecting against hazards.
 - c) That the service liaises with CYPS to develop a system to help young carers more easily access opportunities for leisure and culture-related respite.
 - d) With a view to expanding access, that consideration be given to hosting cultural events at alternating and varied locations and venues throughout the Borough where appropriate.

Background Papers

Rotherham's Cultural Strategy 2019-2026 – Cabinet 10/06/2019

Cultural Strategy Implementation – Improving Places Select Commission 08/12/2020

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

None

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

Scrutiny Review Recommendations – Cultural Strategy

1. Background

- 1.1 The Cultural Strategy was agreed by Cabinet on 10 June 2019, and various aspects of the delivery of this strategy have returned to scrutiny for monitoring of implementation progress on several occasions. On 12 August 2020, the implementation was scrutinised at Improving Places Select Commission, and it was agreed by Members in 2021 that since the COVID-19 pandemic, that implementation of the strategy would be prioritised for a spotlight review. In view of the significance of events and culture in wellbeing and education, the purpose of the review was to obtain assurances that the service was responsive to changing needs of communities and to ensure inclusive access to cultural activities in the Borough. This review supports three Year Ahead objectives: “Every Neighbourhood Thriving,” “People are Safe, Healthy and Live Well,” and “Every Child Able to Fulfil Their Potential.” Therefore, the review was convened on 2 February 2022 in a meeting between Members of Improving Places Select Commission, Improving Lives Select Commission, Culture, Sport and Tourism Service Leads, and the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion. The review was undertaken by Cllrs Pitchley, Atkin, Cooksey, Keenan, Griffin, Havard, McNeely, and Sansome.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 Members discussed at length the subject of recreational swimming in the Borough, noting that open water swimming in particular can be a popular and rewarding activity that can also be hazardous. Members discussed ways the service might mitigate risks associated with swimming whilst providing safe ways for residents safely to enjoy Rotherham’s natural resources and facilities for swimming. Lessons in swimming, water safety, and First Aid were suggested as part of an overall expansion in activities targeted for young people and young adults. The response from officers noted that arrangements were in motion for safe open water swimming programmes for summer 2022.
- 2.2 It was acknowledged that many young people in the Borough would benefit from having the opportunity to participate in more safe activities and events that are of interest to them. It was noted that libraries remain a powerful resource within communities that may be even further utilised and promoted, especially in respect of awareness of young people’s interests and coordination of responsive and innovative events and activities.
- 2.3 Specific consideration was given to designing an enhanced recreation offer for young carers to enable greater access to healthy respite. The response from officers noted that currently carers may accompany the person they care for to a range of events for free, and that in view of the importance of respite for young carers, arrangements were in progress with Children and Young People’s Services to expand this offer.
- 2.4 As part of a broader discussion around simplification of discounts for culture and leisure activities in the Borough, the Cabinet Member for Social Inclusion also described a current focus of work on determining eligibility for RotherCard

incentives and discounts. The motivation behind this work, the Cabinet Member noted, is to get more people involved and make activities accessible to everyone. Several other specific areas of work were also cited: Civic Sound Week was a free of charge event, as are dozens of activities every day across the library network, which are designed for all ages and demographics. Examples were given at the time of reporting which involved two Harry Potter events in Swinton and Rawmarsh. The Cabinet member lauded the teamwork involved in bringing these events to fruition. A further example, The Rotherham Show, was described as the biggest free-to-access event in the region, which is made possible through external funds and is a testament to the work of the team.

- 2.5 Members also provided specific suggestions including the hosting of Grin & Tonic comedy events at alternating venues if this is found to promote access for residents who are travelling from various areas of the Borough. Members also noted that ensuring clear signage is posted at venues could help give new attendees greater confidence in finding and feeling welcome at the destination venue. Grim & Co was identified as one such venue for clarification in terms of signage. Prioritising engagement with schools, ecumenical organisations, Parish Councils, and funding programmes like Active Dearne was also suggested.

3. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

- 3.1 The timetable and accountability for implementing recommendations arising from this report will sit with the Cabinet and officers. The Overview and Scrutiny Procedurals require the Cabinet to consider and respond to recommendations made by scrutiny within two months.

4. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial or procurement implications directly associated with this report.

5. Legal Advice and Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

6. Human Resources Advice and Implications

- 6.1 There are no Human Resources implications directly arising from this report.

7. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

- 7.1 These have been set out in the main sections of the report.

8. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

- 8.1 Members have had regard to equalities implications when considering recommendations and other matters arising from the review.

9. Implications for Partners

9.1 There are no implications for partners directly arising from this report.

10. Risks and Mitigation

10.1 Members have been advised previously of risk assessments and mitigation plans, and these have been taken into account in their consideration of potential recommendations.

11. Accountable Officer

Emma Hill, Head of Democratic Services and Statutory Scrutiny Officer

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

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Work programme – Improving Lives Select Commission – Updated 8 March 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"> 1. That the Independent Chair of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adult's Board attends the July 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission to present a report on how the Board is working to identify and support hidden female victims of violence. 2. That the report presented at the July 2021 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission also includes an analysis of cases that resulted in no further action being taken. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 2. That members of the Improving Lives Select Commission be further consulted on the development of the revised Domestic Abuse Strategy. 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. 4. That further information on work conducted with perpetrators of domestic abuse be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 5. That consideration be given to providing all elected members the opportunity to access an appropriate training session on domestic abuse.
	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.

21 September 2021	YOT Improvement Plan	Resolved at January 2021 meeting to receive a progress update.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 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. 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.
	One Adoption South Yorkshire	To scrutinise how the new arrangements are working.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 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. 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.
	Food Poverty/Holiday Activity Programme	To receive a report on previous activities and plans for the future.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 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.
	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>5 October 2021</p>	<p>Adult Safeguarding</p>	<p>Follow up report on Adult Safeguarding issues.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 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. 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. 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.
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26 October 2021	SEN Strategy/Sufficiency	<p>Resolved December 2020 to request an update</p> <p>Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work Programming session.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 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. 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. 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. 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.
	Children's Mental Health	<p>Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work Programming session.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That information on the Mental Health Trailblazer pilot scheme be circulated to members of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 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.

	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.

22 December 2021	Education Recovery (including Elective Home Education)	Agreed as an area of focus in July 2021 Work Programming session.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be noted. 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. 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.
	Post-CSE Support	To receive the report from the sub-group of ILSC on Post-CSE Support.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted, and the following recommendations be submitted to OSMB and Cabinet for approval: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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> 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> 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> d) <i>That the Improving Lives Select Commission continue to monitor the provision of post-abuse support to survivors of CSE.</i> e) <i>In relation to recommendations c) and d), that consideration is given how survivors' voices to inform these processes.</i> 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</i>

			<p><i>to protect young people from being at risk of harm 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.

25 January 2022	Adult Safeguarding Annual Report	To receive and consider the annual report.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
	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.

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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That a progress report on the activity surrounding the delivery of the objectives contained in the action plan relating to the Ofsted/ Care Quality Commission SEND Local Area Inspection - Written Statement of Action, be presented at the September 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission. 3) That a progress report on the delivery of the SEND Sufficiency Strategy be presented at the March 2023 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Rotherham Children's Safeguarding Partnership – Annual Report	To receive and consider the annual report.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) That the report be noted. 2) That a progress report on the activity of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership during 2021/22 be presented at the September 2022 meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission.
	Work Programme	To consider the committee's work programme.	That the Work Programme be approved.

3 May 2022	Adult Safeguarding	Resolved 5 October 2021: 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.	
	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.

14 June 2022	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.
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> <p>Feb 2021 – Chair deferred item as data on this was not highlighting an areas of additional concern.</p>	To be scheduled

Mental Health and Digital Exclusion amongst young people.	Resolved at December 2020 HSC “That the Improving Lives Select Commission investigate young patients’ access to technology with a view to preventing their digital exclusion from accessing mental health services.”	To be scheduled
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

Item	Details	Status
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.
Adult Mental Health Services	Joint item with HSC	To be considered as a joint item with HSC in 2022/23
Children's Mental Health Services	Joint item with HSC	To be considered as a joint item with HSC in 2022/23
NHS Frailty Index	Resolved January 2022 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.	To be considered as a joint item with HSC in 2022/23
Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership	<p>Resolved March 222 to receive a report on in-year activity for the RSCP at the September 2022 meeting.</p> <p>Focus to be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The safety of vulnerable babies and young children. • The Front Door strategy and how well it is serving residents. • Operation Makesafe and the further work is being carried out with some hoteliers. • Cost of living crisis and its impact on Safeguarding. 	To be scheduled for September 2022 meeting.

SEND Sufficiency	Resolved March 2022 to receive a progress report at the March 2023 meeting.	To be scheduled for March 2023 meeting.
SEND inspection WSoA.	Resolved March 2022 to receive a progress report on the achievement of the objectives contained in the action plan at the September 2022 meeting.	To be scheduled for September 2022 meeting.
Adult Safeguarding	Resolved January 2022 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.	To be scheduled once peer review has been completed