IMPROVING LIVES SELECT COMMISSION
Tuesday 3 November 2026

Present:- Councillor Monk (in the Chair); Councillors Adair, Bennett-Sylvester, Bower, Brent, Clarke, T. Collingham, Cusworth, Elliott, Fisher, Garnett, Harper, Ismail, Ryalls, Sutton, Steele, Thorpe, Mr. M. Hemmingway and Mr. J. Newman.

Also in attendance were Anna Sedgwick, (Detective Superintendent for South Yorkshire Police) and Gemma Cross, (Head of Quality, Governance and Assurance at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust).

Council Officers in attendance:

Kevin Fisher	Service Director for Properties and Facilities.
Kelly White	Service Director for Family Help
Vicky Chew	Interim Head of Safeguarding
Darren Downs	Independent Scrutineer
Natasha Aucott	Governance Advisor
Samantha Mullarkey	Governance Advisor

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Currie, Hughes, Robinson and Ms. L. Hickey.

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

31. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Resolved: - That the Minutes of the meeting of the Improving Lives Select Commission, held on 15 September 2026, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

32. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

33. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no items of business on the agenda that required the exclusion of the press and public from the meeting.

34. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

35. MAINTAINED SCHOOLS LONG TERM MAINTENANCE PLAN (LTMP) UPDATE

This item provided an update on the development of the Maintained Schools Long-Term Maintenance Plan (LTMP).

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Councillor Cusworth, Cabinet Member for Children's and Young People's Services and Kevin Fisher, Service Director for Property and Facilities Services.

The Chair invited the Cabinet Member to introduce the report, during which the following points were highlighted:

- The update outlined a planned approach to maintaining school buildings across the borough. A comprehensive survey was underway to assess the condition of school premises and to prioritise investment based on risk, educational need, and value for money.

- The primary objective was to ensure that school buildings remained safe, warm, and dry, while minimising disruption to children's education and learning wherever possible.

The Chair invited the Service Director for Property and Facilities Services to deliver the presentation, during which the following points were noted:

Developing a Long-Term Maintenance Plan-

- Work was underway to develop a planned, evidence-led approach to maintaining schools and managing the maintained school estate. At this stage, the long-term maintenance plan had not yet been developed, as condition and asset verification surveys were currently being undertaken. The presentation outlined why this work was required, how the evidence base was being established, the proposed prioritisation principles, and the next steps.

- The local authority was responsible for seventeen maintained educational settings, comprising of thirteen maintained schools, three maintained nurseries and one pupil referral unit.

- The Department for Education provided an annual School Condition Allocation to support capital investment across maintained schools. For 2026/27, the available programme funding totalled £1.679 million, comprising £728,000 for the current financial year and £951,000 carried forward from previous financial years.

- Schools retained the responsibility for routine repairs, maintenance, servicing and day-to-day premises management through their

delegated budgets.

- The role of the local authority was to understand and prioritise major condition and lifecycle investment requirements across the maintained estate. An example was provided where the replacement of individual roof tiles would ordinarily be the responsibility of the school. However, where a full roof replacement was required, this would constitute a major capital investment and would be funded either through Department for Education capital funding or local authority resources, depending upon the priority and level of need.

Building the Evidence Base-

- While the Department for Education undertook surveys relating to the condition of school buildings, these assessments were high-level and did not provide the level of detail required to identify specific maintenance needs within individual buildings. Historically, the local authority's approach to school maintenance had been largely reactive, focusing on addressing failures and urgent defects. Examples were provided of schools currently requiring roof replacements, some of which may have been avoidable had intervention occurred at an earlier stage. At present, there was no complete validated picture of compliance across the maintained estate, or a comprehensive understanding of future lifecycle and capital investment requirements.

- To address this, the service was undertaking detailed, in-person surveys across all maintained schools. These surveys would also consider opportunities to reduce carbon emissions and improve energy efficiency, through measures such as solar panels, air source heat pumps and more efficient boiler systems. Once completed, the surveys would support a transition from a reactive and fragmented approach to a planned, strategic and evidence-led approach. This would establish a consistent baseline for assessing risk, support more effective medium and long-term planning, enhance financial forecasting and minimise disruption to schools.

Survey Methodology and Prioritisation-

- The first stage of the process would involve surveying buildings to verify assets, establish their condition and identifying likely requirements for intervention, repair or replacement.

- The second stage would involve validating the information collected through quality assurance processes, to ensure that the data would be accurate and fit for purpose.

- The third stage would involve assessing condition, compliance, lifecycle and operational risks, enabling a comprehensive

understanding of the estate and the impact of any required works.

- The final stage would focus on planning and prioritisation. A survey finding alone would not determine who would be responsible for funding any identified works. The nature of the work would be assessed to determine whether it would constitute routine repair and maintenance, which would remain the responsibility of the school, or capital expenditure, which may be funded through other sources. Identifying future requirements would enable schools and the local authority to plan investment and funding more effectively.

- As previously outlined, the Department for Education provided a School Condition Allocation to the local authority, as the responsible body, to support priority capital investment across the maintained school estate. This funding was separate from the schools delegated revenue budgets, with the schools remaining responsible for routine repairs, maintenance and servicing.

- The local authority was also engaging with the Department for Education to explore opportunities for additional funding once the survey work had been completed.

- Officers were working closely with Children's and Young People's Services to understand future demand for school places. This would help ensure that investment decisions align with projected pupil numbers and that capital funding would be directed towards schools where demand was expected to remain stable or increase, rather than settings where pupil numbers may significantly decline.

Next Steps-

- The next steps would be to complete and validate the surveys, bring together the property data alongside educational priorities and requirements, and develop a prioritised long-term maintenance plan.

- Once developed, the draft plan, including identified requirements, proposed programmes of work, sequencing and timescales, would be presented through the appropriate governance arrangements, before being submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

The Chair thanked the officer for the presentation and invited questions from Members. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The rate of academisation had slowed and the current Government was placing less emphasis on schools joining academy trusts.

- The condition surveys were expected to be completed and validated during the first quarter of 2027/28. These surveys formed part of a wider programme of condition surveys across the Council’s estate, with schools and care facilities being prioritised.

Surveys would also be undertaken on academy buildings. Whilst the Council was not responsible for funding repairs and maintenance within academies, it retained an interest as the freeholder and was required to ensure that leased buildings remained safe and compliant. The programme also included surveys of fifteen PFI schools.

- In relation to the prioritisation of maintenance and repair works, Members were advised that health, safety and safeguarding considerations would carry the greatest priority. Any issue that presented a risk to pupils, staff or members of the public would be treated as a priority.

- Officers explained that the Council had a strong understanding of statutory compliance across much of the maintained school estate, including areas such as electrical testing, legionella management and asbestos registers. The principal gaps related to schools where compliance services were not provided directly by the Council. These schools were being prioritised for survey work and were subject to targeted engagement, including site visits and direct contact, to ensure compliance requirements could be evidenced.

- Members were informed that significant investment had been made in asset management systems as part of the wider review of the Council's estate. This included the procurement of a new Computer-Aided Facilities Management (CAFM) system, which would work alongside the CIPFA asset management database to provide improved oversight of the estate.

- It was noted that Property Services would work closely with Children and Young People's Services, business managers and headteachers to understand educational requirements, operational priorities and potential impacts of planned maintenance works. Engagement would also take place with SEND leads to ensure that SEND sufficiency requirements were fully understood and considered. Wherever possible, maintenance works would be scheduled during the six-week summer holiday period to minimise disruption.

- Members heard that the prioritisation framework would focus on ensuring that buildings were safe, compliant, and maintained to a standard that was safe, warm and dry.

- Following the consolidation of property-related functions into a single service area, a review of health and safety and compliance arrangements across the Council's estate had been undertaken. This review, informed through engagement with schools, CYPS colleagues, business managers and headteachers, identified that whilst awareness of asbestos-related responsibilities was generally strong, understanding of wider statutory compliance duties was

less consistent. In response, an A-to-Z Compliance Guide had been developed collaboratively with school leaders and CYPS colleagues. The guide clearly set out compliance requirements, responsibilities and available support, and had been well received through the Headteachers Forum.

- Although much of the work aligned with climate change and net zero objectives, the surveys were also assessing broader issues relating to energy management, sustainability, heating and ventilation. Potential measures under consideration included enhanced insulation, solar panels and heat pump technology, which could contribute to both decarbonisation goals and improved temperature management within school buildings. These considerations would be incorporated into the Long-Term Maintenance Plan in collaboration with the Council's Climate Change Team and schools.

- Members noted that the principles of the Long-Term Maintenance Plan would be presented to Cabinet for consideration. The proposed approach included the development of a five-year programme of long-term maintenance and planned preventative maintenance across the Council's estate, supported by an annual review and refresh. This would provide updates on completed works, revised priorities and projects carried forward.

- Officers advised that annual reports would be submitted to Cabinet detailing delivery, expenditure and progress against objectives. It was further agreed that the annual update would be presented to the Improving Places Select Commission, with Members of the Improving Lives Select Commission invited to participate in consideration of matters relating to the school estate.

- It was reported that procurement arrangements were being reviewed to support more efficient delivery of maintenance programmes. Consideration was being given to the appointment of a smaller number of contractors through longer-term contractual arrangements, with the aim of improving value for money, strengthening delivery capacity and increasing responsiveness during peak periods, particularly over the summer holidays.

- Members were advised that effective contract management would be critical to ensuring works were delivered on time and with minimal disruption. Whilst classroom closures would be avoided wherever possible, urgent health and safety or compliance works may occasionally require temporary closures, with arrangements agreed directly with affected schools.

- It was emphasised that ongoing engagement with schools would ensure maintenance programmes were planned around operational requirements, including mock examinations and examination periods, to minimise disruption to teaching and learning.

Resolved:- That the Improving Lives Select Commission:

1) Considered and accepted the update provided.

2) Requested that a further update on Long-Term Maintenance Planning, be presented to the Improving Places Select Commission, with members of the Improving Lives Select Commission invited to attend.

36. INTRAFAMILIAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE STRATEGY UPDATE

This item provided an update on the development of the draft Intrafamilial Child Sexual Abuse Strategy 2027- 2030.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Councillor Cusworth, Cabinet Member for Children's and Young People's Services, Anna Sedgwick, Detective Superintendent at South Yorkshire Police, Gemma Cross, Head of Quality, Governance and Assurance at The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, Vicky Chew, Interim Head of Safeguarding and Darren Downs, Independent Scrutineer.

The Chair invited the Cabinet Member to introduce the report, during which the following points were highlighted:

- The development of the draft strategy was not intended to suggest that child sexual abuse was not already being identified, addressed and responded to effectively within Rotherham. Tackling child sexual abuse remained a significant element of the wider safeguarding framework and partnership response.

- The purpose of the proposed strategy was to strengthen existing arrangements, by providing child sexual abuse with greater strategic visibility and focus, whilst maintaining clear links with, but distinct from, the Child Exploitation Strategy.

- Earlier in the year, The Centre for Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse presented to the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership (RSCP), on the findings of the national review into child sexual abuse. The presentation reinforced the importance of ensuring that children's voices were heard, recognising the signs that children may be exhibiting, and understanding the wide range of contexts in which child sexual abuse could occur. It was emphasised that the development of the strategy was intended to build upon the strong

safeguarding arrangements already in place and further enhance the partnership's ability to prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse.

The Chair invited the Independent Scrutineer to speak on the update, during which the following points were noted:

- The development of a dedicated Child Sexual Abuse Strategy was informed by the findings of the national review into child sexual abuse, published following work undertaken during 2024 and 2025. The review highlighted significant national challenges in identifying, understanding and responding to child sexual abuse and noted that over a five-year period, more than 130 safeguarding reviews considered by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel had involved elements of child sexual abuse, including intrafamilial abuse.

- There was currently no single national definition of intrafamilial child sexual abuse, nor a consistent crime category or recording framework, this created challenges in understanding the scale and nature of the issue both locally and nationally. The review made several recommendations aimed at improving understanding, oversight and responses to child sexual abuse across safeguarding partnerships and government agencies.

- As part of the annual review of the RSCP priorities, existing strategies were reaching the end of their three-year cycle. It was agreed across the partnership that child exploitation would remain a key priority for Rotherham, due to the continued importance of safeguarding activity in this area. There had been significant progress achieved through the Neglect Strategy, which would transition into ongoing oversight through the Practice, Performance and Learning Group, this would ensure continued monitoring and improvement.

- Child Sexual Abuse had been identified as a strategic partnership priority; to support this, a dedicated strategy and action plan were being developed to provide a framework for partners to work collectively to address the challenges associated with child sexual abuse.

- Officers highlighted the complexity of the issue, noting that a significant proportion of nationally reported child sexual abuse cases involved peer-on-peer abuse, often involving young people of a similar age. However, evidence from the national review indicated that intrafamilial child sexual abuse, presented some of the greatest risks of harm to children and was often the most difficult form of abuse to identify, disclose and address. It was proposed that the first year of the strategy would place a particular

focus on intrafamilial child sexual abuse to strengthen local understanding, identification and intervention, in response to the heightened risks associated with this form of harm.

The Chair invited the Interim Head of Safeguarding to deliver the presentation, during which the following points were noted:

Why the Intrafamilial Child Sexual Abuse Strategy was needed-

- The strategy, developed through the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership, brought together key safeguarding partners to prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse. The strategy had originally been developed to address child sexual abuse in its broadest sense. However, as the partnership examined national evidence, local intelligence and learning from safeguarding reviews, particular concerns regarding abuse occurring within families were identified. As a result, the partnership agreed that intrafamilial child sexual abuse would be a particular focus during the initial years of implementation.

- National evidence demonstrated that child sexual abuse was more prevalent and more hidden than statutory service data suggested. Research estimated that only around one in eight children experiencing sexual abuse would come to the attention of professionals at the time the abuse was occurring.

- In relation to abuse within families, national police-recorded data highlighted that 26% of offences where the relationship between victim and perpetrator had been recorded were familial. Of those intrafamilial cases where the victim's age was known, 44% of victims were under 10 years old.

- Locally, sexual abuse featured in 4.5% of Section 47 investigations and 2.6% of Child Protection Plans during 2025/26. Whilst local data provided an indication of the children being identified through safeguarding processes, it did not capture the number of children who remained unidentified. This represented a key challenge that the strategy sought to address. The evidence reinforced that children, particularly younger children experiencing abuse within their families, may have been unable to disclose what was happening due to a range of factors, including fear or an inability to understand or articulate their experiences.

The Four Strategy Priorities-

- The partnership recognised the need to improve its ability to identify signs of abuse, share information and take appropriate safeguarding action, rather than relying solely on disclosures from children. The strategy was organised around four key priorities, each with a lead partner and shared responsibility for delivery:

- **Develop,** led by the Safeguarding Children's Partnership. This priority focused on strengthening professional knowledge, confidence and practice, including the development of a clearer multi-agency pathway.

- **Prevent and Identify**, led by Public Health. This priority sought to move beyond responding to abuse once it had been identified. The partnership aimed to improve understanding across schools, universal services and wider communities so that concerns could be recognised at an earlier stage.

- **Investigate and Disrupt,** led by South Yorkshire Police. This priority focused on effective joint working, information sharing and the management of risks posed by adults who may harm children. A key principle was that safeguarding action should continue even where there was no prosecution or criminal justice outcome.

- **Support and Recover**, led by health partners. This priority recognised the need for timely, appropriate and compassionate support for children and families, including therapeutic and emotional support.

- It was noted that the four priorities were interconnected. The ambition was not simply to improve how individual agencies responded, but to create a more coordinated safeguarding system around children and families.

Five Outcomes by 2030-

- By 2030, the partnership sought to achieve five key outcomes:

  - More children would be identified and protected at an earlier stage.

  - Fewer children would experience repeat harm.

  - Children and families would have improved access to support to aid recovery.

  - There would be stronger identification and management of individuals who posed a sexual risk to children.

  - Children's voices and experiences would influence how services were designed and delivered.

- Members were advised that success would not necessarily be reflected in a reduction in referrals, particularly during the early stages of implementation. Increased awareness and professional confidence could result in more children being identified who had previously remained hidden. The true measure of success would

be whether children were safer, whether harm was prevented or addressed earlier, and whether children and families received the support they required.

Delivery and Assurance-

- The strategy had a clear structure for delivery and accountability. A multi-agency delivery group, chaired by the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust, would oversee progress and would be supported by two working groups focusing on child sexual abuse and investigation and disruption.

- Progress would be reported to the Safeguarding Children's Partnership Executive every two months, with an annual summary provided through the Partnership's Annual Report.

- The partnership would monitor a range of measures, including identification rates, repeat harm, timeliness of interventions, access to support and feedback from children and families. Consideration would also be given to whether particular groups of children faced additional barriers to identification or service access. This would support understanding not only of whether actions had been completed, but also whether the strategy was making a meaningful difference.

Potential Risks-

- The partnership recognised the need to ensure that its response did not inadvertently cause further distress to children through repeated questioning or poorly coordinated interventions. It was also acknowledged that some children, including boys, disabled children and children from ethnic minority communities, could face additional barriers to recognition and support. The partnership therefore sought to raise awareness sensitively, recognising the stigma and complexity that could surround abuse within families.

- It was recognised that safeguarding could not rest solely with social workers, police officers or health professionals. Schools had a particularly important role due to their regular contact with children and their ability to recognise changes in behaviour or presentation, provide trusted adults and raise safeguarding concerns. There was also a wider role for voluntary organisations, faith groups, sports clubs and community networks. Members were encouraged to support the partnership by identifying opportunities to share safeguarding messages, understand barriers to engagement and reach families who may otherwise have limited access to information. The partnership aimed to build awareness and confidence across communities so that more adults could recognise signs of concern and know where to seek advice. Ultimately, the ambition was to ensure that children did not have to

carry the responsibility of disclosing abuse themselves.

The Chair thanked the officer for the presentation and invited questions from Members. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- In relation to the five outcomes, no baseline measures were currently available. Whilst some national measures existed, there was limited benchmarking information available. The first step would be to develop a fuller understanding of the wider picture. Child sexual abuse offences could be recorded under multiple crime categories, and recording systems did not consistently capture information relating to perpetrators or their relationship to victims. The partnership aimed to establish relevant benchmark data by the end of the first year of implementation. Members were advised that the independent scrutineer had not recommended setting specific targets until there was a clearer understanding of the wider picture.

- In relation to equal access and risk management, Members were advised that wider partnership work was already underway. Boys, disabled children and children from ethnic minority backgrounds were disproportionately represented in relation to exploitation. This work included professional training, awareness-raising activities and efforts to improve access to services. Workforce confidence was identified as a key factor, as these groups could present differently and experience abuse in different ways. National data indicated that disabled children were twice as likely to experience sexual harm, whilst 5% of victims of child sexual abuse were boys.

- Members were advised that every school had a Designated Safeguarding Lead responsible for training staff on safeguarding procedures and ensuring awareness of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

- Training across the partnership and associated agencies was reported to be well attended, regularly refreshed and continuously developed in response to emerging research, learning and an evolving understanding of risk, vulnerability and indicators of harm.

- National research highlighted that services had traditionally relied on children disclosing intrafamilial sexual abuse, despite it being a largely hidden form of harm. As a result, there was a strong focus on equipping professionals, partners and communities to recognise behavioural indicators and presentations that may signify abuse. Members noted that the borough benefited from strong schools with a detailed understanding of their pupils.

- The Centre of Expertise Child Sexual Abuse Pathway Tool was highlighted as a national resource available to parents, Designated Safeguarding Leads, teachers and other trusted adults. The tool provided guidance on recognising signs of abuse and initiating

supportive conversations. Members were advised that the Prevent and Identify priority would be led by Public Health and would involve work across families, schools, children and the youth justice system to raise awareness in a sensitive and meaningful manner. Family Hubs would also continue to promote healthy relationships through their outreach and engagement work.

- It was noted that child sexual abuse could occur between peers, including within school settings. National research suggested that disclosures were often made to friends before being reported to a teacher or other trusted adult. The Evolve Team worked closely with Year 5 and Year 6 pupils across schools on this subject area. The partnership had presented to the Children and Young People's Partnership Board and was engaging with Police Cadets to establish a group of young scrutineers. This group would help inform awareness campaigns, messaging and service development. The Voice and Influence Team had also been actively involved in co-producing child-friendly information materials, including website content and publications. In addition, the partnership was establishing a Parents' Group which would include individuals with lived experience, to support the co-production of resources for parents and carers. The Neglect Delivery Group, including representatives from the Elective Home Education Team, had also been involved in reviewing and refreshing relevant publicity materials such as leaflets.

- The service agreed to consider how information could be effectively communicated to children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), children educated outside of school settings and other groups less likely to disclose concerns through traditional school-based channels. A further update would be provided to the Commission on the findings and proposed next steps.

- Members were advised that Rotherham benefited from a stable workforce within this area of practice. Staff were managed with emotional intelligence and supported through a well-established supervision framework. Three Practice Consultants within the Safeguarding Service were also available to provide additional support when required.

- The service aspired to develop alternative reporting mechanisms for children and young people, including potential digital solutions. Consideration would be given to this during the lifetime of the strategy, and feedback would be provided to the Commission in due course.

- The I Wanted People to Notice Report was identified as a key document for improving services through engagement with survivors of child sexual abuse. The report highlighted that survivors frequently attempted to communicate what was happening to them; therefore, partnership training would focus on

helping practitioners recognise and respond to those signs and signals. Members were also advised that education relating to healthy relationships formed part of the Personal, Social, Health and Economical (PHSE) curriculum from primary school onwards.

- Elected Members were encouraged to contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) if they had safeguarding concerns or required advice regarding specific situations.

- It was explained that the management of adults who posed safeguarding risks could continue regardless of whether a prosecution was secured. This could include the use of Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), Sexual Risk Orders, the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme, rehabilitation programmes, bail conditions and electronic monitoring. Members were advised that the criminal justice system operated to a high evidential threshold and that not all cases resulted in prosecution. In some instances, court proceedings could take between two and three years following arrest.

- The partnership was developing a joint protocol between South Yorkshire Police and Children's and Young People's Services, to strengthen information sharing arrangements in support of safeguarding children, young people and wider family members.

- Members noted that information sharing was inherently complex and required professionals to consider potential risks arising from disclosure. However, updated statutory guidance under Working Together to Safeguard Children, had lowered the threshold for sharing information where safeguarding concerns existed. Since September 2026, agencies had been under a duty to share information where it was reasonably believed to relate to the safety or welfare of a child.

- Any individual subject to investigation for child sexual abuse offences prior to court proceedings, would undergo a full risk assessment through the police custody process, including pre-release risk assessments and associated risk management plans. Where individuals had contact with children or young people, Children's Services would be involved, and appropriate support arrangements would be put in place.

- Members were advised that the Partnership Executive Group was responsible for overseeing the delivery of the strategy and monitoring performance outcomes. Executive Group members were expected to challenge one another constructively and collectively hold partner agencies to account.

- Assurances were provided that the work relating to healthy relationships encompassed child-on-child abuse occurring within households. It was advised that whilst the title of the strategy might

not explicitly reflect every type of abuse covered, the strategy would address the full spectrum of child-on-child harm.

Resolved:- That the Improving Lives Select Commission:

1) Considered and accepted the need for the strategy, including its priorities, intended outcomes and proposed delivery arrangements.

2) Requested that a further progress update be presented to the Commission during the next municipal year.

3) Requested that consideration be given to how relevant information and opportunities will be communicated and made accessible to all children and young people, with particular regard to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, and those who are electively home educated.

4) Requested that consideration be given to alternative reporting mechanisms that may be more accessible and appropriate for children and young people.

37. WORK PROGRAMME

The Commission considered its Work Programme, and the following was noted:

- The Commission's Work Programme was included in the agneda pack for Members' information and discussion.

- There were no changes to the Work Programme since the last meeting.

Resolved: - That the Work Programme for 2026/2027 be approved.

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

The Chair provided a progress report on sub and project group activity, during which the following was discussed:

- The Chair suggested a review topic of titled "The impact of falling pupil numbers on educational provision and future educational sufficiency in Rotherham" and sought volunteers who would be interested in taking part in the scoping of the review topic.

- It was agreed that a scoping session be arranged for this suggested topic.

Resolved: - That the update be noted.

39. URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.