

## CABINET MEMBER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, CULTURE AND LEISURE

Venue: Town Hall,  
Moorgate Street,  
Rotherham.

Date: Tuesday, 13th December 2005

Time: 9.00 a.m.

### A G E N D A

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. Education Consultative Committee (Pages 3 - 6)  
**- to receive minutes**
5. Budget Monitoring Report as at October, 2005 (Children and Young People's Services) (Pages 7 - 10)  
**- to note the forecast outturn for 2005/06 and forecast costs to the end of March, 2006**
6. Budget Monitoring Report as at October, 2005 (Culture and Leisure Services) (Pages 11 - 15)  
**- note the forecast outturn for 2005/06 and forecast costs to the end of March, 2006.**
7. School Balances and Planned Use (Pages 16 - 27)  
**- to consider the recommendations contained in the report**
8. Permission to suspend Standing Order 44 from Contract Standing Orders (Pages 28 - 30)  
**- to approve the suspension of Standing Order 44 to enable a contract to be established**
9. Half Yearly Report on Complaints (Pages 31 - 39)  
**- to receive the report**
10. Schools PFI Project Update: Autumn Term 2005 (Pages 40 - 44)  
**- to note the progress of the Schools PFI Project**

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

11. New Primary School for Canklow Woods (Pages 45 - 47)

**The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:-**

12. Opening of Tenders - Computer Consumables 05-005 (Page 48)

**CABINET MEMBER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, CULTURE AND LEISURE**  
**Tuesday, 29th November, 2005**

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors (none).

Apologies for absence were received from Austen and Littleboy..

**130. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15TH NOVEMBER 2005**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2005 be received.

**131. SWINTON FITZWILLIAM INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS - PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE**

In accordance with Minute No. 78 of a meeting of the Cabinet Member, Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2005, the meeting considered a report of the Manager, School Organisation Planning and Development containing details of the outcome of the formal consultation.

It is proposed to amalgamate Fitzwilliam Infant and Fitzwilliam Junior Schools with effect from September 2006. To do this both schools will be closed and a new Fitzwilliam Primary school with an age range of 3-11 years will be opened. The new Primary school will accommodate the same number of pupils as are currently accommodated within the two schools.

Copies of the consultation papers have been sent to Ward Members. No comments have been received from Ward Members.

Following publication of the Statutory Notice (which has stood for 6 weeks) representations to the proposal have been received from the Governing body of the Infant School, the Governing body of the Junior School, letters of objection from parents and the local community, petition signed by 218 people, a petition from the school staff of both schools signed by 22 members of staff and comments from the Council's Access Officer.

The report contained a number of issues which have been raised in the representations, together with the responses of the LEA.

The meeting noted the useful amount of detail that has been provided in terms of correspondence and minutes of all meetings which had taken place in respect of the proposal.

Resolved:- (1) That the information contained in the report, now submitted, be received.

(2) That the report, along with comments made by Members, be referred to the School Organisation Committee.

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

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.

**133. OPENING OF TENDERS - SUPPLY OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES**

The Cabinet Member opened four tenders received for a Contract to supply fruit and vegetables.

Resolved:- That the tenders be evaluated and the appropriate tender accepted in accordance with delegated powers.

(Exempt under Paragraph 8 of the Act – information relating to the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred by the authority under any particular contract for the supply of goods or services).

**EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**  
**24th November, 2005**

Present:- Councillor Boyes (in the Chair); Councillors Littleboy, G. A. Russell, Sharman and S. Wright.

Viv St. John	NAHT
Ann Winfield	SHA
Mr. G. A. Haigh	NASUWT
Mr. P. Hawkridge	NUT
Mr. A. Hudson	NASUWT
Mr. K. Stoddart	ATL

Catharine Kinsella	Rotherham MBC
Graham Sinclair	Rotherham MBC
Paul Fitzpatrick	Rotherham MBC

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. J. Dalton, S. Radford and Councillors Austen and Stone.

**1. INFORMATION FROM MEETINGS HELD WITH OFFICERS**

Agreed:- That the notes of the recent meeting held between officers and Teacher Union representatives be sent out to members of Education Consultative Committee with the minutes of this meeting.

**2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 30th June, 2005 were received and agreed subject to them being amended to indicate that Mr. S. Radford attended as a NASUWT representative.

**3. TERMS OF REFERENCE/REMIT OF THIS COMMITTEE**

Discussion took place on the content of the Membership, Constitution and Terms of Reference for this Committee as drawn up in 1992.

It was accepted that they needed to be updated in accordance with the comments made e.g.

- include UNISON and GMB representatives
- clarify Council representation and that of Teacher Unions
- policy issues which have an impact on schools to be discussed by this Committee prior to them being submitted to school governing bodies
- highlight that this Committee is a forum for matters to be raised and discussed

Agreed:- That the Clerk to the Committee update the Membership, Constitution and Terms of Reference for this Committee on the lines as discussed.

**4. WORKFORCE REMODELLING – UPDATE**

The meeting was informed that good progress was being made on Workforce Remodelling although there were some outstanding issues.

The majority of schools were at full implementation stage.

The Teacher Unions made reference to the information mechanism in that school governors, for example, should also receive information on the remodelling situation in addition to Head Teachers.

This led to a discussion on work/life balance issues in relation to Workforce Remodelling.

Agreed:- That the information be received.

**5. POTENTIAL IMPACT ON WORKFORCE REFORM OF THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT AGENDA**

The Teacher Unions raised various concerns relating to schools in either an Ofsted category or of concern to the Local authority, including the need for more support particularly as there was great pressure on staff in these schools, leadership/management issues and the impact on work/life balance for staff.

The extent of support given to the schools was outlined, and being focussed on the issues deemed to contribute to the school being classed as failing.

It was acknowledged that some schools had to undertake intensive work as there were problems which affected the quality of education and achievements of pupils.

Pupils in under achieving schools were vulnerable and required support as part of the school improvement agenda particularly for those pupils due to leave schools.

The Teacher Unions felt that the impact of the Workforce Reform had implications for quality of education provided in schools and the situation locally required close monitoring.

Agreed:- That the situation be noted.

**6. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICES – UPDATE**

Catherine Kinsella informed the meeting of work being undertaken in respect of Audit of Need and the Vision for Children and Young People’s Services.

A Single Plan was in the process of being drawn up, the structure for Children and young People's Services having been agreed.

There were also elements in the Local Area Agreement for Children and Young People's Services.

Agreed:- That the update be received.

**7. BUDGET 2006/07**

Graham Sinclair reported that no specific information was yet available in respect of the 2006/07 budget, and went on to outline the situation in respect of budget implications for small primary schools.

The suggested changes to the school funding formula for 2006/07 did not include proposals directly relating to small schools. Graham Sinclair gave details of the number of schools supported and their sizes in 2005/06. The information suggested that the issue was with, primary schools affected by falling rolls rather than their size. The formula for protecting such schools was outlined with further consideration being given to the formula over the next two years.

The Trade Unions made reference to difficulties for falling rolls at village schools and their greater problems with redeployment of staff.

Agreed:- That the report be received.

**8. PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE – UPDATE**

Graham Sinclair gave an update on the situation in respect of PFI Schools.

The concerns of the Trade Unions related to frustrating issues such as "snagging" items and delays in attending to them.

Reference was also made to the physical size of some areas (small) and poor quality of some fittings.

It was acknowledged that if it was a matter of balance/cost, if corridors for example were made wider then classrooms may have to be smaller in area.

Reference was also made to the situation whereby caretakers were not allowed to undertake certain jobs, of a minor nature, and this was to be raised at appropriate meetings.

Agreed:- That the situation be noted.

**9. BULLYING AND HARASSMENT AT WORK – POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

Paul Fitzpatrick reported that the Authority's generic policy had been adopted for schools.

The Trade Union representatives requested sight of this document.

**10. DATES AND TIMES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Agreed:- (1) That the next meeting be arranged in January 2006 when budget information for 2006/07 was available.

(2) That the next meeting also include Union Learning Representatives on the agenda.

(3) That the next meetings of this Committee take place on Thursdays (at 1.30 p.m. for 2.00 p.m.) on the following dates :-

January 2006 (Date to be finalised)

9th March 2006

22nd June 2006

26th October 2006



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>  <b>Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Members and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13th December 2005</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Budget Monitoring Report as at October 2005 (All Wards)</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

This is the fourth Budget Monitoring Report for Children and Young People’s Services in 2005/06. It is the first separate report, reflecting the organisational change that resulted in the formal cessation of the Education, Culture and Leisure Services Programme Area and the creation of the Children and Young People’s Services Programme Area on 1st October 2005.

The current forecast is to overspend against budget for the financial year by £35k.

A detailed variance analysis is included in the attached appendices.

### **6. Recommendations**

**Members are asked to note the forecast outturn for 2005/06 based on actual costs to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 and forecast costs to the end of March 2006.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

The Education element within Children and Young People's Services is currently forecasting an overall overspend of £35k.

This relates to additional costs in Young People's Services resulting from the JNC Pay increase exceeding the budgeted level of inflation (£35k) and loss of income resulting from the delayed re-opening of Longdendale Outdoor Activity Centre following fire damage (68k). These cost pressures are partially offset by staff slippage and the Pupil Referral Units not operating at full capacity.

Work is ongoing to identify cost savings and potential new income streams to bring this forecast spend in line with budget.

## **8. Finance**

The current forecast as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 is for Education Services to overspend the budget by £35k.

## **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.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The forecast outturn as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 shows an overspend (£35k) compared to the Programme Area and Corporate financial plan for 2005/06.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

This report has been discussed with the Senior Executive Director of Children and Young People's Services and the Acting Executive Director of Finance.

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

Service (& Division of Service)	Expenditure		Income		Variance £	Reasons/Implications
	Budget £	Proj'd out turn £	Budget £	Proj'd out turn £		
Education Services:						
Individual Schools Budget	285,973,838	285,973,838	(157,916,159)	(157,916,159)	0	
Strategic Management	8,690,505	8,672,505	(533,380)	(533,380)	0	Staff slippage
School Improvement	1,452,840	1,452,840	(65,583)	(65,583)	0	
Special Education Provision	7,676,273	7,626,273	(1,102,842)	(1,102,842)	0	Staff slippage. PRU's not running at full capacity.
Access to Education	2,945,454	2,945,454	(216,951)	(216,951)	0	
Specific Grant Support	5,992,178	5,992,178	(1,008,644)	(1,008,644)	0	
Non-Schools Funding	3,262,360	3,262,360	(81,658)	(81,658)	0	
Delegated Services	5,816,575	5,816,575	(6,571,806)	(6,571,806)	0	
Youth and Community	3,274,168	3,309,168	(679,690)	(611,690)	68,000	Additional salary costs resulting from JNC Pay Review and reduced income resulting from the delay in re-opening Longendale Outdoor Activity Centre following fire damage.
<b>Total Education Services</b>	<b>325,084,191</b>	<b>325,051,191</b>	<b>(168,176,713)</b>	<b>(168,108,713)</b>	<b>68,000</b>	
Children and Young People's Services (Development)						
Strategic Management	687,263	687,263	(51,931)	(51,931)	0	
<b>Total Children and Young People's Services (Development)</b>	<b>687,263</b>	<b>687,263</b>	<b>(51,931)</b>	<b>(51,931)</b>	<b>0</b>	
	<b>325,771,454</b>	<b>325,738,454</b>	<b>(168,228,644)</b>	<b>(168,160,644)</b>	<b>68,000</b>	

(& Division of Service	Service	Proj'd Variance		RAG Status		Actions Proposed and Intended Impact	Revised RAG Status	
		NET £		Financial	Performance		Financial	Performance
<u>Education, Culture and Leisure Services</u>								
<u>Education Services:</u>								
	Individual Schools Budget Strategic Management	0	(18,000)			Underspend to be used to offset pressures elsewhere in the P.A.		Green
	School Improvement Special Education Provision	0	(50,000)			Underspend to be used to offset pressures elsewhere in the P.A.		Green
	Access to Education	0						
	Specific Grant Support Non-Schools Funding	0						
	Delegated Services	0						
	Youth and Community	103,000				Exercise commenced to identify savings that can be made and to maximise income during 2005-6 to bring expenditure back in line with budget		Amber
	<b>Total Education Services</b>		<b>35,000</b>					
<u>Children and Young People's Services (Development)</u>								
	Strategic Management	0						
	<b>Total Children and Young People's Services (Development)</b>		<b>0</b>					
			<b>35,000</b>					

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisors</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13th December 2005</b>
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<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

This is the fourth Budget Monitoring Report for Culture and Leisure Services in 2005/06. It is the first separate report for the service, reflecting the organisational change that resulted in the formal cessation of the Education, Culture and Leisure Services Programme Area and the creation of the Children and Young People's Services Programme Area on 1st October 2005.

The current forecast is to overspend against budget for the financial year by £550k (4.8%).

A detailed variance analysis is included in the attached appendices.

### **6. Recommendations**

**Members are asked to note the forecast outturn for 2005/06 based on actual costs to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 and forecast costs to the end of March 2006.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

The current forecast is an overspend of £550k for the financial year 2005/06. This predominantly relates to continued pressure on sport and recreational facility budgets, as experienced in previous years. (£454k).

Culture and Heritage services are forecasting an overspend of £146k. This relates to additional costs at the Museum and Museum Store, and to a shortfall in income due to a loss of room hire income at the Arts Centre due to the utilisation of the room as a call centre.

These overspends are offset by a forecast saving on the Library Service budget (£50k).

Management actions to bring the forecast overspend closer to budget include:

- re-examining the infrastructure investment in ICT in libraries;
- restructuring of staffing arrangements across the service;
- reviewing and refining the resource purchasing in libraries;
- an ongoing appraisal of income levels generated in all areas of the Culture & Leisure Service;
- continuing to hold posts vacant where possible, and
- a general 'no spend' policy whilst ensuring that this in no way impacts on health and safety considerations

Options for addressing the forecast level of overspend for 2005/06 and into the future are being compiled by managers within the service with support from Corporate Finance with the aim of creating a medium term plan to ensure the sustainability of the Service into the future from within available resources. Options will be submitted for Elected Member consideration.

## **8. Finance**

The current forecast as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 is for Culture and Leisure Services to overspend the budget by £550k.

## **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.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The forecast outturn as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2005 shows an overspend (£550k) compared to the Programme Area and Corporate financial plan for 2005/06.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

This report has been discussed with the Strategic Leader, Culture, Leisure and Lifelong Learning and the Acting Executive Director of Finance.

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

Service (& Division of Service)	Expenditure		Income		Reasons/Implications
	Budget £	Proj'd out turn £	Budget £	Proj'd out turn £	
Culture and Leisure Services:					
Culture and Heritage	1,205,540	1,301,540	(419,850)	(369,850)	50,000
Recreation and Sport	7,730,370	8,184,370	(2,660,370)	(2,660,370)	0
Tourism	105,160	105,160	0	0	0
Library Service	2,109,945	2,059,945	(127,860)	(127,860)	0
Overheads	3,556,340	3,556,340	(87,055)	(87,055)	0
<b>Total Culture and Leisure Services</b>	<b>14,707,355</b>	<b>15,207,355</b>	<b>(3,295,135)</b>	<b>(3,245,135)</b>	<b>50,000</b>

Additional costs relating to museum store (£50k), records management (£10k) and staff costs at museum (£36k).  
Shortfall in room hire income at Arts Centre (£50k) due to utilisation of room as a call centre.  
Pressure on Sport and Recreation facility budgets  
Bibliomondo system to be funded via Corporate ICT fund



(& Division of Service	Service	Proj'd Variance		RAG Status		Actions Proposed and Intended Impact		Revised RAG Status	
		NET £		Financial	Performance	Financial	Performance		
<u>Culture and Leisure Services:</u>									
Culture and Heritage		146,000	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		454,000	Red			Five-year plan being developed, to be discussed by Chief Executive and Acting Executive Director of Finance in Sept 2005.	Red		
Tourism Library Service		0 (50,000)	Green Green			Working to identify further possible savings to contribute to offsetting anticipated overspend in the CLLL service	Amber		
Overheads		0							
<b>Total Culture and Leisure Services</b>		<b>550,000</b>							

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – MEMBERS REPORT</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure</b>  <b>Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13th December 2005</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>School Balances and Planned Use</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Service</b>

## **5. Summary**

This report advises of the level of School Balances as at the end of March 2005 and how the level of balances compares with previous years, and how the 55 Rotherham Schools with surplus balances in excess of 5% at the end of 2004/2005 intend to use these balances.

The number of schools with surplus balances in excess of 5% has reduced from 63 as at the end of 2003/04 to 55 as at the end of 2004/05.

This report also contains comparative school balances information with other regional authorities who have shared their information through the Regional LMS Officers Group.

## **6. Recommendations**

- 6.1 That the levels and planned use of balances be noted;**
- 6.2 That the comparisons with regional Authority school balances be noted;**
- 6.3 That the Schools Finance Team continue to work closely with those schools needing support to develop their financial management skills;**
- 6.4 That officers meet with the Head and Chair of Governors of the 3 schools with balances in excess of 5% who failed to submit their return to discuss the proposed use of their balances.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

Appendix 1 shows the movement in School Balances by phase as a percentage of delegated budget.

Appendix 2 shows an analysis of school balances including details of the highest and lowest levels of balances by school phase.

Appendices 3 and 3a show how the schools with surplus balances in excess of 5% have advised they plan to utilise these balances.

Appendices 4 – 4d show levels of school balances in total and by phase compared with regional Authorities.

It should be noted that combined balances (delegated budget plus money invested in 'declared savings') of £4,704,104 as at the end of 2004/05, was slightly lower (£3,246) than the school balances at the end of 2003/04. To provide a like-for-like comparison the Early Excellence Centres should also be removed from the comparison as 2004/05 was their first year of operating as schools with fully delegated budgets. Adjusting for this anomaly would reduce the balances as at 31/03/05 to £4,505,646; a £137,474 (3%) reduction on 2003/04 balances.

Rotherham Primary School balances have reduced from 5.3% to 4.6% of delegated budgets from 2003/04 to 2004/05.

Rotherham Secondary School balances increased from 1.2% to 1.4% of delegated budgets from 2003/04 to 2004/05.

Rotherham Special School balances have reduced from 9.9% to 7.4% of delegated budgets from 2003/04 to 2004/05.

Overall balances have reduced from 3.5% to 3.3% of delegated budgets from 2003/04 to 2004/05. (Or to 3.2% if adjusted to exclude Early Excellence Centre balances).

Overall balances per pupil (excluding Early Excellence Centres)

<b>Sector</b>	<b>2004/05</b>	<b>2003/04</b>	<b>Change</b>
Primary	£122	£133	-£11
Secondary	£60	£42	+£18
Special	£858	£1,060	-£202
<b>Total</b>	<b>£112</b>	<b>£108</b>	<b>+£4</b>

## 8. Finance

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Failure to challenge schools constructively on the planned use of their balances would be to abdicate a key role of the Council. Such challenge also facilitates the identification of schools in greatest need of support to improve their financial management skills.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Appropriate use of funds supports the raising of attainment levels within Rotherham schools.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Education, Culture and Leisure Services Outturn Report 2003/04 (Cabinet Member and Advisors ~ 29/6/04)

School balances information submitted to the LEA from Rotherham Schools and from some other Regional Authorities.

**Contact Name: Pete Hudson, Strategic Finance Officer, ext 2550.**  
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## APPENDIX 1

**MOVEMENTS IN SCHOOLS DELEGATED BUDGETS AND DECLARED SAVINGS  
BALANCES 2004/05 TO 2005/06****Delegated Budget**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Bal B/F to 2004/05 £</b>	<b>In-Year Change £</b>	<b>Bal C/F to 2005/06 £</b>	<b>% Change £</b>
Primary Schools	1,825,974	-55,650	1,770,324	-3.0%
Secondary Schools	670,977	35,650	706,627	5.3%
Special Schools	540,615	-85,016	455,599	-15.7%
Early Excellence Centres	64,231	113,799	178,030	177.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,101,797</b>	<b>8,783</b>	<b>3,110,580</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

**Declared Savings**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Bal B/F to 2004/05 £</b>	<b>In-Year Change £</b>	<b>Bal C/F to 2005/06 £</b>	<b>% Change £</b>
Primary Schools	1,296,264	-220,606	1,075,658	-17.0%
Secondary Schools	113,842	205,754	319,596	180.7%
Special Schools	195,448	-17,606	177,842	-9.0%
Early Excellence Centres	0	20,429	20,429	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,605,554</b>	<b>-12,029</b>	<b>1,593,525</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>

**Combined Overall Balances**

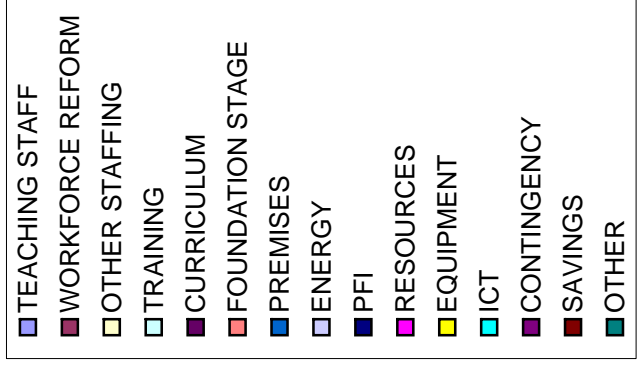
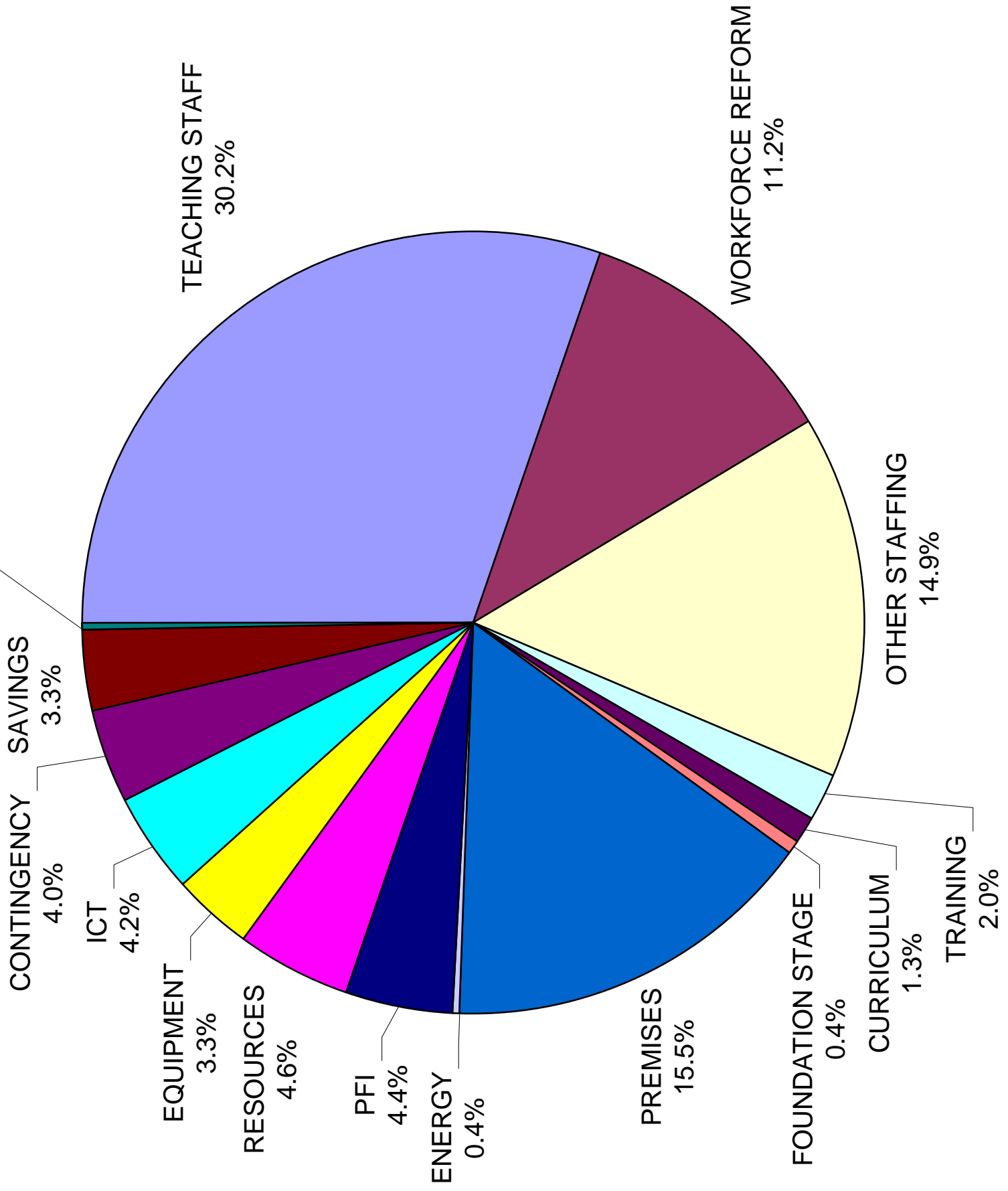
<b>Sector</b>	<b>Bal B/F to 2004/05 £</b>	<b>In-Year Change £</b>	<b>Bal C/F to 2005/06 £</b>	<b>% Change £</b>
Primary Schools	3,122,238	-276,256	2,845,982	-8.8%
Secondary Schools	784,819	241,404	1,026,223	30.8%
Special Schools	736,063	-102,622	633,441	-13.9%
Early Excellence Centres	64,231	134,228	198,459	209.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,707,351</b>	<b>-3,246</b>	<b>4,704,105</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>

**OUTTURN BALANCES 2004/05****Appendix 2****Analysis of No. Schools by % balance**

<b>% Balance (of delegated budget)</b>	<b>Early Excellence</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>	<b>% of Total Schools</b>
>15.0%	1	1	1	1	3%
10.1 - 15.0%	2	8		2	9%
7.6 - 10%		15			11%
5.0 - 7.5%		22	2	2	20%
0 - 4.9%		51	9	1	46%
(0.1%) – (5.0%)		9	4		10%
> (5.0%)				1	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Highest and Lowest School Balances by Phase**

<b>School Phase</b>	<b>Highest Balance</b>		<b>Lowest (Deficit) Balance</b>	
	<b>£</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>%</b>
Early Excellence	86,290	18.7	50,508	10.6
Primary	114,875	16.2	(33,049)	(3.4)
Secondary	374,373	15.1	(252,191)	(4.0)
Special	298,612	21.1	(95,862)	(6.9)



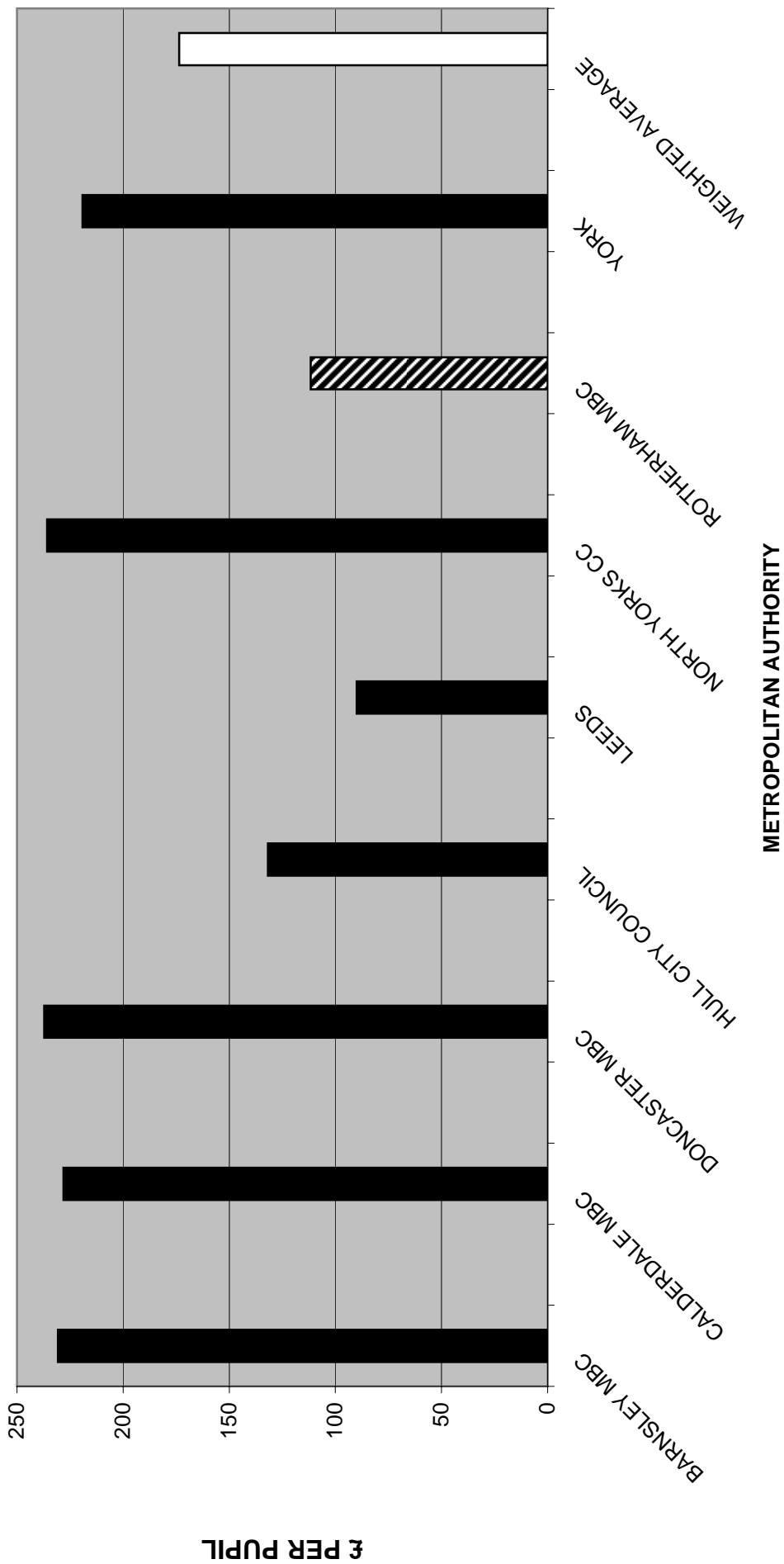
Schools	Combined Balance %	Teaching Staff	Workforce Reform	Other Staffing	Training	Curriculum	Foundation	Premises	Energy	PFI	Resources	Equipment	ICT	Contingency	Savings	Other	Total
<b>Infant Schools</b>																	
Maltby Crags Infants	11.8											60,370			13,807		74,177
Badsley Moor Infant	11.1	10,000	5,000	15,000		6,000		10,000			6,000		1,000	4,341	25,465		82,806
Anston Park Infant	8.0	7,000	5,000	4,271	1,400			2,500	5,000		20,000						45,171
Sitwell Infants	6.9			40,918													40,918
<b>Junior Schools</b>																	
High Greave Junior	16.2	42,067	40,449	26,966				5,393									114,875
Walth Central Junior	11.0	4,675	10,000	14,808						30,000			15,000			217	74,483
Swinton Fitzwilliam Junior	8.6	20,000		19,346									1,265				40,828
Badsley Moor Junior	8.5	57,257													18,435		75,692
Thurcroft Junior	8.5	63,680															63,680
Maltby Lily Hall Junior	8.0	6,000		1,000				7,400			3,200		21,342	5,000			43,942
<b>Primary</b>																	
Bramley Grange Primary	12.8	20,000	54,000	3,613										24,177			101,790
Canklow Woods	11.1	32,322	10,000			12,533		2,000			10,000						66,855
<i>Todwick J &amp; I</i>	10.2																48,798
Rawmarsh Ryecroft Infant	10.1	9,500	3,500	7,500							20,898						41,398
Wentworth CE J&I	9.8	3,000	3,000	4,000				12,971			5,943		4,000		2,500	1,000	33,914
Wickersley Northfield Primary	9.8			12,500				66,608			15,000		15,000	659		25,412	112,267
Swinton Queen	9.3	22,640	18,453														66,505
Laughton J&I	9.2	38,223															38,223
Woodseats J&I	8.5		31,236	1,500							4,180		7,569		743		45,228
<i>St. Mary's Herringthorpe J &amp; I</i>	8.4																43,551
Aughton Primary	8.1			4,000		3,300					13,717			15,988			37,005
Aston Hall	7.9	21,079	17,023													1,000	39,102
Aston Fence	7.8		30,086														30,086
Anston Hillcrest	7.7	5,000	5,000														54,644
Coleridge Primary	7.4	12,742	10,000	10,000									13,181				45,923
Harthill Primary	7.4	3,500	10,000	10,000													31,999
Maltby Hall Infants	7.3	20,000		15,000			5,481	1,400			3,382			3,717			40,481
Dalton Listerdale	7.0																38,846
Rawmarsh Thorogate	7.0		4,500	6,299			4,000	17,500					1,848	7,500			41,647
Aston Springwood	6.9	5,297									5,000			20,000	6,246		36,543
Thrybergh Fullerton CE Primary	6.5	10,769							9,325								20,094
Flanderwell Primary	6.5		32,742														32,742
Redscope Primary*	(Infant 6.1%, Junior 6.5%)	36,500		28,903												5,000	70,403
<i>Whiston J &amp; I</i>	6.4														17,198		30,828
Blackburn Primary	6.1	52,218		10,000		4,000	6,000										52,218
Swallownest Primary	5.5	10,182															30,182
Thrybergh St Gerards	5.5										7,071			14,659			21,730
Trinity Croft	5.4	17,996															17,996
Dinnington Primary	5.4	20,000	12,000	3,457		10,000											45,457
Greasborough J&I	5.3	13,783	3,589	7,998										10,913			36,283
Ravenfield Primary	5.1	6,220	15,500	1,180									1,000			1,000	24,900
<b>Voluntary Primary</b>																	
Brampton Ellis Cofe Infant	8.8		10,000					10,000			4,214		10,000				34,214
Brampton Ellis Cofe Junior	5.7	16,500		600				6,000						10,932			34,032
Rawmarsh St Mary's CE Primary	5.3	17,668												683			18,351
Laughton Cofe	5.2			13,492													13,492
<b>Secondary Schools (without 6th Forms)</b>																	
Thrybergh Comprehensive	15.1	139,373		90,000		10,000				130,000		5,000					374,373
Pope Pius	6.3	10,161		75,236				71,000									156,397
Rawmarsh School A Sports College	6.0	100,119		47,294				81,322								1,818	230,553
<b>Special</b>																	
Abbey	21.1	93,000						121,635									298,612
Green Arbour	11.5	45,747	33,474	5,906	40,000							55,699					150,079
Newman	10.9			13,441	30,000			30,000									119,188
Whiston Grange	6.4	10,000	5,000	6,000							9,860						39,819
<b>Nursery</b>																	
Aughton Early Years	18.7			31,000				50,000						5,290			86,290
Rawmarsh Nursery	12.9							61,661									61,661
Arnold Centre	10.6	50,508															50,508

\*schools merged from 1.4.05

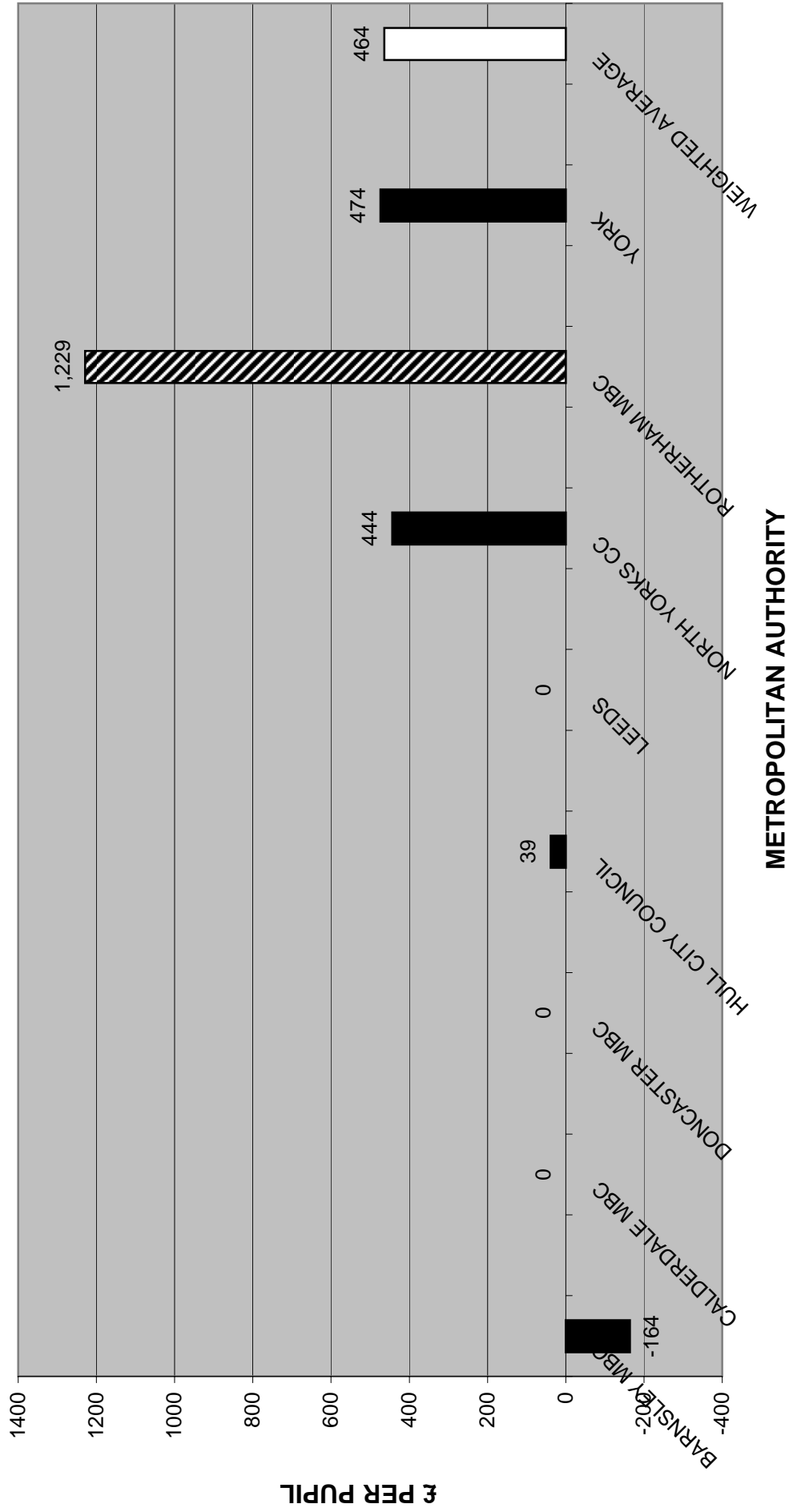
*Italicised schools are those failing to provide the requested return*



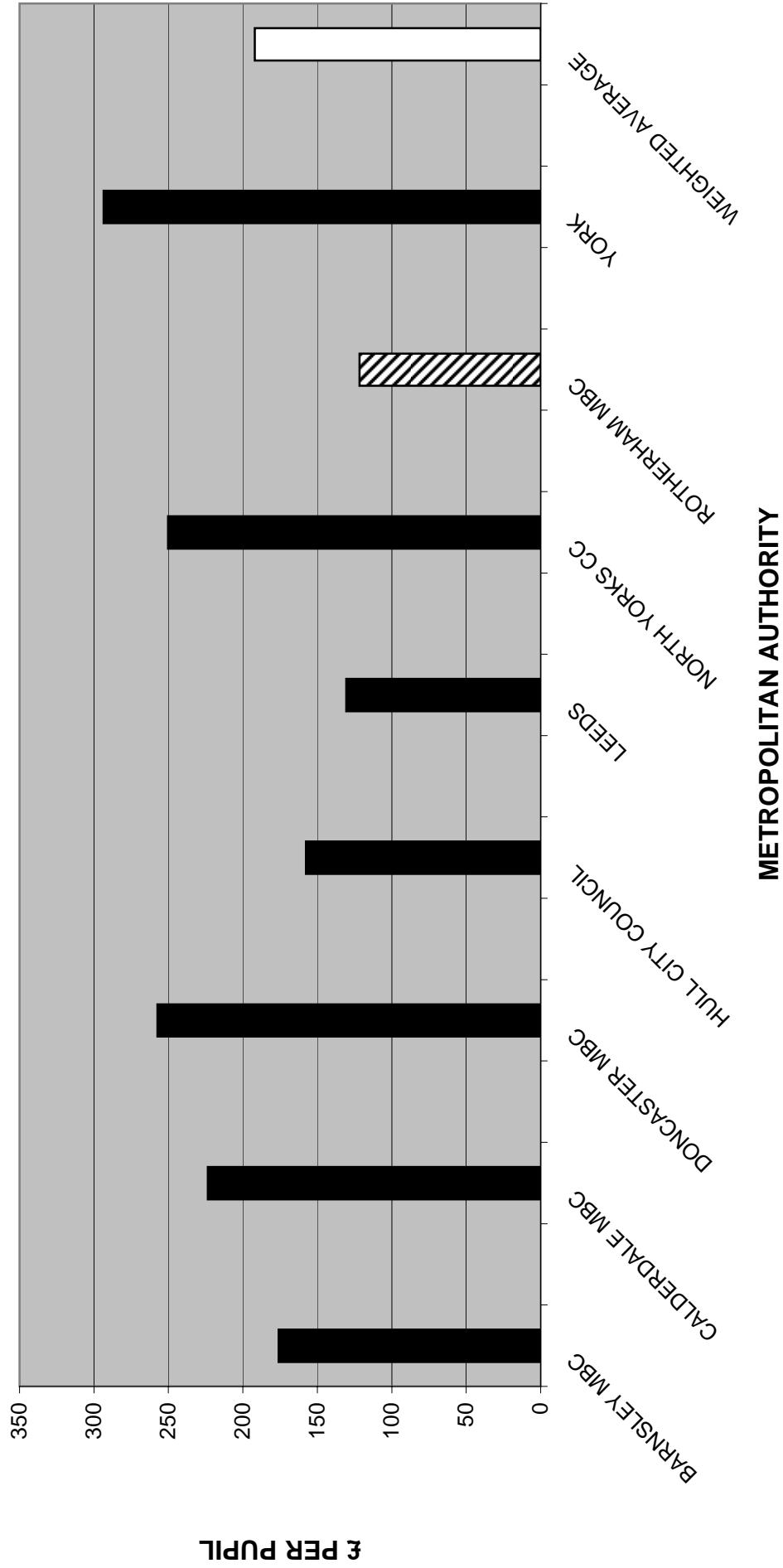
**METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES TOTAL BALANCES COMPARISON PER PUPIL**



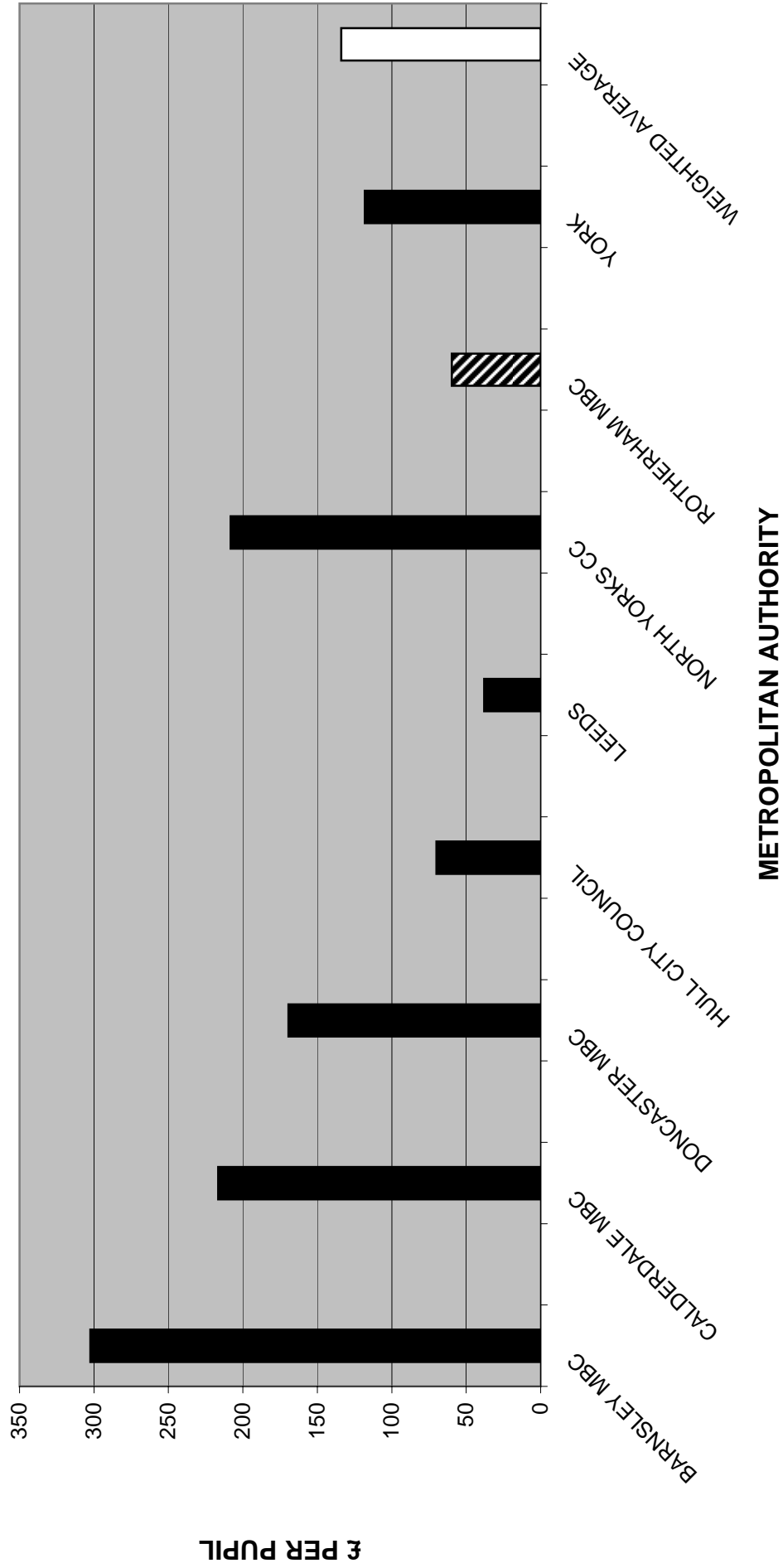
**NURSERY/EARLY EXCELLENCE CENTRES COMPARISON OF BALANCES PER PUPIL**



**PRIMARY COMPARISON OF BALANCES PER PUPIL**

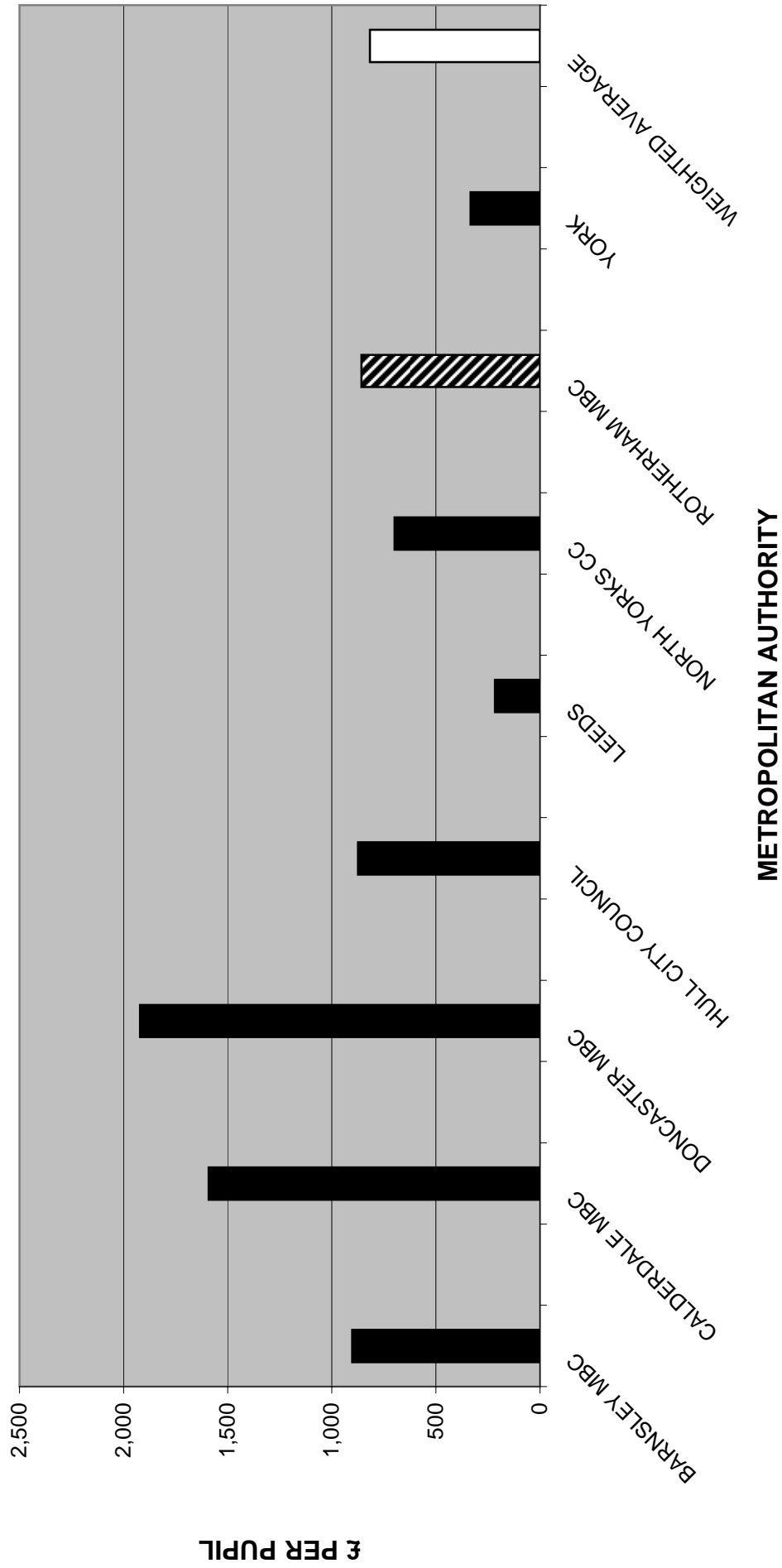


### SECONDARY SCHOOLS COMPARISON OF BALANCES PER PUPIL



METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

**SPECIAL SCHOOLS COMPARISON OF BALANCES PER PUPIL**



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2005</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Permission to suspend Standing Order 44 from Contract Standing Order</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

The purpose of this report is to seek Member approval to suspend Standing Order 44, which will permit exemption from normal contract standing orders to allow purchase of 'Scran', an image based resource for all schools within the LA, given the unique nature of the product and its suitability for our schools.

### **6. Recommendation**

- i. Members are asked to receive the report**
- ii. To approve the suspension of Standing Order 44 to enable a contract to be established with 'Scran' as a consequence of the circumstances outlined above.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

This report seeks the approval of the Cabinet Member and Advisers to suspend Standing Order 44, before the Authority proceeds with its intention to engage with the supplier, Scran Ltd.

The service will provide a secure and safe resource of images, monitored and maintained by the company to serve educational establishments overriding the need to use visual search engines such as Google Images which provide material that is not appropriate for use by students.

Scran provides many unique elements to its service. Firstly, through the product we are able to access resources that are not publicly available from many of the contributing organisations and for this reason; they can only be viewed through accessing the service. Its focus is upon the delivery of images in a variety of packages that are curriculum related and not simply in subject groups as with other products. It is a resource that can be accessed through single point identification and will not require the use of user name and password, either in schools by pupils and staff or by members of the LA School Improvement Service in identified centres. Some of the images provided through Scran are available in other locations but Scran provides a single source of access as well as having addressed the issues of copyright and access permissions. Through this centralisation of the resources it provides effective and safe searching for images. It also provides a unique range of development tools including publishing and organisation for both learners and teachers.

There will also be the opportunity for developing local content, in partnership with the Libraries and Archive Service. This content will be hosted and accessible to schools through the Scran portal.

## **8. Finance**

The cost for all schools and approved LA centres including teacher centres is approximately £35,000 providing access to the content for 2 years. These costs will be met through the 2005/06 Standards Fund grant.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

With schools making a growing amount of use of the Internet through the implementation of the Rotherham Grid for Learning (RGfL) issues of student safety and security are paramount. To this end, to ensure pupils are not exposed to inappropriate images the decision was made through the RGfL steering group that all visual image search engines should be added to the filter list and as such access would be restricted. Due to this decision, schools find the identification of appropriate, high quality curriculum related images more difficult but understand the rationale.

Since this decision, the Curriculum ICT team has searched for ways to support schools search for and use images via the internet in a secure and efficient manner. Scran was identified as the most appropriate provider of this service.

Subscription to other possible providers may still allow access to unsuitable images as many of these do not provide curriculum focused materials. It will also motivate pupils to find ways of accessing material that is inappropriate by searching for sites that provide these or even attempt to breach the security of the network via 'Hacking'.

### **10. Policy and Performance Implications**

Content will be accessible for pupils and teachers to support learning and teaching and thereby increase standards and provision.

### **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

This proposal and report has been discussed with Bob Toms, Principal Advisor (Performance and Review)

**Contact name:** Pete Hudson, Strategic Finance Officer, Ext. 2250  
peter.hudson@rotherham.gov.uk



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	Children and Young People's Services Cabinet Member Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	13th December, 2005
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	Half Yearly Report on Complaints
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	Children and Young People's Service

**5. Summary**

The appended report gives details of complaints related to the Children and Young People's Service for the first half of 2005/6 (April to September).

The report merges information from both Social Services and Education.

An annual report will be brought to Members for the whole of 2005/6, in April 2006.

**6. Recommendations**

**That Members receive the report.**

**7. Proposals and Details**

The report details complaints at all stages of the procedure and the main focus is on the recommendations made and improvements to policies or procedures connected to service delivery.

Both Education and Social Services operate statutory complaints procedures. As the services merge into Children and Young People's Services we are undertaking work to review the processes and procedures. This review will aim to make improvements to the cost, quality and timescale dimensions of investigations so that Service Users receive an improved service.

**8. Finance**

Children's complaints covered by Social Services' legislation dictate that at Stage 2 investigation, an independent person must be appointed alongside the Investigating Officer. This impacts on the cost of complaints investigations and this element will be part of the review referred to in the previous section.

**9. Risks and Uncertainties**

C.S.C.I. consultation papers were released in 2004 regarding complaints and at this stage no conclusions have been made in relation to revised procedures. Any revision to statutory procedures will be taken into account in our internal review.

**10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Service assessments and inspections/reviews take account of the complaints made and the resultant learning/changes to provision.

**11. Background Papers and Consultation**

C.S.C.I. Consultation Document.

**Contact Name :** Adam Hurst, Complaints Manager, Adult Social Services,  
Extension 3937, adam.hurst@rotherham.gov.uk

Rebecca Lunghi, Performance and Quality Officer, Children and  
Young People's Services, Extension 2524,  
rebecca.lunghi@rotherham.gov.uk

## Complaints Unit Half Yearly Report (Children and Young People). April 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2005.

### Introduction

This report covers the activity of the Complaints Unit in dealing with complaints about Social Services and Education complaints related to the Children and Young People Service from 1/4/05 to 30/09/05 and comparing information with information for the same period in 2004. The report will focus on the nature and outcomes of complaints, the recommendations made and resulting changes in practice.

### 1. Summary of Stage 1 Complaints

Ninety people registered 176 complaints at Stage 1 during the period covered by the report. This compares with 44 people making 101 complaints at Stage 1 in 2004. This years figures include 4 people raising 4 complaints in ECALS. The details for Social Services are outlined in Table 1. Because the legislation and procedures for ECALS are different from Social Services, separate figures for these complaints are detailed in Table 4.

#### TABLE 1

##### Stage 1 Complaints Summary

	<b>Single Complaint</b>	<b>1-3 Complaints</b>	<b>More than 3 Complaints</b>
<b>No of People Complaining</b>	47 (22)	28 (23)	11* (5)

\* Fifty nine complaints were made by this group which accounts for over one in three of all complaints received.

- Figures in brackets represent figures for 2004 and do not include complaints relating to ECALS

#### TABLE 2

##### Resolution of Complaints at Stage 1

<b>No of ongoing complaints from 2004/5 as at 1/4/05</b>	<b>No of New Complainants registering complaints between 1/4/05 and 30/09/05</b>	<b>Resolved within 15 days</b>	<b>Resolved 15 – 30 days</b>	<b>Resolved 30 - 60 days</b>	<b>Resolved after 60 days</b>	<b>Awaiting resolution</b>
17	86 (44)	37 (17)	13 (8)	15(5)	5 (4)	16 (10)

- Figures in brackets represent figures for 2004 and do not include complaints relating to ECALS

##### Satisfaction at Stage 1

The aim of Stage 1 of the Social Services Complaints Process is to try and resolve issues informally. Therefore statistics are not kept on whether individual complaints are upheld or not. Satisfaction letters were sent to all complainants who had their complaint responded to under Stage 1.

**TABLE 3**Social Services Stage 1 Complaints

Satisfied with outcome	Not Satisfied (Not taken further)	Not Satisfied (Taken to Stage 2)	Not responded	Complaint awaiting resolution	Satisfied with how Complaint Dealt With	Not Satisfied with How Complaint was Dealt With
39 (24)	16 (Figure not available)	6 (2)	10 (12)	15	3 (3)	1(0)

Eighty per cent of people who had their complaints dealt with in the period responded to the Satisfaction letter sent by the Complaints Unit. Of the respondents 64% were satisfied with the outcome of their complaint and only 7% of Stage 1 complaints progressed to Stage 2.

The process for dealing with complaints in ECALS is different and complaints may or may not be upheld. Details for ECALS are outlined below.

**TABLE 4**ECALS Stage 1 Complaints 01/04/05 -30/09/05

Category	Establishment	Details	No. of Complaints	Upheld	Action Taken
<b>Action of Staff</b>	Inclusion	Content of letter received from service, taken as offensive [Ref: 1391]	1	No	Letter and background investigated, misunderstandings arose, complainant informed of outcome
<b>Delay in Service</b>	Inclusion	Delay in Education Psychology report production [Ref: 1190]	1	No	Classroom observance required prior to completion of report, timescales met
<b>Lack of Service</b>	Inclusion	Request for Statement of SEN [Ref: 1204]	1	Yes	Assessment carried out, Statement of SEN issued 15.8.05
<b>Other</b>	Inclusion	Proposed placement of pupil with SEN [Ref: 1369]	1	n/a	Ongoing – suitable placements under consideration
<b>Total</b>				<b>4</b>	

Nature of Complaints (Social Services)

The increase in the number of people complaining compared to the same period in 2004 is however seen as a positive development because the authority is promoting the process. The work of the Children's Complaints Officer has been particularly successful in encouraging Children to make complaints.

Complaints were received about the following issues:-

- Quality of Service
- Refusal of Service
- Lack of Service
- Action of Residents in Local Authority Homes
- Neighbours (in Residential Care)
- Delay in Service
- Cost
- Discrimination
- Provision of Information (includes complaints from Foster Carers and Adoptive parents regarding lack of background information regarding the people they care for).
- Information (people not happy with information they see regarding them or the services affecting them).
- Complaints about Carers (usually relate to Foster Carers. For example one young person was not happy with the bed time that her Foster Carer insisted on)
- Confidentiality
- Partnership (these are about how services may be affected in cases where agencies do not communicate well with each other).

The most significant developments since 2004 have been increases in the number of complaints about:-

- lack of service 24 (10)
- Provision of Information 18 (5)

Ten of the complaints about lack of information came from 1 person and 11 complaints about Lack of Service were submitted by two people. Once the complaints of these three people have been accounted for, there was no significant increase in the proportion of complaints about these issues compared to the same period last year.

## **2. Summary of Stage 2 Complaints**

In Social Services 8 complainants made a total of 87 complaints (an average of 11 per complainant). During the same period last year 4 complainants made 30 complaints (an average of approximately 8 per complainant). No complaints were registered at Stage 2 in ECALS during this period.

Two complaints were registered directly at Stage 2. Six were registered after originally being registered at Stage 1. In four cases lack of response by services within timescales were the main reason given for progressing to Stage 2.

**TABLE 5**Stage 2 Complaints

<b>Nature of Complaint</b>	<b>Number of Complaints (1/4/05 -30/9/05)*</b>
<b>Number of Complainants</b>	<b>8 (4)</b>
Quality of Service	19 (11)
Refusal of Service	1 (0)
Lack of Service	5 (1)
Action of Residents	0 (0)
Action of Staff	30 (8)
Neighbours	0 (0)
Delay	5 (0)
Cost	1 (0)
Discrimination	2 (0)
Information	20 (0)
Carers	0 (0)
Cost	1 (0)
Confidentiality	0 (0)
Partnership	4 (7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>87 (31)</b>

Significant increases can be seen in the following areas:-

**Information:** Twenty Complaints were submitted by 3 people. Sixteen complaints were submitted by 4 people in response to information they had seen following requests to see their files under the Freedom of Information Act. Two people have had nine of these complaints adjudicated on of which 6 have been upheld, 2 have been partially upheld and 1 has been found to be inconclusive. In each of these cases the information contained in the files contributed to the decision of the Complainant to progress to stage 2. This is likely to have contributed to the increase in complaints registered at Stage 2 compared to this time last year. The remaining 4 complaints were about lack of information from Social Services submitted by 2 people. Of these two have been adjudicated on and not upheld.

**Action of Staff:** Two complainants made a total of 22 complaints about staff. One complainant has had 7 complaints responded to. Of these 4 complaints were not upheld, 2 were partially upheld with 1 being inconclusive. The other complainant has 15 complaints regarding staff, the outcome of which is still outstanding.

**Lack of Service:** Two people made 5 complaints regarding lack of service. Two of these complaints have been adjudicated on and partially upheld.

**Discrimination:** Two people made 1 complaint each regarding discrimination and the adjudication on these is still awaited

**TABLE 6**Timescales

Responded to within 28 days	Responded to within 90 days	Responded to within 180 days	Responded to after 180 days	Awaiting response	Outstanding
1		3 (1)	2 ( 1 plus 3 registered prior to April 2005)	2 (plus 4 registered before April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2005)	6 (2)

Three of the Stage 2 complaints registered in this period have been adjudicated on. Additionally five Adjudication meetings have been held for complaints registered last year. The details of the outcomes are detailed below:

**TABLE 7**Outcomes from Stage 2

Year	Completed	Upheld	Not Upheld	Part Upheld	Inconclusive	Withdrawn	Child Protection	Total*
2005	8 (4)	10 (13)	6 (3)	8 (4)	4 (1)	7 (0)	0 (0)	35 (21)

\*The outcomes do not tally with the numbers of complaints because not all complaints registered in one period will be adjudicated on in the same period.

**3. Service Improvements**

The aim of the Complaints process is to ensure customers have complaints dealt with fairly and efficiently, maintains quality standards, identify areas for service improvement and inform Service Planning.

Since April 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 there have been eight Adjudication meetings. As a result of these meetings a number of recommendations have been made to the Service Area and these are detailed below.

**TABLE 8**Service Improvements Resulting from Complaints

Recommendation	Action	Comments
Ensure a consistent Approach is adopted in determining Leaving Care Grants	Comprehensive policy on leaving Care Grants is in place	To reinforce with relevant managers the importance of implementing this policy. Ensure that these policies are applied.
Clarification of eligibility criteria for leaving care services	New archiving process has been implemented	Development of Electronic Social Care Records to ensure that improvements resulting from the new archiving process are maintained
Improvements to storage of Case records.	Passed to Adjudicating Officer	Awaiting confirmation of guidelines to team manager

Ensure a consistent approach is taken to all records regarding meetings attended by Service Users and Carers	Safe Guarding Manager to review the consistency of the policy in relation to Child Protection Conferences	Awaiting recommendations.
Clarify the roles of carers/relatives who attend meetings regarding service users.	Clarification of the boundaries regarding the information that can be shared with carers/relatives.	Memo circulated to staff clarifying the boundaries of information that can be shared with relatives
Ensure that Individual Needs and Wishes are at the centre of all decisions in cases of trans racial Foster Placements	Ensure that planning and assessment is based on individual need as opposed to policy guidelines	Fostering Policies and Procedures updated February 2005.
Prioritise training in Managing Diversity for all Social Workers supporting young people from non White or Mixed Race backgrounds	Discussed at Children Services Management Team in July.	Managing Diversity is now one of the priorities on the current Training Plan in Children and Family Services
Managers should assess the information currently available to potential applicants for a Residence Order Allowance.	Draft Policy completed and currently being assessed by Legal Services	Once final policy approved, a user friendly version to follow
That consideration is given to how foster carers informed and supported when they are under investigation.	Procedures reviewed.	Fostering Team Manager currently working on an Action Plan to update policies relating to Foster Carers.
The use of the Guidance document covering concerns about Foster Carers be reviewed and how it relates to other documents to be reviewed.	The document needs to be clearly publicised if it is to be used and that time scales are added as a matter of priority	Manager of Fostering team currently writing Action Plan reviewing policies relating to Foster Carers.

In 5 of the 8 Stage 2 complaints adjudicated on, problems relating to communication with customers were a major contribution to the complaints submitted. In two cases the Investigating Officer submitted additional reports to Senior Managers detailing concerns they had regarding communication and record keeping. This is consistent with complaints classed as relating to information. The meeting between the current Complaints Manager and the Head of Children and Family Services will examine how the issues raised in these separate reports should be addressed. Poor communication appears to be a major factor in preventing complaints being resolved informally.

#### **4. Stage 3 / Ombudsman**

One complainant has already taken their Stage 2 response to Panel and another three are awaiting dates. Three Complainants have registered their complaint with Ombudsman. In one case the Ombudsman is postponing their investigation until the results of the Stage Three Panel are known.



The Stage Three Panel made the following recommendations which were put in an action plan, submitted to Cabinet and then sent as an instruction to the Director of Social Services:-

- Residence Order Allowance policy and procedure to be made clear to all workers.
- Establish clear procedure to pay Residence Order Allowances directly through Bank accounts.
- Social Workers keep accurate case records. Memo to all Children 7 Families workers to emphasise this practice issue.

## **5. Conclusions**

- Although the number of Stage 2 complaints appear to have increased dramatically, only half of complaints were upheld or partially upheld. This compares to over eighty percent being upheld for the same period last year.
- The Freedom of Information Act appears to be encouraging more people to check their files. This has contributed to at least 4 people registering complaints at Stage 2 of the process. Another significant factor contributing to people registering complaints at Stage 2 appears to occur if Stage 1 complaints are not dealt with promptly. This occurred twice in Fostering, once in Adoption and once in one of the area teams.
- The time taken to complete Stage 2 investigations continues to be too long. A key target for the current year is to ensure that seventy five per cent of Stage 2 complaints are completed within three months and that ninety per cent are completed in Six months.
- Further work will also take place to tighten the follow up regarding whether recommendations resulting from Stage 2 complaints are being implemented. A programme of quarterly meetings will be arranged between designated Complaints Officer and Head of Children and Family Services to confirm how recommendations are being implemented.

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Customer Services and Innovation</b>  <b>Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>12th December 2005 and</b>  <b>13th December 2005</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Schools PFI Project Update: Autumn Term 2005</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Resources</b>

## 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 1st April 2004.

By December 2006, the project will provide:-

- New schools for Coleridge, Ferham, Kimberworth, Maltby Craggs Infant, Maltby Craggs Junior, Meadowhall and Thornhill Primaries; and Winterhill, Wingfield and Wath Secondaries.
- Part new build and refurbished schools at East Dene and Wath Central Primaries; and Clifton, Thrybergh and Wickersley Secondaries.
- Additionally, extended school use will be provided as follows:- 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.  
SureStart facilities at Ferham, Thornhill and Wingfield.  
Space for Sports and Arts facilities at Ferham.  
Children's Centres at Coleridge and Kimberworth.  
Clifton Project facilities at the Cranworth Road site..

## 6. Recommendations

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

## 7. Proposals and Details

### Construction

The following schools have been completed and reported previously:-

- Thornhill Primary and Young People's Centre.
- Ferham Centre including Primary School, SureStart and Space for Sports and Arts.
- Wath Comprehensive - A Language College.
- Maltby Craggs Junior School.
- Maltby Craggs Infant School.

The project continues to progress well with successful handovers in September 2005 as follows:-

- New secondary school at **Wingfield Comprehensive**.
- New block including hall, reception and offices at **Clifton Lower**, which now allows all the pupils to be accommodated on the Middle Lane site.
- New block including classrooms, hall and offices and refurbished/remodelled Central Block and Sports Centre at **Thrybergh Comprehensive**.
- New block including main school reception, classrooms, main hall and offices at **Wickersley Comprehensive**.
- **Wath Central Primary** kitchen and dining area.

Other significant moves in September 2005 were:-

- **East Dene** - The whole school moved into the Clifton Upper School building following adaptation during the Summer. This will allow their existing school to be renewed and remodelled in a safe and more efficient manner.
- **Coleridge** - Some pupils moved into temporary accommodation to allow partial demolition of the existing school to make space for the replacement school and Children's Centres to be built. The existing Family Support Team also moved into Clifton Upper School.

Construction is now underway at all remaining school sites and is summarised as follows:-

- **Clifton Upper/Cranworth Road site** - Refurbishment of the ADT block on target for completion in January 2006. The new build sports complex will start in March 2006 for completion in December 2006.
- **Winterhill** - The final phase is on target to complete by December 2005.
- **Wickersley** - The next phase is underway and the full school is on target for completion by September 2006.
- **Thrybergh** - Last phases of refurbishment work underway for completion in April 2006.
- **Coleridge Primary** - Due to uncharted asbestos in the existing building, the main building start has been delayed by approximately 7 weeks and will affect the opening date by approximately half a term, to October 2006.

- **East Dene Primary** - Started September 2005 and is due for completion for September 2006.
- **Meadowhall Primary** - Started July 2005 and due for completion for September 2006.
- **Kimberworth Primary** - Started September 2005 and due for completion for September 2006.
- **Wath Central Primary** - Started May 2005 and due for completion in April 2006.

There have been two major environmental incidents during September/October:-

- The old **Wingfield Comprehensive** building was set on fire by vandals on the night of 26th September, 2005, requiring evacuation of local residents for several hours. At the time, sixty percent of the original building had been demolished and the asbestos removal had been completed just days before. Thankfully, the new school building was not damaged and there was no disruption to the teaching of pupils.
- Site works at Clifton Lower have been suspended following major sewage ingress from outside the site. Eventually Yorkshire Water has cleared a blockage in a main sewer in an adjacent street and they are now being required to remove the contaminated ground.

### **Facilities Management**

Haden Building Management Ltd. has now provided services to the 17 schools within the PFI project for 20 months. The Helpdesk has received 419 calls in September and 334 in October 2005. This is a decrease of approximately 100 calls per month from 2004. It is likely that this reflects the increasing number of schools being completed and in full service.

In October, the Helpdesk recorded an average of 11 calls from each primary and an average of 32 calls for each secondary. 49% of calls related to the repair of the building fabric. This reflects the interim stage of the contract since all the unfinished schools are still maintained at the Council's cost until full service delivery and the full Unitary Charge is paid.

Service monitoring relies on a performance measurement system. When Haden has not complied with the fulfilment of key performance indicators, service deductions or unavailability deductions are made.

From September 2004 to September 2005, a total amount of around £58,600 was deducted by the Council for service faults and £4,900 for availability failures. Deductions are currently helping to fund Interim Services repair items and particularly vandalism costs.

An Audit Commission report on "The Contract and Performance Management of the Schools PFI Project" of September 2005 with an Action Plan to address the recommendations of the Inspectors was submitted to Customer Services and Innovation Cabinet Member on 7th November, 2005, and Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning on 1st November, 2005, and to the Audit Committee on the 16th November 2005.

The Action Plan has nine recommendations with agreed dates for implementation between September 2005 and January 2006 which will be met.

### **Building Learning Communities Ltd. ( BLCL)**

BLCL has responsibility for community provision, including the arrangements for lettings. Through the General Manager, the company has assumed full responsibility for lettings from September 2005. This has worked well with both schools and users getting used to a new system. One of the key aims of the project was to expand community use and it is hoped that the not for profit company can achieve this aim.

### **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 2004. 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**

Rotherham Schools PFI Project contributes significantly to all priorities in the Rotherham Community and Corporate Plans.

Rotherham Learning: The project supports all who are striving to fulfil their learning potential. This includes both pupils and the wider community.

Rotherham Achieving: The project supports up to 10,000 young people at any one time to lay the foundations for their economic success. It is a truly regenerative project.

Rotherham Alive: Both the buildings and their ongoing contract will contribute to cultural and leisure activities for schools and their local communities, Building Learning Communities Ltd. will ensure access for the community to these excellent opportunities.

Rotherham Safe: The project will always maintain safe, dry and warm building, where Rotherham people will feel both comfortable and challenged to fulfil their potential.

Rotherham Proud: The whole community will feel proud of these excellent and accessible buildings, contributing to the heart of the vision for the Council and the Local Strategic Partnership.

Sustainable Development: The project contributes to sustainable development by the provision of modern, energy efficient buildings, maintained to a clear output specification.

Fairness: All of the services within the buildings will give equality of opportunity to the schools local communities.

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Cabinet Member and Advisers, Education, Culture and Leisure Services, 30th September 2003, 16th March 2004, 6th July 2004, 14th December 2004, 22nd March 2005.

Cabinet Member for Lifelong Learning, 12th July 2005, 1st November 2005.

Lifelong Learning Opportunities Scrutiny Committee, 22nd March 2004, 26th July 2004, 21st December 2004, 21st March 2005.

Customer Services and Innovation Cabinet Member, 7th November 2005.

Audit Committee, 16th November 2005.

**Contact: Keith Thompson, Acting Head of Partnerships and Governance, Resources Tel. 01709 336536**

**and**

Graham Sinclair, Acting Head of Resources and Access, Children and Young People's Services Tel. 01709 822648

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> December 2005</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>New Primary School for Canklow Woods Ward 2 (Boston Castle) and Ward 11 (Rother Vale)</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Programme Area:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services</b>

**5. Summary:**

The Department for Education and Skills (DFES) recently announced the results of the 2006 Targeted Capital Fund (TCF) bids. The TCF provides capital funding for standards focused projects at LEA and VA schools which are not covered by other funding streams. Bids are assessed on how well they support the government's current priorities for school improvement and raising educational standards.

Rotherham were successful in securing Targeted Capital Funding of £2,363,200 for a replacement Primary School at Canklow Woods, but unsuccessful in a bid for the replacement of temporary classrooms and expansion of Aston Fence Primary School.

**6. Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that the report is noted.**

## **7. Proposals and Details:**

The Government priorities are that all bids must aim for school improvement and are separated in to the following criteria:-

- Standards/curriculum improvements – bids must show that standards will be raised at Key stages 1, 2, 3 or 4 as appropriate.
- Standards focused re-organisations – this includes rationalisation of school sites, removal of surplus places
- Improved provision for children with special educational needs in mainstream and special schools, and pupil referral units
- Extended schools/Community use agenda – to provide support for dual use facilities that can be used by schools to provide extended services to children, young people, families and the wider community.

The bids for funding from TCF are competitive with other authorities. The TCF bids that succeeded were those which met the DFES published criteria most closely and the bid for Canklow Woods was one of these. The DFES have not yet released feedback as to why the Aston Fence bid was unsuccessful and this will be released in due course. Less than 25% of bids for funding from Targeted Capital are usually successful.

The Authority will use Modernisation funding to address the building needs for Aston Fence Primary School.

Canklow Woods Primary school is a school in a disadvantaged area with very low standards at Key Stage 1 and 2. The new building will address the standards and curriculum improvements criteria through primary enrichment and the extended schools/community use criteria.

The new building will include facilities for Sure Start, morning and after school clubs, enabling the school to open 8.00am to 6.00pm. It will also include facilities for the wider community including an ICT room, meeting areas, space for health care professionals and for social services.

The school also has surplus places and is not fully accessible as it has a number of level changes within the building. It also has a number of condition priorities e.g. a new heating system and new wiring. The new build will fully address these issues.

## **8. Finance:**

The £2,363,200 funding from the Department for Education and Skills is in the form of supported borrowing and is spread over 3 years. This will be phased over the three year period 2006-07 to 2008-09 in the proportions 25%, 50% and 25%. The Authority will also contribute approximately 20% or £583,300 which is a condition of the funding. SureStart funding will also contribute £200,000 to provide the facilities for the Children's centre.



**9. Risks and Uncertainties:**

The funding from the DfES is secure. Risks relate to the building programme and ensuring this is on target.

**10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:**

A new school at Canklow will contribute to the Rotherham Learning agenda. The new school linked with support from School Improvement should lead to improved performance at KS1 and KS2.

**11. Background Papers and Consultation**

Report to Cabinet Member and Advisers, Lifelong Learning of 24th May 2005, titled Targeted Capital Fund bid to DfES for 2 new primary schools.

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