#### CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES

Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate Date: Tuesday, 22 March 2005

Street, Rotherham.

Time: 9.00 a.m.

#### AGENDA

- 1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
- 2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
- 3. Minutes of a previous meeting (Pages 1 2)
  - to receive minutes
- 4. Rotherham Cultural Consortium (Pages 3 16)
  - to receive minutes
- 5. Education of Looked After Children (Pages 17 21)
  - to receive minutes
- 6. Children and Young People's Sub-Group (Pages 22 28)
  - to receive minutes
- 7. Leisure/Joint Service Centre Project Board (Pages 29 30)
  - to receive minutes
- 8. Schools PFI Project Update: Spring Term 2005 (Pages 31 33)
  - to provide a Project update up to Spring Term 2005
- 9. Proposal to make prescribed alteration to the age range at Listerdale Junior and Infant School (Pages 34 38)
  - to consider a proposal to make a prescribed alteration to the age range at Listerdale J & I School
- 10. Proposal to make prescribed alteration to the age range at Brinsworth Howarth Junior and Infant School (Pages 39 43)
  - to consider a proposal to make a prescribed alteration to the age range at Brinsworth Howarth J & I School
- 11. Rotherham Schools Enterprise Project (Pages 44 48)

- to consider a requirement to tender and contract for delivery of the project outputs
- 12. Budget Monitoring Report as at January, 2005 (Pages 49 53)
  - to note the forecast outturn for 2004/05
- 13. Exclusion of the Press and Public

  The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 9 of part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:-
- 14. Herringthorpe Playing Fields Lease Agreement (Steve Hallsworth, Business Manager Leisure & Green Spaces) (report herewith). (Pages 54 57)
   to consider a proposal by Rotherham Rugby Union Football Club
- 15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

## CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION, CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES TUESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2005

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Littleboy and Rushforth.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors (none).

#### 170. MINUTES OF A PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of a meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2005 were agreed as a correct record.

# 171. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME AND COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LEGISLATION

Further to Minute No. B137 of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2005, consideration was given to a report of the Strategic Leader Culture, Leisure and Lifelong Learning on the development and implementation of a Records Management programme.

This commitment by Rotherham MBC stems from both legislative and regulatory obligations, and recognition of the need for efficient and effective conduct of Council business.

An essential element in the development of a Records Management programme, and the Records Centre as an integral part of this commitment, is the adoption of a policy governing implementation and operation. Programme Area representatives on the Records Management Group have taken responsibility for this process.

The key driver for this programme is the legislative obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Reference was made to the work of the E-Government Board and good practice guidance.

The meeting accepted that a great deal of issues will develop as work progresses, in particular the need for electronic records management.

Resolved:- (1) That the Records Management Policy Statement, and, in support of that policy the Records Management Awareness Guidance document, be submitted for approval by Cabinet, it being recognised that together these documents are essential to the development and implementation of a Records Management programme across the Authority.

(2) That a progress report be submitted to a future meeting.

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following item in order to resolve the matter referred to without delay)

#### 172. NOMINATION - HOSPITAL TEACHING AND HOME TUITION SERVICE

Resolved:- That, further to Minute No. 167 of a meeting of the Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure services held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2005, Councillor Thirlwall be nominated to serve on the above Committee.

#### 173. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (details of expenditure proposed to be incurred under any particular contract).

#### 174. TENDER REPORT - SITWELL JUNIOR SCHOOL

Consideration was given to a report of the Executive Director, Economic and Development Services which sought approval to accept a tender for an extension to provide four classrooms at Sitwell Junior School.

This work includes the removal of two existing mobile classroom blocks upon completion of the extension.

Resolved:- That the tender submitted by Wildgoose Construction Limited dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005, with a Target Cost of £632,547.35 and a Guaranteed Maximum Price of £697,384.72 be accepted.

### ROTHERHAM CULTURAL CONSORTIUM WEDNESDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2005

#### Present:-

Councillor Boyes (in the Chair)

Councillor R. Littleboy Councillor K. Wyatt Mrs. E. Temple

Mr. B. Beeley

Mrs. J. Williams

Mr. R. Newman

Mr. M. Bishop

Mr. L. Johnson

Mr. R. Bye

Culture and

#### R.M.B.C. Officers:-

Mr. Guy Kilminster Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts

Mr. Tony Preston Project Development Manager, Culture and Leisure

Mr. Steve Hallsworth Business Manager, Leisure and Green Spaces,

Leisure

Mr. Steve Blackbourn Principal Officer, Museums, Galleries and Heritage

Principal Officer, Community Arts Lizzie Alageswaran

Mr. Ryan Shepherd Planner, Planning and Transportation Service

Also in attendance:-

Mr. David Oldrovd Kiveton Park & Wales Community Development Trust

Mr. Paul Weston **BCDT Consultancy Services** 

(In attendance for Item 8 only)

#### 25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Austen and St. John, Martin Happs, Paul Glentworth, Val Allen, Stuart Lister, David Rowley, Phil Gill, David Gayton and Phil Rogers.

#### 26. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2004

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record.

#### **27**. **MATTERS ARISING**

### The Old Three Cranes, High Street

The meeting was informed that these premises had now been sold and that the property was on the market for re-let as a shop unit.

Agreed:- That the Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts feedback information on the up to date position at the next meeting.

#### 28. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY PANELS

### Heritage, Archives & Tourism/Theatre, Libraries, Museums, Writing and the Arts

Both groups had merged due to poor attendance at the previous two panels and the feeling that it was better use of Officer and Consortium Members' time. The first meeting had taken place on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2005. Discussion had centred around the focus of the new group, the Cultural Conference, the Rotherham Arts Festival and the relationship of Rotherham Arts and the Rotherham Heritage Association and their relationship to the Cultural Consortium. There had been a good flow of information from everyone in attendance on how the relationship could be more effective.

The meeting had discussed the issue of raising the profile of the Cultural Consortium as an organisation and using Rotherham Arts and Rotherham Heritage Association to share information.

An update regarding the opening of the Museum had been given, together with the current situation with the town centre regeneration and Civic Theatre and Central Library replacements. The Master Plan was due out shortly.

**Sports Panel** – Had not met since the last meeting of this Consortium.

### **Green Spaces Advisory Panel**

The Panel had last met on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2005. Matters discussed included:-

#### **Urban Park Rangers**

There has been a focus on the Urban Park Ranger Service with the Senior Ranger attending the last two panel meetings to give updates on their activities, and to answer questions.

The Panel had restated their view that the Council should continue to fund Urban Park Rangers as a mainstream service.

#### **Green Flag**

The panel has discussed the principle of using Green Flag Awards as a benchmark of service improvement in Rotherham's green spaces. Rother Valley Country Park is to be put forward for assessment as part of a nationwide pilot looking at the effectiveness of the scheme in improving country parks.

#### **Green Spaces Strategy**

Excerpts of the draft green space audit report had been provided to panel members. There has been discussion about the principles to be applied in this and the Playing Pitch Strategy. Further consultation with the Panel is planned when draft recommendations are available.

#### **Heritage Park Restoration Schemes**

Consideration has been given to progress on the preparation of restoration proposals for Boston and Clifton Parks.

#### Other Matters

The panel continues to raise questions and receive reports on a wide range of specific and general green space topics. These have included Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder, Allotment Improvements, Sports Club Activities, and the role of Parish Councils.

The meeting raised the following issues:-

(1) The Motte at Kimberworth had been referred to in the recent Green Space Strategy as of low value and poor quality.

One member present asked why this was not a heritage site. There was a public right of way to the land.

It was understood that it was a case of how the land was interpreted in the Green Space Strategy which had been as a piece of grass on a mound rather than considering it in terms of any historical value. It is a difficult site to access and was screened by housing.

The meeting was uncertain as to who owned the site and therefore who was responsible for granting permission for public use.

It was explained that Grant Aid from English Heritage towards the upkeep of such land would include a condition to allow public use. However, if it was in private ownership, the owner had significant control over access to the site.

Agreed:- (1) That the Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts write to English Heritage regarding the ownership of this land.

- (2) Keppel's Column Signage It was accepted that the recent erection of signs had proved to be beneficial.
- (3) Football Development Officer Applicants had been shortlisted and interviews would take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2005. A feature of the funding application was a requirement to identify a broad picture of the

aims of the project. The successful applicant would be expected to work on a detailed plan.

#### 29. CLIFTON PARK MUSEUM

A presentation was given on the recent successful opening of Clifton Park Museum on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2005.

A copy of recent press cuttings and opening photographs were circulated.

The presentation covered the following aspects of the opening:-

- 12,000 visitors in the first ten days of opening on target to exceed a target of 60,000 visitors per year
- Café and Shop very successful informal opening of Café by Mayor and Mayoress
- Café Franchise Speak Up an organisation involved in training people with special needs and learning difficulties – future partnership prospects and opportunities to train trainers
- Excellent publicity
- Work with Community Arts and Kashmir community
- Half Term Press Release
- Friends Groups/Launch of Friends' events
- Whiston Brass Band
- Georgian Dress

The Museum offered the following features:-

- Library
- Audio-Visual/Interactive facilities
- Galleries Graphic Panels/Display Cases feature on the miner's strike/20<sup>th</sup> century/replica Anderson shelter
- Information Station
- Access/Lift/Toilets Access Disability Groups involved in planning
- Lion's Den/Children's Play Area
- Shops/Cafes (Fair Trade merchandise)
- Interactive Victorian Kitchen Cooking on the range

Consortium members congratulated all concerned for the success of the project which it was felt Rotherham should be proud of.

Attention was drawn to the need for resources to ensure the Museum's future maintenance and redecoration.

It was pointed out that fixtures and fittings had already been well used but that staff took every opportunity to replenish stock and take care of internal features, particularly on the only day the Museum closed (Friday).

In addition, one of the conditions of the Heritage Lottery Fund grant was

that the Council agree to the adequate maintenance of the building as a result of investment from them.

Invites to the official opening on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 had been sent to all Consortium members.

Agreed:- (1) That Steve Blackbourn be thanked for an interesting and informative presentation.

(2) That, on behalf of the Cultural Consortium, thanks be extended to all concerned.

### 30. DESIGN CODE FOR THE ROTHERHAM TOWN CENTRE RIVER CORRIDOR

Ryan Shepherd, Planning and Transportation Unit, gave a presentation on the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) Design Code Pilot Programme for Rotherham town centre.

The Design Code was a planning document which will form part of the planning framework for Rotherham when determining planning applications.

The Code was intended to be flexible to developers and Rotherham was one of the few pilots to be undertaken, in view of having the following features:-

- central urban context
- regeneration focus
- housing market renewal dimension

A presentation was given which included information on the following aspects of a master plan approach:-

- boundary line (essentially Westgate river corridor)
   identified as a strategic location for a number of
   developments over the next 20 years
- within European Objective I Area Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder/Rotherham town centre Strategic Development Framework arising from Yorkshire Forward's Renaissance Towns
- Key Partners RMBC Transform South Yorkshire Town Team

Yorkshire Forward (Satnam Developments) – ODPM – The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE)

The work so far had included more detailed written and illustrative guidance and the following aspects were reported on in terms of raising the design quality:-

- Opportunities
- Issues River and canal to form a key part in town's future improvement
- Best in architecture and urban design
- Examples of current standard housing designs Riverside Exchange, Sheffield

The Consultants had looked at the areas to ensure they match the design code priority area in terms of its surrounding and usages.

Other aspects of the plan included:-

Housing Market Renewal Demonstrator Project
Riverside (application presently submitted for part of that site)
Hillside (aspirations within the town centre masterplan for new housing)

An indicative programme of the project was given. A community stakeholder event was to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2005 with a four week public consultation period following at the end of March. The final report would be submitted for adoption through Council in May, 2005.

The project, which would raise high standards, implement Rotherham's renaissance and help raise Rotherham's profile, would be reviewed annually.

One member asked whether shop frontages and quality signage were a part of the Design Code, a standard which it was felt was presently lacking in Rotherham.

It was explained that the Design Code initiative would not particularly concentrate on the appearance of shop fronts, but important aspects such as active frontages – i.e. that there has to be a certain spread of doorways.

Councillor Boyes believed there was a suggestion that resources would be available within Rotherham Renaissance in terms of existing shop fronts to replace designs that did not reflect the quality of the upper stories of existing buildings. Suggested buildings for Rotherham Renaissance are striking and ambitious for Rotherham and the Design Code will ensure another way of achieving this, a great deal of discussion having taken place within the Town Team on this issue.

Reference was made to proposals by Tesco in terms of whether they could affect the masterplan.

It was pointed out that flexibility within the Design Code would allow both large and small scale development, in addition to landscape and suggested areas of improvement in terms of tree planting.

Agreed:- That Ryan Shepherd be thanked for an interesting and informative presentation.

#### 31. ROTHERHAM ARTS FESTIVAL 2004

Lizzie Alageswaran gave a presentation on the Rotherham Arts Festival.

Copies of last year's brochure and Issue 6 (Winter 2005) of the Muse newsletter were made available for members of the Consortium.

The presentation covered the following areas:-

- Why Festivals?
   £19.8 million recorded across England this year
   A great deal of Government support for culture in general contribution to regeneration in an area "Culture is at the Heart of Regeneration" published by DCMS
- Background to the formation of Rotherham Arts voluntary body to Rotherham Arts Groups
- No additional resources from RMBC but from Yorkshire Arts and Box Office and Arts Council England
- Rotherham Arts Festival is unusual to others due to its management

#### Key aims for 2004:-

- Showcase for local talent (57 member groups)
- Community engagement
- Quality aspiration and innovation
- Vehicle to encourage organisational development

#### Who can the Festival benefit?

- to employ Festival Director
- to support participatory projects
- to support quality performance
- organisational development

#### Strategic Objective:-

- Vision Day – 10,500 people attended up to 60 events

#### Successes of the Festival:-

- 2 commissions
- Aspirational event
- Raise interest in future sponsors

#### Room for Development:-

 More contribution needed from Rotherham Arts Member Groups

#### Key Roles:-

- Creative programming
- Management
- Capacity Building
- Administration
- Finance
- Marketing
- Monitoring

#### Issues Encountered:-

- Small number of venues
- Need to unify provision over all age groups
- Rotherham's capacity to attract greater Arts funding
- Willingness to make things happen
- Little confidence in Rotherham
- Future possibilities
- Need to agree developments and Festival needs

The meeting raised the following question:-

How was funding accessed for events?

It was explained that application to the Arts Council must demonstrate the kind of events, and claims submitted for separate issues. However, if applications are made to a wider range of funders, the process is different.

Agreed:- (1) That Lizzie Alageswaran be thanked for an interesting and informative presentation.

(2) That publicity information from Rotherham Arts be sent with the next agenda.

#### 32. KIVETON PARK COLLIERY REGENERATION PROJECT

David Oldroyd and Paul Weston were welcomed to the meeting to give a presentation on the Kiveton Park Colliery Regeneration Project.

The presentation covered the following aspects:-

- Background
Pit closure 1994
Listing – Grade II – Built in 1938 – 1 of only 4 remaining in the country

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Neglect and vandalism Yorkshire Forward's role Community protest Role of the Trust Feasibility Study

- Pithead Baths
- Project The Bath House a creative enterprise centre
- Site/Site Plan
- "A creative Centre for creative people"
   High cost
   Arts and creativity
   Redroad Media Project

Redroad Media Project Community use

Income generation Growth sector

Community enterprise

Young people

Rother Valley South

- Context
   Ground Floor/Upstairs
- Outputs

14 creative work units

7 new full-time jobs

1 development officer

1 cinema

1 new performance venue

1 new exhibition gallery

1 high quality large hall (300)

3 new community rooms

3,500 sq ft of learning space

1 community media suite

Outcomes

Arts and cultural activity

Growth sector industries

Local work

Better leisure opportunities

Appeal to the young

Lifelong learning

Regeneration catalyst

Complement pit site

Set a standard of quality and creativity

Encourage enterprise and entrepreneurship

Provide the Trust with a long-term asset

Encourage community participation

Increase an interest in the Trust

- Where we are at:
  Repair schedule
  Design and layout
  Specification
  Planning application
  Capital costs
  Business plan
  Funding applications
  Management plan
- Where we're going next:
  PROJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP
  Development funding
  RIBA Stages E & F and beyond
  Heritage and Image
  Access and Acoustics
  Planning issues
  Ownership
  Capital funding
  PROJECT ADVISORY GROUP
  Training
  Community and user involvement
  Cluster development
  Promoting and marketing

The main focus of the work over the last two years had been to work with the community to come up with a solution with regard to the future of this important heritage location and building.

The idea has developed with the enthusiasm of young people not only from the community but from villages around to have constructive and creative leisure time, hence the concept of an enterprise centre.

A planning application had been submitted and capital funding is awaited.

Members of the Consortium raised the following questions:-

#### What cost is there to RMBC?

It was pointed out that there would be no cost to the Council.

## Why should this project succeed when a similar Music Centre in Sheffield had failed?

Consideration had been given to this but all concerned had been very realistic about the proposal from the outset. Funding was based on less than a 50% occupancy in year one, for which subsidy was needed. A great deal of discussion was taking place with Yorkshire

Forward and Coalfield Regeneration Trust about the fact that it should not be another music centre or earth centre. There was £250,000 revenue funding over 5 years and it was necessary to appoint the right people to run the project.

It was necessary to gain the support of the wider Rotherham Arts community to acknowledge the importance that culture and creative activity should not just take place at the centre.

#### Had there been any firm promises of investment?

It is difficult to gain commitment from investors but there was almost £1.5 million of the capital cost. A further £2 million was needed to make it happen, subject to the rest of the funding being available. Work was taking place with major funders at the moment and a recent meeting had taken place with RMBC who had agreed to facilitate a meeting with major funders.

One member referred to the needs of another local village, for example Harthill, which was in need of money investing and compared this to money being spent at Kiveton Park.

It was explained that questionnaires had been sent with over six thousand responses. Very few people had spoken against the project and whose who had were residents of the access road and this issue had been dealt with.

The project would be of major benefit to Kiveton Park but was not a village hall but to serve all surrounding areas, including residents of Harthill. A recent meeting of an Area Assembly had accepted the presentation and thought it to be a great project, recognising that residents they had no need to drive into the centre of Rotherham.

In relation to the YES project at Rother Valley, RMBC did believe the Kiveton Park Colliery project could benefit the YES project in terms of arts and community activities rather than people who have to travel from far away.

One officer present commented on the potential of the building and agreed it was a fantastic idea. Lessons learned from the recent opening of the Museum in terms of a major building project and funding applications could be shared with the Development Trust.

One member present was delighted to see the community regenerated and believed the building had great potential as a tourist and heritage attraction.

Further ideas for the project included an Exhibition Gallery, IT terminals and a virtual reality experience during the day from Bronze Age to present day. The younger generation of the village were very

keen to see the building used as a modern centre.

Agreed:- That David and Paul be thanked for an interesting and informative presentation.

#### 33. STRATEGIC CULTURAL LINKS

The meeting considered the content of the Strategic Cultural Links report which set out Cultural Services outcomes and measures, mapped against key strategies and themes for the Borough over the next few years and beyond.

This would inform the Service Area's Plan for 2005/06. The Audit Commission required the Council to demonstrate a clear link with other Council priorities, for example Corporate Plan, Community Strategy and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

The document was presently in draft form due to work within the Corporate Plan and Community Strategy still evolving.

It was a working document and would be used to revise the Cultural Services Plan over the next few weeks.

Members of the Consortium were asked to feed back any comments on the draft document to the Manager, Libraries, Museums and Arts.

#### 34. KIMBERWORTH MANOR HOUSE UPDATE

Tony Preston gave an update on the current position with regard to Kimberworth Manor House which, until quite recently, had been occupied by the LEA Inclusion Service.

The building had now been declared surplus to requirements and its future was to be determined by the Property Board.

One member asked whose responsibility it was for maintaining the house whilst not in use.

It was explained that metal shutters are usually fitted to a building declared surplus to requirements. It was confirmed that the Council had no intention of allowing the building to become ruined and the house would be disposed of appropriately.

The house was now in the ownership of Economic and Development Services who would be responsible for future maintenance work and had in their Department the Enforcement Officer whose responsibility it was for monitoring the situation.

#### 35. CULTURAL CONFERENCE UPDATE

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The meeting discussed the arrangements for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cultural Conference to be held on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2005 at Clifton Park Museum.

At the request of Consortium members, the theme was to be "Heritage Matters".

Final arrangements were being made regarding key speakers to be invited.

The morning session would be based on landscape heritage and Liz Newbanks had been invited – Liz had been involved in the Botanical Gardens Re-development in Sheffield.

Ideas for other key speakers were being finalised.

The afternoon session was to be around built heritage and it was hoped to have a speaker from Cave Space and Rotherham Tourism Initiative.

A representative from the Rotherham Lottery Fund would be organising discussion groups and a member of the Museum staff would be conducting a tour of the museum.

Presentations on the proposed Clifton Park Masterplan and on future plans for the museum would be shown during the afternoon.

An article would be included in the next issue of Rotherham Matters during March and invitations would be sent to all Heritage Organisations in Rotherham.

#### 36. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

#### **Tribute to Tony Munford**

Roy Newman informed the meeting of a presentation he was organising to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00 p.m. in the Arts Centre entitled "Tony Munford's Rotherham – A celebration".

All members of the Consortium were invited to attend.

#### Firbeck Hall

A question was raised regarding the present ownership of Firbeck Hall and whether RMBC had powers to protect the historical building.

The meeting was informed that the powers to ensure that any listed building is being adequately maintained by its owner was the Conservation Officer's within Economic and Development Services.

It was suggested that this Officer be contacted in making enquiries about this building.

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Agreed:- That consideration be given to inviting the Conservation Officer, Economic and Development Service to the next meeting.

### 37. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A provisional date for the next meeting was agreed for Wednesday,  $14^{\text{th}}$  September, 2005 at 2.00 p.m.

## EDUCATION OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN MONDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 2005

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Gosling, Kirk and Littleboy. Also in attendance:- Councillor A. Russell (Chairman of the Corporate Parenting Review Group)

## 1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 20TH DECEMBER, 2005

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2004 be received.

#### 2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Reference was made to Minute No. 12 - Teenagers to Work and the Chairman asked about progress on the number of work experience placements.

Katy, the Get Real Team Manager, reported that there had been some delay with the property and that Social Services were monitoring this. However, 5 posts had come up and 2 young people would be going into employment.

This Panel expressed concern that the Teenagers to Work Project was moving slowly and expected the Council to take seriously its role as "corporate parent" and asked that the Corporate Management Team take a lead role on this and consider options across the range of possibilities to progress the Project.

Resolved:- (1) That the Corporate Management Team be informed of this Panel's concerns that the Teenagers To Work Project was progressing very slowly and that it be re-iterated that the Project needed positive promotion within the Council to enable the provision of training placements in-house for looked after young people and care leavers. Supporting the theme of corporate parents ensured the best possible outcomes of our young people.

(2) That the Corporate Management Team be asked to consider options to progress the project.

## 3. EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2005 - CHILDREN IN PUBLIC CARE

Ann Clegg, Acting Head of Inclusion Support Service, referred to the Education Development Plan and submitted the draft section relating to the Educational Attainment of Children in Public Care.

Ann explained that the aim was to try and get the real educational focus into the team and work with schools, as many of the resources were in schools. Every child would be known, tracked and monitored and if there

was a need for intervention this could be done early.

The Chairmen referred to extra support for looked after young people via additional part-time hours and suggested that this matter be referred to the Executive Directors of both Education, Culture and Leisure Services and Social Services.

Resolved:- That the draft section relating to the Educational Attainment of Children in Public Care be noted.

(2) That the issue about extra support for looked after young people via additional part-time hours be referred to the Executive Directors of both Education, Culture and Leisure Services and Social Services.

#### 4. GET REAL TEAM - UPDATE REPORT

Katy Hawkins, Manager of the Get Real Team, gave an update on progress and reported on the following:-

#### (a) The Team

The Team was currently fully staffed and currently working at full capacity. Due to the high demand of support needs in the secondary sector the limited Learning Mentor capacity within the team means that they were not able to improve outcomes for as many young people as demand requires.

There had been thirteen referrals within the past two months; ten of which have been allocated in the team.

There are a significant number of year 8 and year 9 girls who are beginning to exhibit challenging behaviour in school and the team are working on developing a girls group to address some of the presenting issues. This should be up and running after Easter.

Rehearsals for the version of Grease in collaboration with RCAT were starting at the end of February and there had been a positive response from children and young people wanting to take part.

The weekend club was going strong with numbers up to fifteen attending the activities. The Team are planning to start a young journalist group, where young people are trained in writing articles and photography and encouraged to interview people who have an impact in their life, this work will be displayed on the Get Real website.

On 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 there will be a Conference for Social Services staff, foster carers and other relevant people involved in Looked after children; this is to compliment the conference held in October, 2004 for Designated Teachers and Governors. A Joint Conference is planned for later in the year to encourage joint working.

The Teenagers to Work Project was progressing with the RTI scheme with six young people signed up and attending the course. Due to the withdrawal of match funding from Phoenix enterprises, only eight young people can go through the scheme. A property has been identified for renovation and negotiations on signing the lease are underway.

A days training was successfully delivered to 12 Social Workers in January, 2005.

There are named Education link workers in all the Children's Residential Units and they hold half termly meetings where each unit is encouraged to identify specific training needs around education. Training around residential staff being able to deliver units of an Asdan Award in collaboration with the team has been identified as a way forward for those young people who are not attending school. However there is a cost implication of £820 which is proving difficult to find.

#### (b) Public Service Agreement - Performance

As the Team were entering the final year of our LPSA agreement they were, in some cases, working with results already achieved and monitoring closely those results which will impact. The breakdown was as follows:-

GCSE grades A\* - G, target 90%. In 2004 examinations, 56.5% achieved grades A\* - G although the care leaver statistic for 2004/5 has not yet been calculated. The only impact that this can have on this target is by carefully considering the care plans for these young people and looking to see if Care Orders can be discharged early without leaving the young person at risk. However although not meeting the target, the expected outcome will still be considerably higher than the 2001 base line of 34.3%.

5 A\* - C, the target here is seven young people leaving care between April,2004and March 2006. At present there are six young people who qualify for this target and again careful examination of care plans will allow the team to consider if they can reach the target. This will need to take place after the results of this year's cohort as it may be some of these young people will fit the criteria.

Key stage 2 SATs results, Target 42%. The team are currently on line for this target. One young person has entered the system early February and his predicted results are awaited. If he meets level 4 the predicted outcome will be 55.5%, if he does not, the expected outcome will be 50%. The risk factors in the category are high as previous years have shown this is one of the most transitory groups. Up until the point of sitting the tests the team are open to young people entering or leaving the system which affects results.

#### (c) Improvement Plan - Attendance

For the school year 2003/2004 the absence figure for Children in Care over 12 months, and missing 25 days or more education, was 18%. This was higher than the predicted figure of 14%. Activities to improve this figure included:-

- A new system for monitoring attendance allows the team to have access to registers for young people. This makes the data more timely and accurate. It also allows the team to pick up early warning signs and investigate absences which were beginning to build up.
- The team have developed a system where every young person who achieves 100% attendance gets a certificate and voucher for an activity of their choice, this has been the first term this has run and 101 certificates where sent out. There had been positive feedback from Carers on this.
- A letter from the Head of Service had been sent to all parents who have Children subject to Care Orders living with them. This letter outlines their responsibilities in getting their children to school and failure to do so may result in a prosecution under section 44 of the Education Act 1996.

The team were currently addressing the small number of Looked After Children, both in Foster Care and in family placements, who are having holidays during term time which impacts on the figures.

Ann Clegg, Acting Head of Inclusion Support Services, advised that all schools were operating first day absence which could be challenged and followed up and that the monitoring of absenteeism for looked after children was no different to that of all other children.

Resolved:- That the attendance be kept under review.

#### (d) GCSE Attainment – 2005 Onwards

This year's cohort stands at forty young people which is the largest Year 11 cohort since the beginning of the team. The team are the only source of education for five young people who are all working towards a minimum of three GCSE's. This is on top of a further three younger years that have alternative packages where the teaching is delivered by the Get Real Team.

The teaching staff are actively supporting a further sixteen young people to help improve their outcomes. This high level of support limits the team in picking up young people whose grades are beginning to drop in school.

The Art tuition is proving to be very successful with some very challenging young people engaging well, this is an area where development may offer a GCSE to the most hard to reach young people.

The Team have also given consideration to developing the delivery of the

Expressive Arts GCSE; again the syllabus for this could enable some of the most dis-engaged young people to work towards a GCSE. Unfortunately staff capacity is not allowing the team to follow this up. The mentoring staff are prioritising year 11 pupils at risk of dis-engaging again this is a scarce resource in the team and there is a delicate balance between supporting other young people.

The homework club has been a positive resource and the team are trying to link young people into this who are at risk of falling behind in their coursework or studies.

All Year 11 pupils are regularly monitored and Action plans put in place.

The breakdown of the cohorts predicted grades are as follows;

- Total cohort 40 pupils
- 9 children in special school 22.5%
- 1 long term dis-engaged 2.5%
- 5 A- G 30%
- 5 A\* C 7.5%
- 1 A\* -G 70%

#### (e) Pupils off School Roll

Details of three pupils currently off school roll and action being taken to meet the pupils educational needs were explained.

#### (f) Forthcoming Events

- Between 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2005 and end of March, 2005 A number of mandatory training sessions being arranged for Foster Carers.
- A number of young people are meeting with Elected Members to discuss the corporate parenting agenda and policy.

#### 5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Panel will take place on Monday, 18th April, 2005 at 9.30 am.

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES SUB-GROUP MONDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 2005

Present:- Councillor Gosling (in the Chair); Councillors Boyes, Jack and Littleboy.

Mary Smith, Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager, School Improvement Section.

Non-Voting Representatives from the Voluntary Sector:-

Ruth Johnson – Pre-School Learning Alliance.

Steve Chapman - Project Manager, Rotherham Children's Inclusion & Support Services.

Apologies were received from Councillor Austen, Julie Bates and Sue Walker.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Chairman introduced Steve Chapman, Project Manager, Rotherham Children's Inclusion and Support Services, representing the Voluntary Sector to his first meeting of this Sub-Group.

## 2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 12TH OCTOBER, 2004

Resolved:- That the minutes of the above meeting be received and agreed.

#### 3. CHILDREN'S CENTRES - PROGRESS REPORT

The Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager, School Improvement Section, submitted a report detailing how Rotherham was making progress towards the establishment of Children's Centres by the 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2006.

The proposals and details set out in the report covered the following:-

Previous reports have informed members about Rotherham's Children's Centres Strategy. Children's Centres will serve children and families in Rotherham's most disadvantaged communities across the borough and will provide integrated education and care for young children, health services, and family support. In addition, they will also act as a service hub within the community for parents and providers of childcare services for children of all ages - offering a base for childminder networks and a link to other day care provision, out of school clubs and extended schools. Centres will also have links with local training and education providers, Jobcentre Plus and Children's Information Services. The centres will bring together locally available services and integrate management and staffing structures but will not necessarily be developed on one site.

Implementation plans were submitted to the Sure Start Unit for Ministerial approval. Approval has been received for the following areas:-

- Central Ferham Primary School and the Ferham Sure Start Centre
- Dinnington Dinnington Community Primary School
- Dalton Dalton Foljambe School
- Herringthorpe Arnold Centre
- Thrybergh Thrybergh Primary School
- Wath Wath Victoria Primary School
- Greasbrough Rockingham Junior and Infant School.

Approval was awaited for the Maltby proposal to establish a Children's Centre at the Maltby Sure Start Centre.

Guidance from the Sure Start Unit for approval of Capital Build Projects has been received. A web-based system will be used to collect data about each capital project.

The role of the Local Authority will involve:-

- Active project management of the capital programme.
- Ensuring advice, guidance and support to individuals, organisations and agencies involved in development of provision – practical support re: buildings, capital and business planning, preregistration advice.
- Commissioning processes that ensure accountability and delivery across the sectors.

The original purpose of the Children's Centres Strategic Steering group to identify proposed projects for Children's Centres development and support the establishment of local implementation planning groups has been achieved.

The Steering Group membership has been reviewed to establish a Children's Centres Executive Group which will report directly to the Children and Young People's Executive. The first meeting has taken place.

Action Planning sessions have been completed by the individual Children's Centres and progress will be monitored on a regular basis. A Leadership Programme is being undertaken by Children's Centres Leaders and key change agents to:

- explore what they want for their community and how this will be achieved
- facilitate community leadership
- facilitate change in the way services are delivered

This will support the development of Children's Centres at a local level and ensure local involvement in the planning and delivery of services.

Discussions are taking place with the Council's Legal Services to develop Partnership Agreements between the Children's Centres and private or voluntary childcare providers to operate childcare services on behalf of Children's Centres. It is proposed that after taking into consideration the full operational costs for the childcare service that 95% of additional income generated would be re-invested into the Children's Centre. Alternatively schools may wish to run the childcare themselves, through the extended schools route. Guidance will be offered by the Early Years and Childcare Services.

Maltby, Central and Rawmarsh Sure Start local programmes form part of the Children's Centres Strategy. Rawmarsh has already received Sure Start Children's Centre designation. Maltby and Central Sure Start will also be developed into Children's Centres. The Sure Start Unit has advised that whilst it is not yet in a position to provide specific details of future funding arrangements for the Sure Start local programmes, there are a number of key messages it wishes to promote

- All Sure Start local programmes, Early Excellence Centres and Maintained Nursery Schools are expected to become Children's Centres.
- The longer term aim is that Sure Start local programmes funding will be via the Local Authority and will form part of the General Sure Start Grant. No date for this change has yet been decided.
- It is important that Programmes can demonstrate and evidence best practice and lessons learned in achieving the best outcomes for young children.

It was noted that the work of this project would impact on improvements as detailed in both the Corporate Plan and Community Strategy.

Reference was made to the work of the Training Strategy Sub-Group and how it would look at the wider remit to support communities to access the Children's Centres and how links will be made with local employers.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and the progress being made with the Children's Centres be noted.

(2) That, following a meeting of the Training Strategy Sub-Group, a progress report on the methodology of supporting communities to access the Children's Centres and links with local employers be submitted to this Sub-Group.

## 4. EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE ACTIVITY IN AREAS OUTSIDE CHILDREN'S CENTRE

The Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager, School Improvement Section, submitted a report relating to the Early Years and Childcare Services which were actively supporting the development of new and existing early education and childcare provision to increase the availability of quality, accessible, affordable provision to enable parents and carers to take up employment or training opportunities.

The proposals and details covered the following:-

Rotherham has agreed targets with the Sure Start Unit to create 1676 new childcare places (not including places in Children's Centres) in the period April, 2004 to March 2006. Using local population figures, availability of existing provision and local demand, priority areas have been identified for the development of the new places as set out in the attached template.

Action towards meeting these targets include:-

- Promotion of the benefits of out of school childcare to schools.
- Promotion of the benefits of extended care to existing playgroups.
- Activities e.g. summer fayres, to raise awareness of and stimulate demand for childcare.
- Promotion of tax credits.
- A support package for all new childcare providers including; help to conduct feasibility studies, develop business and financial plans and to complete the Ofsted registration process.
- Kid's United a network to support the out of school clubs in Rotherham has been developed. They were constituted in March 2004 and 5 clubs are currently represented on the network.
- Rotherham Childminding Association was launched in January 2004 and currently has 12 childminders on the Board.
- Support for local childminder networks across the borough.
- Access to training courses to support professional development of early education and childcare workers.
- Promotion and support for childcare providers to undertake quality assurance schemes.

Particular reference was made to the fact that Brinsworth, Catcliffe and Treeton did not feature in the template submitted and it was confirmed

that Catcliffe had been identified as a pocket and supported funding was being explored

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received.

(2) That a report on Rotherham's Quality in Action Launch be submitted to the next meeting of this Sub-Group.

#### 5. ROTHERHAM OUT OF SCHOOL STRATEGY

The Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager, School Improvement Section, submitted a report relating to the Rotherham Out of School Childcare Strategy.

Rotherham had been allocated £882,423 from the Sure Start Unit to create 1284 new childcare places (not including places to be created by Children's Centres for the 0-5 year olds) within the period April, 2004 to March, 2006.

A further £293,798 had been awarded from the New Opportunities Fund to create 392 additional new places.

The proposals and details were set out in the report submitted.

The Sub-Group acknowledged the good co-ordinated work being undertaken by officers.

Resolved:- That the report be received.

#### 6. TEN YEAR GOVERNMENT CHILDCARE STRATEGY

The Early Years and Childcare Strategy Manager, School Improvement Section, submitted a report relating to the Government's Ten Year Childcare Strategy which had been released for consultation on 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2004.

The strategy sets out a bold vision for flexible, accessible, affordable and high quality childcare for all parents who need it.

In the document the Government identifies some outstanding challenges around the availability of childcare to fit the needs of parents and children; the affordability and quality of childcare; the need for greater flexibility to allow parents to spend more time with their children; and the use of childcare and family support to tackle poverty and worklessness.

Three principles underpin the strategy:

• The importance of ensuring that every child has the best possible start in life.

- The need to respond to changing patterns of employment and ensure that parents, particularly mothers, can work and progress their careers.
- The legitimate expectations of families that they should be in control of the choices they make in balancing work and family life.

Key Priorities within the strategy include:

- Extended maternity leave.
- A Sure Start Children's Centre in every community by 2010.
- Childcare for five to fourteen year-olds available based in schools, offering all parents with children aged five to eleven affordable school-based childcare on weekdays between the hours of 8am and 6pm. By 2010 ensuring that secondary schools will be open on weekdays between the hours of 8am to 6pm all year round offering a range of activities, such as music and sport.
- A new duty on local authorities to secure sufficient provision to meet local childcare needs.
- A Transformation Fund of £125m a year from April 2005 to support investment by local authorities in childcare.
- A strategy to ensure quality through a workforce reform strategy to include plans to ensure that all full daycare settings are led by graduate qualified early years professionals.
- To increase the maximum eligible childcare costs that the Working Families Tax Credit will cover from April 2005.
- To increase the maximum proportion of childcare costs covered by the childcare element of the Working Tax Credit from April 2006.
- To ensure that all three and four-year olds get a full 38 weeks of free early education and childcare from 2006, and to extend this to fifteen hours for 38 weeks a year for every three and four year-old by 2010, as a step towards a goal of twenty hours a week for 38

weeks a year.

Resolved:- That the report be received.

### 7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- that the next meeting of this Sub-Group be held on Tuesday, 19th April, 2005 at 11.00 a.m.

## RMBC LEISURE/JOINT SERVICE CENTRE PROJECT BOARD 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2005

Present:-

Councillor Georgina Boyes Cabinet Member, Education, Culture and Leisure Services

(in the Chair)

Councillor Gerald Smith Cabinet Member, Economic and Development Services

Tony Preston Business Development Manager, Education, Culture and

Leisure Services

Peter Ross Consultant

Phil Rogers Strategic Leader, Culture, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Graham Sinclair Acting Strategic Leader, Resources and Information,

Education, Culture and Leisure Services

Adam Wilkinson Executive Director, Economic and Development Services

Kevin Gallacher Primary Care Trust

**Apologies for Absence:-**

Kath Atkinson Director of Strategic Planning and Development, Primary

Care Trust

Jonathan Baggaley Principal Accountant, Corporate Finance

#### 54/05 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of this Project Board held on 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2004, were agreed as a correct record.

#### 55/05 General Progress Report

#### Issue of Invitation to Negotiate

Graham Sinclair reported on the various strands of discussions/negotiations that had taken place since the last meeting.

Invitations to Negotiate had been issued on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2005.

A copy of the timetable of tasks necessary prior to commencement on site in November 2005 was made available.

#### **Current position regarding bidders**

Work was on target to meet the first cost benchmarking checkpoint on the 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2005 and the current position regarding potential bidders was outlined.

#### Financial remodelling/cost benchmarking

Comparisons were being made between three cost benchmarks – (a) Outline Business Case (b) Costs compiled by Price-Waterhouse Cooper and (c) Costs from potential bidders.

The position was progressing towards the formulation of an updated Outline Business Case.

The meeting discussed the following issues/associated factors:-

- Re-scoping of Project
- Town Centre Regeneration/Renaissance Proposals Wider Context
- Housing Pathfinder
- PFI Credits
- Footfall figures
- Building Schools for the Future Initiative

The Executive Director, Economic and Development Services agreed to make a presentation on the town centre and other regeneration initiatives to an appropriate meeting of bidders.

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Peter Ross, Consultant agreed to prepare a summary report on the Maltby Dry Centre submission for The Leader.

#### 56/05 Any Other Business

Discussion took place on the following issues:-

- Marketing/Press Release/Public Meetings
- Pooling of corporate visions/Community Strategy/Corporate Plan launch five aims/objectives
- Value-added initiatives

The Executive Director, Economic and Development Services gave an update on the present situation with regard to the Maltby JSC and Customer Service Strategy. This included:-

- exploration of sites
- potential partners both public and voluntary sector
- 4 methodologies of customer transactions

A report on this matter would shortly be submitted to The Cabinet.

The meeting requested that the Executive Director, Economic and Development Services continue to attend this meeting.

In addition, it was noted that the Executive Director, Resources was to be invited to attend future meetings of this Board.

Discussion took place on the present position and key aspects of the planning application for Aston Pool.

#### 57/04 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Project Board would take place at the Town Hall, Moorgate Street, Rotherham, on Thursday, 2<sup>1st</sup> April, 2005, commencing at 9.00 a.m.

#### **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisers, Education, Culture and Leisure Services Lifelong Learning Opportunities Scrutiny Committee
2.	Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March and 21 <sup>st</sup> March '05 respectively
3.	Title:	Schools PFI Project Update: Spring Term 05
4.	Programme Area:	Education, Culture and Leisure Services

**5. Summary:** The Schools PFI Project involves a partnership between the Council and Transform Schools (Rotherham) Ltd. The contract includes the rebuilding/refurbishment of 15 schools and their facilities management for a period of 30 years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004.

By December 2006, there will be new schools for Coleridge, Ferham, Kimberworth, Maltby Crags Infant, Maltby Crags Junior, Meadowhall and Thornhill Primaries; and Winterhill, Wingfield and Wath Secondaries.

Additionally, new key Young Person's Centres will be provided at Thornhill Primary and Wath Secondary; and significantly refurbished centres at Wingfield, Clifton, Thrybergh and Winterhill Secondary schools.

#### 6. Recommendations:

It is recommended that progress on the Schools PFI Project is noted.

7. Proposals and Details: Progress continues with the project as significant handovers of 3 schools will happen over Easter. Pupils at Wath Comprehensive, A Language College and Maltby Crags Junior and Infant Schools will enjoy superb learning environments in their new schools after Easter.

The transformation for both schools means purpose built suiting arrangements for both academic and pastoral needs.

Both Wath and Maltby will be on single sites with the removal of some 30 temporary classrooms. The schools will provide the physical infrastructure so that children and staff will continue to raise standards of achievement. Wath also includes a key Young Person's Centre, integrated within, but operationally separate from the main school building.

Good progress continues to be made at Clifton (Middle Lane site) and Wingfield. Both will be completed for September 2005, when the project will see 6 of the 15 schools fully operational. Other live sites at Wickersley, Thrybergh and Winterhill are also making good progress on timetable.

It is a significant period in the project with both completions of schools, and design development of those projects still to start their building programme. This applies to Kimberworth Infant, Meadowhall Junior, Coleridge, Clifton Upper, East Dene and Wath Central. Plans are being drawn up to incorporate Childrens Centre/Multi Service Centres in the developments at both Coleridge/Clifton Upper and Kimberworth Infant. These will become exciting campus developments, meeting the expectations in Every Child Matters.

Improvements in the arrangements for facilities management continue with the General Manager for Rotherham making personal visits to these schools with the Council's Building Manager. A quality check takes place at the visits to make sure issues can be dealt with by Haden, the facilities management contractor.

Building Learning Communities Ltd is now incorporated and has responsibility for community provision, including the arrangements for lettings. Currently a half way house operates where schools still hold a number of responsibilities in the administration of lettings. It is hoped that the company through a newly appointed General Manager can take full responsibility by September 2005.

8. Finance: The Council was awarded £71.4m of PFI credits from the DfES as a contribution towards the costs of the scheme. The remainder of the funding derives from the premises related parts of the schools delegated budgets and the Council itself. Transform Schools receives a monthly unitary payment from the Council which began in April '04. However the payment is based on the schools reaching full services availability, and the full unitary payment will not be reached until 2007/08 when all the schools will be complete and operational.

- **9. Risks and Uncertainties:** The risks and uncertainties relate both to any delays in the actual construction process and also lack of service quality/delivery in the facilities management operation of the schools.
- **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** The policy is key to the priority of investing in people.

The new and exciting built environment will support the raising of standards of achievement of a significant number of our young people.

Key cross cutting issues of sustainable development, equalities and diversity, regeneration and health are all supported by the project:

- Sustainable development by the provision of modern, energy efficient buildings, maintained to a clear output specification
- Equalities and diversity through the provision of areas designed for many and varied needs with all of the schools being fully accessible.
- Regeneration in that the schools are beacons in terms of their aesthetic quality, financial investment and community focus as well as improving educational standards
- Health by the provision of safe, dry and warm buildings with the promotion also of excellent catering facilities
- **11. Background Papers and Consultation:** Cabinet Member and Advisers, Education, Culture and Leisure Services, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2004, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2004, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2004.

Lifelong Learning Opportunities Scrutiny Committee 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2004, 26<sup>th</sup> July 2004, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2004.

Contact Name: Graham Sinclair, Strategic Leader Resources and Information (01709) 822648
graham.sinclair@rotherham.gov.uk

#### **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Education, Culture & Leisure Cabinet Member and
		Advisers
2.	Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2005
3.	Title:	Proposal to make prescribed alteration to the age range at Listerdale Junior and Infant School
4.	Programme Area:	ECaLS

**5. Summary:** Listerdale Junior and Infant School is currently a 4-11 age range school. It is proposed that internal adaptations are carried out in order to make accommodation suitable for younger children in a Foundation Unit.

To allow younger pupils to be admitted the age range for the school has to be changed. This report confirms the statutory consultation process that must be undertaken to change the existing age range from 4-11 to 3-11 years.

#### 6. Recommendations:

It is recommended that consultation on the proposal is begun and that a further report be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the consultation.

7. **Proposals and Details:** It is proposed to make a prescribed alteration to Listerdale Junior and Infant School from September 2005. There will be a change in the age range of the school from its existing age range of 4-11 years to 3-11 years.

The school will have 210 places (R-Y6) with a foundation stage unit that can accommodate up to 30 pupils on a part-time basis (15 pupils in the morning and 15 in the afternoon). The admission number of 30 to the school (reception onwards) is unchanged. This provision will only provide places for pupils transferring to Listerdale J&I.

The advantages of the Foundation Stage include:

Youngest children are placed in appropriate provision with high adult/child ratios. The needs of children and parents are met, value is given to the Foundation Stage in the context of the whole school and optimum utilisation of resources and equipment is achieved.

#### Numbers on roll

Year	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Number on roll	211	205	205	205	205

- **8. Finance:** The costs of internal adaptations to the school building would be met through the School's Devolved Formula Capital. Costs associated with the admission of younger age children would be funded through the Fair Funding Scheme.
- **9. Risks and Uncertainties:** None envisaged.
- 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications: The major theme supported by the introduction of the Foundation Stage is "everyone has access to skill, knowledge and information needed to enable them to play a full part in society". It is believed that some of the advantages of the Foundation Stage as described in 'Appendix A 'will contribute to this.
- **11. Background Papers and Consultation:** 'Appendix A' provides background information to support the proposal.

The consultation timetable is:

Report to Cabinet Member and Advisors		22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2005
Consultation with Parents	)	
Consultation with Staff	)	April/May 2005
Consultation with School Governors	)	
Publication of Statutory Notices		June 2005
6 week period for representations and		
objections closes		July 2005
Consultation with Early Years Partnership		April/May 2005

LEA/School Organisation Committee Implementation Date

July/August 2005 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005

**Contact Name :** David Hill, School Organisation, Planning and Development

Manager Tel: 822536, e-mail, david-education.hill @rotherham.gov.uk

# Appendix A

# Background Information on the Foundation Stage Units

# NURSERY RATIONALISATION THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOUNDATION STAGE UNITS

It is well recognised and supported by research that the early years of a child's educational life provide the basis upon which all later achievement is based. The development of Foundation Stage units across the borough along with the rationalisation of places will build upon Rotherham's already high quality provision ensuring a strong secure start for all.

#### Aims

- ❖ To ensure children have access to appropriate provision at the right time and that our youngest children remain in the non-maintained sector benefiting from high adult /child ratios
- ❖ To provide equitable early years provision in the maintained sector across the borough
- ❖ To develop working partnerships between maintained and non-maintained providers to meet the needs of children and parents
- ❖ To ensure all Rotherham children have access to high quality early years education and parents are given a choice as to who provides this
- To raise the baseline profile
- To remove surplus nursery places

#### Current Issues

- Over provision of LEA places in some areas of the borough and under provision in others
- ❖ LEA provision taking in younger children to cope with falling roles
- \* Reception curriculum is not universally appropriate early years provision
- Foundation stage now recognised as a key stage in its own right
- Continuity and progression between nursery and reception classes which are often in separate buildings
- Continuity and progression with the non-maintained sector
- Introduction of a foundation stage profile from September 2002
- Low baseline profile

#### Vision

Universal quality early years education across the borough, resulting in a raising of attainment on entry and consequent raising of attainment/achievement throughout. A strong curriculum/care partnership between the maintained and non maintained sector.

# **Principles**

- Formal curriculum/care partnerships are developed between non-maintained and maintained providers
- Nursery and Reception children use the same space
- Resources are shared variety of models
- Shared QCA foundation stage curriculum
- Shared system of planning and record keeping- carefully differentiated
- Access to outdoor play for all foundation stage children- foundation stage expectation outlined in the QCA guidance
- No imposition of inappropriate whole school routines
- Environment geared to children making their own choices
- Good adult child ratios allowing for maximum input at this vital stage

#### **Advantages**

- Youngest children are in appropriate provision with high adult/child ratios
- Maintained/non-maintained partnerships ensure continuity of care/curriculum.
- The needs of children and parents are met
- Value given to the Foundation Stage in the context of the whole school
- Staff are able to work collaboratively
- Units provide a basis for positive and supportive relationships with parents and carers
- Optimum utilisation of resources and equipment

# Strategy

❖ To introduce foundation stage units in each school across the borough in a staged programme. To develop close formalised partnerships between maintained and non-maintained settings, providing quality early education for three and four year olds.

# **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Education, Culture & Leisure Cabinet Member and
		Advisers
2.	Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2005
3.	Title:	Proposal to make prescribed alteration to the age range at
		Brinsworth Howarth Junior and Infant School
4.	Programme Area:	ECaLS

**5. Summary:** Brinsworth Howarth Junior and Infant School is currently a 4-11 age range school. It is proposed that internal adaptations are carried out in order to make accommodation suitable for younger children in a Foundation Unit.

To allow younger pupils to be admitted, the age range for the school has to be changed. This report confirms the statutory consultation process that must be undertaken to change the existing age range from 4-11 to 3-11 years.

# 6. Recommendations

It is recommended that consultation on the proposal is begun and that a further report be brought to Members with details of the outcome of the consultation. 7. **Proposals and Details:** It is proposed to make a prescribed alteration to Brinsworth Howarth Junior and Infant School from September 2005. There will be a change in the age range of the school from its existing age range of 4-11 years to 3-11 years.

The school will have 210 places (R-Y6) with a foundation stage unit that can accommodate up to 30 pupils on a part-time basis (15 pupils in the morning and 15 in the afternoon). The admission number of 30 to the school (reception onwards) is unchanged. This provision will only provide places for pupils transferring to Brinsworth Howarth J&I.

The advantages of the Foundation Stage include:

Youngest children are placed in appropriate provision with high adult/child ratios. The needs of children and parents are met, value is given to the Foundation Stage in the context of the whole school and optimum utilisation of resources and equipment is achieved.

# Numbers on roll

Year	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Number on roll	172	166	167	172	172

- **8. Finance:** The costs of internal adaptations to the school building would be met through the School's Devolved Formula Capital. Costs associated with the admission of younger age children would be funded through the Fair Funding Scheme.
- **9.** Risks and Uncertainties: None envisaged.
- 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications: The major theme supported by the introduction of the Foundation Stage is "everyone has access to skill, knowledge and information needed to enable them to play a full part in society". It is believed that some of the advantages of the Foundation Stage as described in 'Appendix A 'will contribute to this.
- **11. Background Papers and Consultation:** 'Appendix A' provides background information to support the proposal.

The consultation timetable is:

Report to Cabinet Member and Advisors		22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2005
Consultation with Parents	)	
Consultation with Staff	)	April/May 2005
Consultation with School Governors	)	
Publication of Statutory Notices	•	June 2005
6 week period for representations and		
objections closes		July 2005

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Consultation with Early Years Partnership LEA/School Organisation Committee Implementation Date April/May 2005 July/August 2005 1<sup>st</sup> September 2005

**Contact Name :** David Hill, School Organisation, Planning and Development Manager Tel: 822536,

e-mail, david-education.hill @rotherham.gov.uk

# Appendix A

# Background Information on the Foundation Stage Units

# NURSERY RATIONALISATION THE DEVELOPMENT OF FOUNDATION STAGE UNITS

It is well recognised and supported by research that the early years of a child's educational life provide the basis upon which all later achievement is based. The development of Foundation Stage units across the borough along with the rationalisation of places will build upon Rotherham's already high quality provision ensuring a strong secure start for all.

#### Aims

- ❖ To ensure children have access to appropriate provision at the right time and that our youngest children remain in the non-maintained sector benefiting from high adult /child ratios
- ❖ To provide equitable early years provision in the maintained sector across the borough
- ❖ To develop working partnerships between maintained and non-maintained providers to meet the needs of children and parents
- ❖ To ensure all Rotherham children have access to high quality early years education and parents are given a choice as to who provides this
- To raise the baseline profile
- To remove surplus nursery places

#### Current Issues

- Over provision of LEA places in some areas of the borough and under provision in others
- ❖ LEA provision taking in younger children to cope with falling roles
- \* Reception curriculum is not universally appropriate early years provision
- Foundation stage now recognised as a key stage in its own right
- Continuity and progression between nursery and reception classes which are often in separate buildings
- Continuity and progression with the non-maintained sector
- Introduction of a foundation stage profile from September 2002
- Low baseline profile

#### Vision

Universal quality early years education across the borough, resulting in a raising of attainment on entry and consequent raising of attainment/achievement throughout. A strong curriculum/care partnership between the maintained and non maintained sector.

# **Principles**

- Formal curriculum/care partnerships are developed between non-maintained and maintained providers
- Nursery and Reception children use the same space
- Resources are shared variety of models
- Shared QCA foundation stage curriculum
- Shared system of planning and record keeping- carefully differentiated
- Access to outdoor play for all foundation stage children- foundation stage expectation outlined in the QCA guidance
- No imposition of inappropriate whole school routines
- Environment geared to children making their own choices
- Good adult child ratios allowing for maximum input at this vital stage

#### **Advantages**

- Youngest children are in appropriate provision with high adult/child ratios
- Maintained/non-maintained partnerships ensure continuity of care/curriculum.
- The needs of children and parents are met
- Value given to the Foundation Stage in the context of the whole school
- Staff are able to work collaboratively
- Units provide a basis for positive and supportive relationships with parents and carers
- Optimum utilisation of resources and equipment

# Strategy

❖ To introduce foundation stage units in each school across the borough in a staged programme. To develop close formalised partnerships between maintained and non-maintained settings, providing quality early education for three and four year olds.

# **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	ECALs Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2005
3.	Title:	ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS ENTERPRISE PROJECT
4.	Programme Area:	EDUCATION CULTURE AND LEISURE SERVICES

**Summary:** Rotherham Schools Enterprise Project (working title) has been awarded £1.4M of Single Pot funding via the Yorkshire Forward Sub-Regional Investment Plan. As project sponsor Education Culture and Leisure Services is required to put out to tender and contract for the delivery of the project outputs for the period April 2005 to March 2009.

# 6. Recommendations:

- That Members receive the information relating to the project proposals.
- That Members approve the commencement of the tendering process including the submission of the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) advertisement.
- That Members approve the engagement of Legal Services to support and progress the tendering and contracting process.

- 7. **Proposals and Details:** This is a partnership project developed and promoted by all the key stakeholders in enterprise delivery in Rotherham and the sub-region. Agencies contributing towards the development of the project include:
  - Rotherham Chamber of Commerce
  - Young Enterprise Yorkshire and Humberside
  - Rotherham Youth Enterprise Service
  - Business Education South Yorkshire
  - Education Culture and Leisure Services
  - Representatives from Rotherham Schools
  - Yorkshire Forward
  - Excellence Partnerships
  - Rotherham Enterprise Adviser

The aim of the project will be to establish a framework which encourages and increases the number of local employers engaged in the delivery of enterprise activities within Rotherham Schools. This engagement will contribute towards the creation of a ladder of learning opportunity for all young people aged 4-19. The ladder will provide a coherent framework of development for young people ensuring that any intervention is embedded and enhanced at the next key stage within that young person's development

As project sponsor Education Culture and Leisure Services will be responsible for the tendering process which will seek to engage a provider to deliver a four year programme of events targeting upwards of 15130 young people in 130 learning establishments, including primary, secondary and special schools and FE colleges.

ECALs will be funded to provide overall management, administration, monitoring and evaluation of the project.

ECALs is working with members of staff from RIDO to ensure that project activity will complement proposals for post 19 activity and thereby provide appropriate routes and information for those young people wishing to progress and develop entrepreneurial activities'

**8. Finance:** The project is fully funded through the Yorkshire Forward Single Investment plan for four years.

Match funding for the project will be provided by:-

- Rotherham Learning Partnership Young Enterprise Project (TEC Attributable Funding)
- Rotherham Secondary Schools Standards Fund for Key Stage 4 Activity

#### 9. Risks and Uncertainties:

Description	Mitigation	Actions To Date
Possible failure to engage quality delivery contractor	Negotiations already taking place. All relevant delivery agencies have been included in Project Working Group. A detailed specification will be devised as part of tendering process	Project working group established a tendering sub group to progress tendering process and exclude agencies which may bid for delivery.
Inability to engage schools in project activity	Awareness raising is currently taking place with schools through existing communication networks. Project to be included in all relevant events which include schools. A project launch date will be agreed with Project Working Group once contract has been awarded.	Rotherham Chamber of Commerce Education and Training Group have been promoting project. An awareness raising event took place in December 2004 which included representation from all Secondary Schools.
Inability to engage sufficient interest from employers in project.	Project has direct links to Rotherham Chamber of Commerce Investors in Education project which seeks to lin employers into appropriate education activity.	Project Working Group agreed that tender specification must require successful bidder to engage with the Investors In Education initiative.

**10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** The project reflects the following Strategic Plans and their priorities:-

# **Corporate Plan**

- Opening up Learning opportunities for all and raising educational attainment and skill levels
- Strengthening the Local Economy

The project contributes towards the above objectives by encouraging the development of enterprise skills at all key stage levels. The project will contribute towards the improved performance of pupils at Key Stage 4 and the attainment of 5 GCSEs A-C grades. These skills are essential for young people progressing into employment. In addition the project will provide appropriate local pathways for young people who is to progress into self-employment.

#### **South Yorkshire Action Plan**

Theme 3: Substantially enhancing the competitiveness of businesses in the region, positively stimulating new activity and removing barriers to change.

Theme 4: Achieving a major step change in South Yorkshire's education, training and skills base.

# **Yorkshire Forward Corporate Plan**

Objective 3 – drive innovation, enterprise and the growth of key clusters.

Objective 4 – improve education, learning and skills.

Objective 5 – connect people to economic opportunity

The following information demonstrates how the project meets the cross cutting themes of the sub-regional investment plan:-

Cross Cutting Theme	Explain how the proposal contributes	*Level of contribution
How will the project promote environmental good practice and reduce unwanted impacts such as extra traffic, waste or energy use?	All information produced from the project will be disseminated via the Virtual Leaning Environment (VLE) and work will build upon and complement existing projects such as Investors in Education (IIE) rather than duplicating existing work.	+
Does the proposal contribute to <b>Urban or Rural Renaissance</b> ?	The impact long term will be to improve the economy at large by having a more skilled and entrepreneurial workforce in the area, thus increasing the output per capita, enabling SME's to recruit better, more cheaply and easily, and to grow more, thus creating a virtuous circle.	+
Does the proposal demonstrate any innovative elements?	It is the first time all agencies and the private sector bodies are working together in an enhanced, co-ordinated way. The current consortium is a loose body. This is a managed project with targeted interventions.	++
Does the proposal promote or make good use of technology, especially ICT?	Through the use of the VLE and IIE and links with technology parks and the developing Business Vision Centre.	+

Does the project heighten the quantity and/or quality of employment and skills?	It will give better communicators, problem solvers and team players. It will also embed a sustainable ethos of the development of enterprise skills within all Rotherham schools.	++
How does the proposal promote social inclusion and diversity (including equal opportunities)?	The project is gender, race and ability neutralin that it is aimed at all young people across all Rotherham schools regardless of postcode or Key Stage. There will be specific targeting to encourage disengaged young people within certain socially excluded groups.	++
Does the project support 'gender mainstreaming' – i.e. ensuring women are fully represented at all levels in the labour market?	for example, young women into CITB	+

# 11. Background Papers and Consultation:

- Rotherham Schools Enterprise Project Business Plan
- Summary of Key Stakeholder consultation

# **Contact Name:**

Jeanette Lane, Principal Officer External Funding, ext. 2566 email: jeanette.lane@rotherham.gov.uk.

# **ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL - REPORT TO MEMBERS**

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member and Advisors
2.	Date:	22nd March 2005
3.	Title:	Budget Monitoring Report as at January 2005 (All Wards)
4.	Programme Area:	Education, Culture and Leisure Services

**5. Summary:** This is the eighth Budget Monitoring Report for the Programme Area in 2004/05, with a current forecast to overspend against budget for the financial year by £566k (0.35%).

This relates to budget pressures in both Culture and Leisure Services (£565k) and Education Services (£1k).

A detailed variance analysis is included in the attached appendices.

# 6. Recommendations:

Members are asked to note the forecast outturn for 2004/05 based on actual costs to 31st January and forecast costs to the end of March 2005.

7. **Proposals and Details:** The forecast Programme Area overspend is due to the Culture and Leisure Services overspend which primarily relates to continued pressure on sport and recreational facility budgets, as experienced in previous years (£565k).

Additionally, Culture and Heritage forecast an overspend of £115k mainly due to a shortfall in income, due in part to a loss of room hire income at the Arts Centre due to the utilisation of the room as a call centre and the temporary closure of Clifton Park Museum.

The Culture and Leisure overspend is partly offset by a saving on the Library Service budget resulting from a moratorium on procurement spending and slippage in staff recruitment (£67k).

Education services are expected to outturn on budget.

The forecast outturn as at January (£566k) shows an increase of £13k to the overspend reported in December. All possible action is being taken to minimise overspending in the Programme Area including;

- Management actions are currently focused on reducing overall Culture and Leisure costs to mitigate the forecast overspend in Recreation and Sport.
- The Programme Area is operating a tight vacancy management process with a view to maximising further areas of possible savings.
- Procurement of goods and services is being restricted to essential items only.
- **8. Finance:** The current forecast as at 31st January is for the Programme Area to overspend the budget by £566k.
- **9. Risks and Uncertainties:** Underlying risks presently identified and under evaluation are:
  - Costs relating to the operation of the Strategic Partnership with RBT have not yet been processed. It is assumed that these charges will outturn on budget.
  - Costs to be charged to the Programme Area in respect of the operation of the Corporate Transport Unit are assumed to equal the available budget.
- **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:** The forecast outturn as at 31st January shows an overspend (£566k) compared to the Programme Area and Corporate financial plan for 2004/05.
- **11. Background Papers and Consultation:** This report has been discussed with the Acting Executive Director of Education, Culture and Leisure Services and the Head of Corporate Finance.

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**Contact Name:** Pete Hudson, Strategic Finance Officer, Ext. 2550, peter.hudson@rotherham.gov.uk

Service		Evnonditure			lacome		Poscons/lmmlications
(& Division of Service	Budget £000	Proj'd out turn	Variance £000	Budget £000	Proj'd out tum	Variance £000	
Education, Culture and Leisure Services							
Education Services:							
Individual Schools Budget Strategic Management	139,801,943 8,951,785	139,801,943 8,998,785	0 47,000	(18,336,900) (662,203)	(18,336,900)	030,000)	0 (30,000) Includes additional pension costs (£28k), unbudgeted EMS support costs (£28k) and RBT ICT costs relating to 2003/4 notified Dec 2004 (£13k). Additional one-off licence / subscription income
School Improvement Special Education Provision	1,297,520 7,401,471	1,297,520	(148,000)	(4,086,173)	(4,297) (1,152,173)	0(000,99)	(66,000) Mainly savings in PRUs due to slippage on recruitment and implementation of new PRU. Also staff slippage in Ed Psychology service. Additional income Generation in Welfare Service.
Access to Education	2,901,423	2,984,423	83,000	(212,697)	(212,697)	0	0 Includes additional transport contract / take up (£26k) , additional staff costs (£25k) and additional repographic costs (£26k)
Specific Grant Support Non-Schools Funding Delegated Services Other	29,802,606 3,229,998 5,717,604 3,806,916	29,802,606 3,274,998 5,717,604 3,806,916	0 45,000 0	(24,581,664) (129,557) (6,176,017) (1,289,665)	(24,581,664) (129,557) (6,106,017) (1,289,665)	0 0 70,000 0	0 0 Mainly additional non-school pension costs 70,000 Under recovery of income on schools HR contract with RBT 0
Total Education Services	202,911,266	202,938,266	27,000	(52,539,173)	(52,565,173)	(26,000)	
Culture and Leisure Services:							
Culture and Heritage	1,645,596	1,663,596	18,000	(518,930)	(421,930)	97,000	97,000 Additional printing costs. Shortfalls in income including Arts Centre room hire (£50k) due to utilisation of room as a call centre.
Recreation and Sport	8,943,364	9,377,265	433,901	(2,784,964)	(2,701,964)	83,000	83,000 Pressure on Sport and Recreation facility budgets
Library Service Overheads	4,971,125 3,657,031	4,904,125 3,657,031	(67,000)	(797,160) (3,657,031)	(797,160)	0	O Moratorium on procurement and additional staff slippage
Total Culture and Leisure Services	19,363,076	19,747,977	384,901	(7,758,085)	(7,578,085)	180,000	
Total Education, Culture and Leisure Services	222,274,342	222,686,243	411,901	(60,297,258)	(60,143,258)	154,000	

# Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2004/05 (Based on information available at 31 Jan 05)

Service	Proj'd Variance	RAG	RAG Status	Actions Proposed and	Revised	Revised RAG Status
(& Division of Service	NET £000	Financial	Performance	Intended Impact	Financial	Performance
Education, Culture and Leisure Services						
Education Services:						
Individual Schools Budget Strategic Management	0 17,000 Red	Red		To be offset with underspends elsewhere in the Programme Area	Green	
School Improvement Special Education Provision	0 (214,000) Green	Green		Staff appointments commenced Jan 05	Green	
Access to Education	83,000 Red	Red		To be offset with underspends elsewhere in the Programme Area	Red	
Specific Grant Support Non-Schools Funding	0 45,000 Red	Red		spends elsewhere	Red	
Delegated Services	70,000 Red	Red		To be offset with underspends elsewhere in the Programme Area	Red	
Other Total Education Services	1,000					
Culture and Leisure Services:						
Culture and Heritage	115,000 Red	Red		Moratorium / Vacancy management ongoing. Other services within Culture & Leisure are working to identify possible savings that can contribute to offsetting this overspend	Red	
Recreation and Sport	516,901 Red	Red		Moratorium / Vacancy management ongoing. Other services within Culture & Leisure are working to identify possible savings that can contribute to offsetting this overspend	Red	
Tourism Library Service	(67,000) Green	Green		Working to identify further possible savings to contribute to offsetting anticipated overspend in the CLLL service	Green	
Overheads Total Culture and Leisure Services	0 564,901					
Total Education, Culture and Leisure Services	565,901					

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Agenda Item 14

By virtue of paragraph(s) 9 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

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