

CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY COHESION

**Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham.**

Date: Monday, 17 July 2006

Time: 8.30 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. Apologies for Absence.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Minutes of the meeting held on 26th June, 2006 (herewith) (Pages 1 - 7)
6. Rotherham New Lives' Integration Strategy for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (report herewith - Action Plan to be provided at the meeting) (Pages 8 - 26)
7. Analysis of the Community Leadership Fund 2005-06 (report herewith) (Pages 27 - 43)
8. Progress on the Integration of Parish and Town Councils into Neighbourhood Management Arrangements (report herewith) (Pages 44 - 49)
9. Draft International Links Policy (report herewith) (Pages 50 - 80)
10. Year Ahead Statement 2006-07 (report herewith) (Pages 81 - 97)
11. State of the Borough (report herewith) (Pages 98 - 101)
12. Pakistani and Chinese Profiles (report herewith) (Pages 102 - 176)
13. Annual Plan for the Group (to be tabled at the meeting)

14. Briefings on any Cabinet reports as required.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Monday, 18th September, 2006 at 8.30 a.m.

COMMUNITY COHESION
26th June, 2006

Present:- Councillor Hussain (in the Chair); Councillor Burton.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Ali.

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest made.

18. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12TH JUNE, 2006

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion held on 12th June, 2006 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman, subject to amendments to representation on the working groups to remove Councillor Ali from the Women's Strategy Group.

19. MATTERS ARISING

With reference to Minute No. 11 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion held on 12th June, 2006, the Assistant Chief Executive confirmed that the Chief Officers' Group had decided that S.R.B. and N.R.F. were to merge.

It was, therefore, recommended that a joint meeting be set up, chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion, to consider membership details.

20. PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Assistant Chief Executive regarding the development and implementation of a Public Health Strategy for the borough, which was a key priority in the Community Strategy and Corporate Plan.

Its development had been led jointly by the Primary Care Trust and the Chief Executive's Department, steered by a Public Health Strategy Group including representatives from Council Programme Areas, Rotherham PCT and the Local Strategic Partnership.

There had been good progress on the development of the Strategy and informed by a detailed analysis of policy and research evidence about key trends and issues and analysis of policies and key trends at national, regional and local levels. The draft Strategy was organised into each of the five priority themes and two cross cutting priority themes and each section detailed a number of specific actions that were key to improving health and reducing health inequalities. The Strategy also linked into the

Local Area Agreement.

The Strategy had been through a period of consultation and had been endorsed by the Corporate Management Team. The Cabinet raised a few issues, which were being incorporated.

Members considered this an important Strategy and welcomed its development, but requested that this be closely monitored and managed.

Resolved;- That the Public Health Strategy be welcomed.

21. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (L.A.A.) PUMP PRIMING GRANT

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Officer for Performance Management informing Members of the recommended approach to the allocation and use of the Pump Priming Grant to support the stretch targets in the L.A.A.

Government Office have been informed that the Council was unable to operate on the basis of a capitalisation direction and would impact on our ability to achieve the stretch targets within the L.A.A.

The feedback received appeared to give the Council more flexibility with the proposed allocation of Pump Priming Grant based on both capital and revenue expenditure. An early decision on the allocation of the Pump Priming Grant was needed to ensure that target holders could start programmes of work and employ temporary staff as soon as possible, to undertake the work required on stretch targets.

Details on the proposed allocation of the L.A.A. Pump Priming Grant was provided.

Target holders would be required to supply quarterly reports on performance and spend against stretch targets and would maintain auditable records to support any pump priming grant expenditure.

Resolved;- That the proposed allocation of Local Area Agreement Pump Priming Grant be noted.

22. PRESENTATION BY VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

Members welcomed to the meeting representatives of Voluntary Action Rotherham (V.A.R.), Janet Wheatley (Chief Executive) and Keith Dodson.

Janet Wheatley gave a presentation to the meeting on V.A.R.'s progress to date and drew specific attention to:-

- V.A.R. Organisational Update.
- South Yorkshire Investment Plan.
- Update on the S.L.A.

- Future Priorities/Deliverables.

Members welcomed the good work and the achievements so far and the need for the progress to be sustained.

A question/answer session ensued and the following issues were raised:-

- Relationship with R.E.M.A. and work with the B.M.E. community.
- Mainstream funding and delivery of services.
- S.L.A. support for core activity and additional investment.
- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and the support to N.O.P./V.O.I.C.E.
- Stability of the organisation and its funding streams.
- Involvement with Area Assemblies.
- Performance Management Framework.
- Neighbourhood Renewal Fund support to V.A.R.
- Long term viability and sustainability of V.A.R. and the voluntary and community sector.
- Sustainability of numbers of staff.
- Delivery of services and outcomes.
- Capacity building of the voluntary and community sector.
- Value for Money.

Resolved:- (1) That representatives of Voluntary Action Rotherham be thanked for their attendance.

(2) That the information contained in the presentation be noted.

23. BUDGET CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy and Research Manager, which provided a summary of the findings of a major consultation exercise undertaken earlier in the year to help inform the development of the budget.

The consultation was themed around the Council's Vision and priorities of the Community Strategy to ensure consistency with the early stages.

A number of overall priorities emerged from the consultation. These included:-

- Town Centre.
- Economic Growth.
- Transport/Traffic Parking.
- Learning.
- Quality and Provision of Leisure Activities/Facilities.

- Crime and Safety.
- Environmental Issues.
- Housing.
- Democracy and Pride.
- Community and Voluntary Sector.
- Care.
- Customer Service.

Particular attention was drawn to the feedback from those involved in the consultation, which was very positive with most people stating they would like to be involved in similar consultation exercises.

Members welcomed this level of involvement with the public and wished to ensure that it was meaningful and it continue in the future. It was suggested that the process be initiated again and integrated as part of Local Democracy Week.

Resolved:- (1) That the main findings from consultation with the public about priorities for Council spending for 2006/07 be noted.

(2) That the main findings from the report as outlined be noted.

(3) That the findings, which would be used to develop the budget and more widely be noted.

(4) That the findings of the report continue to be taken into account in further developing policies and services.

(5) That the generally good feedback about the consultation be noted.

(6) That an update on consultation options, as part of Local Democracy Week, be submitted to the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion in July, 2006.

24. OLDER PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy and Research Manager, which outlined the findings from a major conference on the needs and priorities of older people in Rotherham and how these have been used to inform policy and service delivery.

The event was popular and reflected in the formal and informal feedback received.

Resolved:- (1) That the main findings from consultation with the public about priorities for Council spending for 2006/07 be noted.

(2) That the main findings from the report as outlined be noted.

(3) That the findings, which have been used to develop the Older Persons Strategy and more widely be noted.

25. WARD AND AREA ASSEMBLY PROFILES

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy and Research Manager, which advised Members about the development and dissemination of the updated Ward and Assembly Profiles. It also provided an update on progress in the development of neighbourhood statistics more generally.

The statistics were refreshed on an annual basis, apart from those provided by the census.

It was suggested that some of the information collated be made available on-line via the GIS system to facilitate the Council's own super output areas, especially on voter turnout.

Resolved:- (1) That the new Ward and Area Assembly profiles be welcomed.

(2) That the profiles be circulated more widely.

(3) That the use of the profiles in the use for service planning and policy development be welcomed.

(4) That the wider developments in the development and dissemination of profile, including on-line methods, be welcomed.

26. N.R.S. ACTION PLANS

The Policy and Research Manager gave a verbal update on the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy. Thirteen target areas and four communities of interest had been agreed with the development of action plans for each area.

A series of studies had been suggested with many of the deprived areas not improving as fast as some of the other areas.

The Neighbourhoods Programme Area and other partners were developing a series of action plans, which would be subject to a Performance Management Framework and the outcome of the target areas and communities of interest reported back. Consideration was also being given to the good practice used by other Local Authorities.

The second stage of the deprivation study would also take into account the quality lifestyle study where it was planned to over sample in the target areas. The importance of a feedback mechanism was emphasised.

Resolved:- That the information be noted.

27. COMMUNITY COHESION FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the Community Cohesion Forward Plan, where it was noted that little input had been made from the Neighbourhoods Programme Area.

Various additions were suggested including:-

- Outcome of the Walkabouts in September.
- Team Visits.
- Public Health Strategy Monitoring.

It was suggested that Reachout be the subject of a good news story for June and the work with Radio Sheffield.

Resolved:- That appropriate action be taken.

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following items in order to process the matters referred to.)

28. GYPSY AND TRAVELLERS - UPDATE

The Equalities and Diversity Officer reported that work was progressing by the Neighbourhoods Programme Area, but to what extent was unclear.

Resolved:- That a update be provided for the next meeting by the Neighbourhoods Programme Area on the current situation with Gypsy and Travellers.

29. INVITATION TO DONCASTER

The Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion reported that he had extended an invitation to his counterpart Cabinet Member in Doncaster to attend a delegated powers meeting in September. This would raise the profile of Community Cohesion and facilitate the sharing of information.

30. IDEA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY - COMMUNITY COHESION

The Head of Policy and Partnerships was in receipt of a two day course for the IDeA Leadership Academy for Community Cohesion to be held in Warwick on the 15th and 16th November, 2006.

Resolved:- That consideration be given to meeting the cost of this two day course by the Member's Training and Development Budget.

31. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion be held on Monday, 17th July, 2006 at 8.30 a.m.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

| | | |
|----|------------------------|---|
| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion |
| 2. | Date: | 17th July 2006 |
| 3. | Title: | 'Rotherham New Lives' Integration Strategy for Asylum Seekers and Refugees |
| 4. | Programme Area: | Neighbourhoods |

5. Summary

'Rotherham New Lives' is Rotherham's first integration strategy for asylum seekers and refugees, and is an innovative joint venture with the Refugee Council.

6. Recommendations

1. **THAT THIS DRAFT STRATEGY IS CONSULTED UPON**

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 This strategy has been prepared by the Rotherham Asylum Project Team and the Refugee Council. In October 2004 the Refugee Council contacted key stakeholders in Rotherham to develop an Integration Strategy. Prior to this, a draft Action Plan had been prepared by the Asylum team. It was decided that the best results would be achieved by collaborative working.

7.2 This strategy differs from other local authority's strategies, in that it considers the needs of asylum seekers, destitute asylum seekers and refugees in a single strategy. It is general practice that integration strategies focus on the needs of refugees who have been allowed to remain in the United Kingdom. This strategy would suggest that integration begins on arrival in Rotherham. Preparation for full integration can be undertaken whilst a person is still claiming asylum. Indeed many of the actions apply equally to asylum seekers as well as refugees. These are highlighted throughout the strategy.

7.3 As well as the strategy being a basis for developing and co-ordinating services, it also provides key information about asylum seekers. The Borough's experience of refugees, a brief outline of services, and a myth buster are contained in the strategy.

8. Finance

There are no financial implications other than costs associated with consultation. There may be costs for other services, depending on the actions arising from the consultation.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Anything relating to services for asylum seekers can be 'controversial'. To ensure that consultation is as smooth as possible, the draft strategy has already been discussed with a number of agencies in Rotherham, including the Asylum Seekers Working Party. The Corporate Equalities and Diversity Strategy Group will decide the next steps for the strategy to become fit for purpose, and a start date for wider consultation. Members of the Asylum Seekers Working Party are keen to have the strategy launched well before the CPA inspection.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The production of a strategy for asylum seekers and refugees is a feature of the Community Cohesion Strategy. The key action was that a strategy be produced by July 2005, but this timescale was too ambitious given the complexity of the task, and a new date was agreed of May 2006.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The draft strategy has been discussed on a number of occasions by the Asylum Seeker Working Party. Key officers, strategy co-ordinators, and the Corporate Equality and Diversity Strategy Group have also been consulted. During Refugee Week 2005, the aims of the strategy were distributed to asylum seekers and refugees who attended a celebration event. The Authority's Consultation Officer has also been involved in preparing the consultation. A planning group is working towards planning four local consultation events throughout the Borough, including some women-only events, as well as a consultation with young people. These events will provide a local focus, and be an opportunity for key agencies to provide information about services. Stakeholders will be sent copies of the strategy and a pro-forma to record comments for the strategy authors.

Appendix A. Rotherham New Lives - Integration Strategy for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

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Appendix A

Rotherham New Lives

[insert picture from consultation]

Rotherham Integration Strategy for Asylum Seekers and Refugees



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Executive Summary

Successful integration of asylum seekers¹ and refugees is of benefit to all people living in Rotherham. It is a continuous two-way process starting on the day of arrival. *Rotherham New Lives* has been written to improve integration through a multi-agency strategic approach including consultation, the production of this document and its successful implementation.

There has been a recognised need for a strategic approach to forced migration and integration. Nationally there have been various strategies from central government: The Home Office has published *Integration Matters: A National Strategy for Refugee Integration* (2005) which follows the earlier document *Full and Equal Citizens* (2000). Simultaneous to the integration strategy, the DWP published *Working to Rebuild Lives: A refugee employment strategy* (2005). Both of these recent documents were preceded by another Home Office document *Controlling Our Borders: making migration work for Britain: Five year strategy for asylum and immigration* (2005).

Other organisations have produced integration documents, for example: Refugee Council, *Agenda for Integration* (2004) and European Commission, *Handbook on Integration for policy-makers and practitioners* (2004). Regionally the Yorkshire and Humberside Consortium for Asylum Seekers and Refugees launched the *Regional Integration Strategy 2003-2006* (2003) and different cities in the region have more recently produced their own.

The development of a local strategy began in 2003 when the local Multi Agency Group for services to asylum seekers and refugees, completed a Draft Action Plan to assist in service co-ordination. This was never translated into a formal strategy. At the end of 2004 the Refugee Council undertook a formal gap analysis with stakeholders and refugee community organisations to identify the key areas that a local strategy required to address. It was agreed that the Refugee Council and the Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council should work together to develop a local strategy. *Rotherham New Lives* is the result of this joint working, and as such is a piece of innovate work.

The strategy writers worked with two sources. These are the multi agency Draft Action Plan and the responses to the formal consultation undertaken by the Refugee Council. A series of meetings took place to summarise the needs under a number of distinct headings, which then formed the key themes of the strategy. These are-

- Comprehensive Adult Education Provision
- Equal Access to Benefits and Entitlements
- Services for Children
- Maintaining Community Cohesion
- Promoting Employment and Volunteering
- Improving Health
- Secure Housing
- Providing Public Communication and Media
- Developing Support and Advice Services

¹ See page 5 for definition

This strategy is Innovative as it deals with the needs of asylum seekers as well as that of refugees. The strategy authors believe that integration begins as soon as someone arrives in Rotherham, rather when a decision is made of the person to remain in this country.

The strategy does not exist in isolation. Rotherham's Community Strategy 2006 - 2010 sets the 5 strategic themes for Rotherham. These are Rotherham Achieving, Rotherham Learning, Rotherham Alive, Rotherham Safe, and Rotherham Proud. There are also two underpinning cross cutting themes of Fairness and Sustainable Development. *Rotherham New Lives* is clearly linked with all these five strategic themes to varying degrees. Some themes e.g. "Rotherham Proud" have greater prominence than others, e.g. "Rotherham Achieving".

Rotherham New Lives also links to the Housing Strategy. Although there is no specific section of the strategy dealing with asylum seekers and refugees, their needs are addressed within the wider strategic actions relating to "Providing Fair Access and Choice". There are particular links with the Homeless Strategy, the BME Strategy, developing neighbourhoods and partnership working.

The strategy includes background information about the services for asylum seekers, a "myth buster", and web links to key organisations. The inclusion of such background information is intended to inform those who are unfamiliar with the services for asylum seekers.

The strategy has been assessed as to its impact on equality and diversity. This assessment has influenced the consultation period. E.g. having women only consultation events. The consultation process may also serve to highlight further areas where the strategy can ensure equality and diversity. The strategy adheres to the council's corporate equality and diversity strategy, action plan and the Race Equality Scheme 2.

Who are Asylum Seekers and Refugees?

International law defines a "refugee" as a person who has fled from and/or cannot return to their country due to a well-founded fear of persecution, including war or civil conflict.

A refugee is a person who “owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality, and is unable to or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country...”

Article 1. The 1951 UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees

When arriving in the UK people can claim asylum (apply to be a refugee). Under the 1951 Convention, everyone's case for asylum must be investigated to ensure that no one is returned to danger. In the UK, the Home Office decides upon the claim for asylum. If the decision is a negative one there is an appeals procedure which the asylum seeker can use. There are tight deadlines for submitting the appeal.

• **Asylum seekers**

An asylum seeker is a person who has left their country of origin, has formally applied for recognition as a refugee in another country, and is awaiting a decision on their application.

- **Refugees** – This term is usually used to indicate all those with 'positive decisions' on their claim for asylum, which includes the following different socio-legal statuses:

Refugee Status – a person whom the Home Office considers as falling within the 1951 UN convention (see above) and is granted asylum. They were previously given Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) in the UK but since September 1st 2005 are now given 5 years which may then be renewed.

Humanitarian Protection (HP)/ Discretionary Leave (DL)/ Exceptional Leave to Remain (ELR) – for those who do not meet the strict criteria of the 1951 Convention yet still require temporary protection. Previously granted ELR until April 2003 when replaced by HP and DL They are granted, for example, on human rights grounds if a person is likely to be 'subjected to inhuman or degrading treatment' or where it would be inappropriate or unlawful to return someone to their country of origin. HP and DL are granted for up to 5 years stay that is then reviewed if further protection is required.

• **Unsuccessful asylum seekers/ 'overstayers'**

Unsuccessful asylum seekers are people whose claims have been turned down and have had all Appeal Rights Exhausted (ARE). Some cannot return or be deported to their country of origin for various reasons. They are only here illegally if they do not comply with specific removal directions.

The phrase 'asylum seekers and refugees' is used throughout the document to collectively include all of the above.

Rotherham Experience

The UK has provided sanctuary to those fleeing persecution, torture and death for many centuries. Well-known refugees and exiles in the UK include political revolutionary Karl Marx, psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, the writer Victor Hugo, the painter Camille Pissaro, the footballer Lomana Lua Lua and Michael Marks who co-founded Marks and Spencer. Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, and Oliver Tambo the ANC founding politician from South Africa, both came to UK as refugees. The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, was a refugee from Idi Amin's Uganda. Fish and chips, that great British tradition, was brought to the UK by 17th-century Jews expelled from Portugal.

Rotherham has a long history of supporting refugees dating back to the 19th century when Jews came from Russia and settled in the town. More examples that are recent have been people from Ukraine and Chile. In recent years, the numbers have increased due to the policy of dispersal introduced in the 1999 Immigration and Asylum Act. This allowed for a more even distribution of asylum seekers throughout the country.

The latest official figures show that the Yorkshire and Humberside region has 8330 asylum seekers supported by NASS². In Rotherham there are about 660 asylum seekers supported by NASS in 265 houses, just over 8% of asylum seekers in the region. Asylum seekers make up 0.27% of Rotherham's population. The Home Office pays for the costs of this dispersal programme and it does not require funding from council tax.

The most recent statistics suggest that nationally around 28% of asylum seekers will become refugees³. In Yorkshire and Humberside region about 50% of asylum seekers become refugees of whom about 50% stay in the region⁴. In Rotherham, this means that each year about 100 asylum seeker households are given refugee status, and would suggest that there are about 1000 new refugees in Rotherham.

The people of Rotherham have been very welcoming to asylum seekers and refugees. The borough was featured in a Yorkshire television Programme, 'Beautiful Rotherham' (2004) about the experiences of asylum seekers and people in the community who are supporting them. Radio 4 also broadcast a programme entitled 'Welcome to Rotherham' (2003) based on the experiences of asylum seekers in the town who were attending English classes at the college.

A range of new services have been developed to meet the needs of asylum seekers and refugees in particular the drop-in centre, the dedicated GP service, an educational reception centre, support for the development of refugee organisations as well as greater involvement in the multi-cultural arts festival.

² Home Office (2005) Asylum Statistics: 3rd Quarter .

³ Home Office (2004), Asylum Statistics: 4th Quarter

⁴ YHCASR (2002) Regional Integration Strategy 2003-6, p. 5.

What is integration?

The definition of integration that forms the basis of this document and the Regional Integration Strategy (2003) is a Europe-wide definition agreed by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE):

“ ... a long-term, two-way process of change, that relates both to the conditions for and the actual participation of refugees in all aspects of life of the country of durable asylum as well as to refugees’ own sense of belonging and membership of European societies. The objective of integration programmes and policies should be the establishment of a mutual and responsible relationship between individual refugees, civil society and host states which promotes equality, self-determination and sustainable self-sufficiency for refugees and acceptance and positive action in favour of refugees by European governments and societies.”

Report of the Third European Conference on the Integration of Refugees, Brussels 1999.

Integration begins on the day a person arrives in Rotherham. It is crucial to the strategy that integration is not based upon socio-legal status but should include everyone – asylum seekers, refugees and failed asylum seekers. Full integration is a relatively long-term process and many factors determine the length of time it takes. An individual may make many steps towards integration relatively quickly, whilst for others full integration may extend beyond the first generation⁵.

Services for asylum seekers and refugees should where possible, be delivered through mainstream services designed for everyone. However, in some cases, specialist provision will be necessary due to the status of the individual, the specific needs of asylum seekers and refugees or as a bridge to mainstream provision⁶.

Asylum seekers and refugees, like all people, should be willing to adapt to the lifestyle of the host society in Rotherham without requiring a loss of their own identity. But just as importantly, the host society (people and institutions) in Rotherham have an important role in integration and must be willing to accept asylum seekers and refugees as equals, enabling full access to resources and the decision-making process as for all members of society⁷. Rotherham places great emphasis on building, safe, and inclusive communities for all⁸.

⁵ Refugee Council (2004) *Agenda for Integration*

⁶ Refugee Council (2004) *Agenda for Integration*; Home Office (2005) *Integration Matters: a national strategy for refugee integration*

⁷ see Refugee Council (2004) *Agenda for Integration*; also European Commission/ Migration Policy Group(2004) *Handbook on Integration for policy makers and practitioners*

⁸ see “Pride in Performance – Rotherham Council’s Corporate Plan

COMPREHENSIVE ADULT EDUCATION PROVISION

Asylum Seekers

Asylum seekers want to learn, and can attend language courses such as ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages). There are some funding restrictions for certain courses for asylum seekers. Asylum seekers have full entitlements to Further Education. They are usually unable to enter higher education as they are charged overseas fees and are ineligible for financial support. Citizenship classes for new citizens are unavailable to asylum seekers.

There is a big demand for ESOL provision, and applicants have to wait a long time, e.g. 6 months to be able to start a course. There is lack of knowledge about the contents and outcomes of ESOL courses which results in little matching between the needs of the applicant to the most suitable course, as well as applicants not knowing the full range of ESOL provision. The lack of provision of childcare in college course limits the availability of courses to family members.

Refugees

Refugees have almost the same rights to education as British citizens, including ESOL and further education. However, for higher education, fees and support available differs based upon the person's exact status. Citizenship classes for new UK citizens can provide good opportunities for refugees to understand life in the UK.

The need to have good ability to understand and speak English is critical for people who are given refugee status. Their linguistic skills are critical to their ability to secure and maintain employment. For those people claiming Job Seekers Allowance there is no specific ESOL provision to assist in successfully securing employment.

Unsuccessful Asylum applicants

Unsuccessful Asylum applicants have very little access to any Adult Education.

Key Objectives

All

1. Improve the English language skills of asylum seekers and refugees.
2. Ensure that hardest to reach groups can access adult education.
3. Provide comprehensive advice and signposting to enable asylum seekers and refugees to access all aspects of learning, education and training.
4. Provide Citizenship courses.

[See Action Plan p.19]

EQUAL ACCESS TO BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS

Asylum seekers

Asylum seekers are denied access to the usual welfare benefits and entitlements of UK Citizens. They are entitled to receive financial payments from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) equivalent to 70% of Income Support for adults. The difficulties arise when the asylum seeker is given decision to remain in the country. The local protocol set up for NASS Accommodation providers to notify relevant agencies following a decision is not being used effectively which means that asylum seekers are not being given the right advice at the right time.

Refugees

The successful refugee is given 28 days notice advising them that their NASS support is to end. A NASS 35 form is issued which allows the new refugee to claim mainstream benefits. Often individuals do not know where to claim benefits, and have little knowledge of what is available. They also require support and assistance to complete the forms within tight timescales.

Unsuccessful Asylum Seeker

The unsuccessful asylum seeker has a maximum of 21 days notice before their financial support (and NASS housing) is finished. Some may receive Section 4 (Hard Cases) Support in which they receive basic accommodation and £35 vouchers each week to be exchanged only for food in participating shops. A minority of failed asylum seekers receive Section 4 Support. Unsuccessful asylum seekers are not able to have recourse to public funds, and are not allowed to work. They have to rely upon donations of food or money by friends, family or charity. There are specific, but limited, services for this group of people in Rotherham, accessing such services is not clear, and people are not given the correct advice.

Key Objectives

Asylum Seekers

- 1. Comprehensive support and advice services for asylum seekers receiving NASS support.**

Refugees

- 2. Smooth and speedy transition process after positive decision.**
- 3. Full opportunities for refugees to access all benefits and entitlements.**

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers

- 4. Clear procedure for referral and access to support for failed and asylum seekers. [See Action Plan p.22]**

SERVICES FOR CHILDREN

Asylum Seekers

If a family is in the NASS system, the Accommodation Provider provides a basic number of items specific for the accommodation needs of babies and young children. Parents now receive the equivalent of full Income Support for their children but are not eligible for Child Benefit

Asylum seeker children in Y6 - Y11 are referred to the Welcome Centre which provides an introduction to the UK education system. After a short time at the centre the children are transferred to normal education, where they will follow the National Curriculum.

The Social Services Department has a responsibility to care for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC), i.e. those who are in UK on their own. If they reach the age of 18 before a decision upon their asylum claim, they are transferred to the normal NASS system. The Local Authority has a responsibility from the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 to support Unaccompanied Children who are given rights to remain.

Refugees

Once given refugee status the family has to leave their NASS accommodation and settle elsewhere. This may involve disruption to the child's education and social networks.

All

Asylum seeker and refugee children, like other children, can be subject to bullying and violence. This can be reminiscent of the experiences in their own country before their families came to Britain to seek refuge.

To achieve well at school, children need the ability to fully converse in English, but classroom support for this is not always available. Staff who are supporting asylum seeker and refugee children in school and other environments are not always fully conversant with the diverse needs of the child. The services also feel ill equipped to assist satisfactorily the children and their families.

Key Objectives

All

1. Identify and meet the needs of asylum seeker and refugee children
2. Raise awareness of all staff working with children
3. Provide specialist advice and information to meet the unique needs of young asylum seekers and refugees under the age of 18
4. Provide support unaccompanied asylum seeker children in preparing for difficult transition events.
5. Support for asylum Seeker and refugee children in school.

[See Action Plan p.25]

MAINTAINING COMMUNITY COHESION

All

There has been a gradual involvement of asylum seekers and refugees in community and multicultural activities in Rotherham. This has added to the perception of diversity in Rotherham. The needs of asylum seekers and refugees, as well as those of the host community, have been identified in the Community Cohesion Strategy.

Asylum seekers are dispersed to contracted properties in Rotherham. Where these are in areas of deprivation this can contribute to negative stereotypes of asylum seekers. The host community, as well as service providers within the community, are generally unaware of the reasons for people for claiming asylum and their dispersal to Rotherham. This can contribute to negative perceptions of asylum seekers. On the other hand, asylum seekers and refugees often feel excluded and isolated from ordinary community life and are either unaware of how to, or have no formal mechanisms to, influence the local community.

Asylum seekers and refugees are subject to racism especially following times of heightened international tension. For a few, this harassment reminds them of persecution in their own country. There are mechanisms in place for people to report incidents of racial harassment and receive support. A recent survey undertaken by the asylum team of their 125 NASS supported households showed that 25% of asylum seekers felt or had experience of racial harassment. However reporting of racial incidents by asylum seekers is low

Key Objectives

1. Raise cultural awareness and contribute to cultural diversity
2. Enhance community cohesion between asylum seekers, refugees and the host community.
3. Encourage full participation of asylum seekers and refugees in local community activities
4. Promote safety of asylum seekers and refugees in Rotherham

(See Action Plan p.291)

PROMOTING EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

Asylum Seekers

Asylum seekers arriving in the UK after October 2002 are not allowed to work. This includes the majority of asylum seekers now living in Rotherham⁹. Asylum seekers are allowed to volunteer, and this can provide experience for future employment, improve well being and contribute to local communities. There is however insufficient co-ordination, promotion and knowledge of volunteering opportunities for asylum seekers.

Refugees

Refugees have full rights to employment. However, unemployment amongst refugees is estimated to be about six times the national average despite refugees having on average higher levels of qualifications¹⁰ There is also significant 'under-employment' of refugees as their employment does not match their skills, qualifications and experience.

¹¹ The reasons for this are that:-

- There is insufficient one-to-one support/ mentoring to help refugees into employment
- Refugees not accessing early entry to employment provision available
- There is a lack of support to employers in identifying skills of refugees and support in employment

These difficulties influence the new refugee about whether to remain in Rotherham or move out of the area to seek more suitable employment elsewhere.

There is also a low uptake of volunteering opportunities by refugees that restricts their ability to secure employment.

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers do not have permission to work.

Key Objectives

All

1. Increase volunteering amongst asylum seekers and refugees

Refugees

2. Increase employment opportunities for refugees in Rotherham
3. Improve retention and job progression of refugees in employment
4. Increase mentoring and work shadowing opportunities available to refugees
5. Engage employers in the integration of refugees into the local labour market

[See Action Plan p.371]

⁹ Since Feb 05 they are allowed to work if waiting more than 12 months for an initial decision

¹⁰ Home Office (2005) *Integration Matters: A national strategy for refugee integration*

¹¹ For further information see Bloch, A (2002) *Refugees' Opportunities and Barriers in Employment and Training*, DWP research report 179

IMPROVING HEALTH

Asylum Seekers

Asylum seekers have full entitlements to healthcare provision. Rotherham has a dedicated GP service for all asylum seekers who are dispersed to the Borough. This service is based in the town centre, and provides the same level of services as ordinary GP practices, but tailored to meet the unique needs of the practice population. Asylum seekers, like UK citizens, are entitled to free prescriptions using the HC2 exemption form. Sometimes the long wait that asylum seekers experience before they get a decision about their claim can contribute to anxiety problems. This makes it difficult for them to socialise and take part in ordinary community activities.

Refugees

Refugees have the same entitlement as any UK citizen to healthcare provision. They also have to register with a new GP service in the area in which they take up their new accommodation.

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers

People who have failed in their asylum application continue to receive primary health care in Rotherham but access to secondary health care is limited.

All

Asylum seekers and refugees all experience difficulties in using Health Services. Some are unfamiliar with the Accident and Emergency provision and are not familiar with the correct protocols for seeking appropriate medical assistance. Within the health environment, there is sometimes a lack of interpreters or suitably translated material. Linked to this is the need to provide information in a comprehensive and accessible format about healthy lifestyles

The experience of asylum seekers and refugees can, and often does involve varying degrees of trauma and distress. The provision of specialist services, and in particular mental health services needs to be considered for children as well as adults.

Key Objectives

All

1. Asylum seekers and refugees to have good access to health services
2. All asylum seekers and refugees to have access to health promotion and healthy lifestyle advice
3. Awareness amongst health professionals of the needs of asylum seekers and refugees
4. All services aim to promote health and well-being of asylum seekers and refugees

[See Action Plan p.40]

SECURE HOUSING

Asylum Seekers

The Home Office disperses asylum seekers on a “no choice basis” to Rotherham where they are provided with housing by one of 4 accommodation providers who have a Contract with NASS. This can result in some people being housed in areas where they feel vulnerable. The Contract sets the standard for the basic furnished accommodation. This accommodation is inspected by NASS. There is a perception that standards vary between the Accommodation Providers, and that people do not know to whom, or are unwilling, to complain.

Refugees

On becoming a refugee the person must leave their NASS accommodation within 28 days, and enter mainstream services. Recent changes to legislation have reinforced the ‘Local Connection’ a refugee has with the area to which they are dispersed. Tenancy Support is available to new refugees and is provided by the Supporting People grant funding. This support however is not always co-ordinated and some people experience ineffective support when being allocated new housing. The process of moving into new housing can be long and the time spent in temporary accommodation varies. The new refugee needs to have a sound knowledge of the area they are moving to as well as a clear understanding of their rights and responsibilities.

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers

Unsuccessful single asylum seekers have to leave their accommodation within 21 days and are exempt from public housing and welfare. The Immigration services do not automatically detain people at this point. Some people may apply for “Hard Case Support” (Section 4). These requests take up to 5 weeks and are often unsuccessful. Most are reliant on support from friends and charities, and can become homelessness.

Key Objectives

Asylum Seekers

1. Ensure Asylum Seekers are provided with adequate and safe housing
2. Prepare asylum seekers for refugee status

Refugees

3. Refugees will have access to suitable housing in safe and inclusive communities

Unsuccessful Asylum Seekers

4. Meet the needs of destitute asylum seekers

[See Action Plan p.43]

PROVIDING PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA

All

The portrayal of asylum seekers and refugees in the media can lead to misunderstanding about asylum seekers. This can contribute to negative public perceptions, which has a damaging effect upon integration and community cohesion. Service providers provide services within the context of these public misconceptions and need to know more about the needs and experience of asylum seekers and refugees. Direct access by asylum seekers and refugees to the media in Rotherham has been limited, and there is no monitoring of, or co-ordinated response to, any negative or pejorative press coverage

There has been information provided to the public, but this has not been produced in a consistent and proactive manner. There is a need for a two-way interaction to disseminate accurate information about asylum seekers and refugees to the public and to provide information to asylum seekers and refugees about life in Rotherham. There also needs to be an increase in the frequency and quality of such exchanges. The involvement of refugees and asylum seekers in this process needs to be undertaken to enhance it. The annual Refugee Week in September provides, to some extent, opportunities for awareness raising and understanding.

Asylum seekers and refugees also have their own needs for the use of the media. There is a lack of news and entertainment radio programmes for asylum seekers and refugees in their own language. Such programmes should also refer to events from the homelands that people have left. There is not enough published material in the languages that asylum seekers and refugees speak.

Key Objectives

All

1. Improve access to the media for asylum seekers and refugees
2. Work with media to ensure balanced coverage of asylum and refugee issues
3. Better understanding of the issues facing asylum seekers and refugees amongst host communities

[See Action Plan p.45]

DEVELOPING SUPPORT AND ADVICE SERVICES

Asylum Seekers

The government funded One Stop Service for asylum seekers is provided by the Refugee Council from their office in Leeds.

The main advice service for asylum seekers is their immigration solicitor. The Government has increasingly restricted access to legal advice and representation. A very small number of independent advice services in Rotherham can provide specialist immigration advice to asylum seekers.

All

There is a weekly drop-in service available to all asylum seekers and refugees in the town centre, which is attended by different organisations. There is the need for comprehensive guide to advice services in Rotherham. This guide should be available at the weekly drop in, which has the potential for a focus for a signposting service. There are also an increasing number of Refugee Community Organisations (RCOs) in Rotherham, which provide support and offer informal advice, and they need to be brought into the mainstream support networks.

The lack of funding for the provision of interpreters can restrict the ability of small organisation to provide advice to asylum seekers and refugees. Advice services need to have easier recourse to interpreter and provide more translated material.

Service providers need to be constantly aware of the need to ensure that all asylum seekers and refugees are offered the service of interpreter, and that reference to such a service is made in leaflets and information. Providers can also ensure that details about their service refer, as and when appropriate, to services for asylum seekers and refugees.

Key Objectives

All

1. Develop better sign-posting to services
2. Develop Refugee Community Organisations
3. Promote sufficient legal services in Rotherham

[See Action Plan p.48]

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Meeting: | Delegated Powers - Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion |
| 2. Date: | 17th July 2006 |
| 3. Title: | Analysis of the Community Leadership Fund 2005-6 |
| 4. Programme Area: | Neighbourhoods |

5. Summary

This report provides a summary of spending activity around the elected members Community Leadership Fund for the financial year 2005-6. The report also suggests changes to encourage all elected members to enhance their community leadership role through use of the Fund.

6. Recommendations

THAT THE CABINET MEMBER AND ADVISORS NOTE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FUND FOR 2005-6 AND THAT CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO THE FUTURE PURPOSE AND DIRECTION OF THE FUND.

7. Proposals and Details

The Community Leadership Fund was introduced in 2002 to enable Members to support activities within their Wards that benefit local residents. It is intended to encourage Members to spend more time in their Wards working with partners, voluntary groups and diverse communities.

Over the past 12 months the Community Leadership Fund has continued to support priorities identified by local people such as improving the environment, funding equipment and supporting grass roots organisations.

During 2005-6 Elected Members committed £30229.45 out of a total budget allocation of £31,000. This represents an improvement in comparison with £26030.81 for 2004-5.

Analysis of Expenditure

During 2005-06 sixteen out of twenty one Wards spent their full allocation. This represents a significant increase from 2004-5 during which eight out of twenty one Wards used their full allocation.

Similarly in terms of overall expenditure of the Fund 2005-6 sees an increase from 84% during 2004-5 to 98.99% during 2005-6 period.

An analysis of spend by Community Strategy theme shows that the Proud theme dominates. This can be attributed to strong support for numerous groups who arrange meetings, trips and visits for their members in order to encourage community cohesion and active citizenship. In contrast to this initiatives around the Safe and Achieving themes are less well supported.

Reflecting a pattern from previous years the majority of elected members waited until the final quarter of the year to allocate their grant. With the Community Leadership Fund budget for 2006-7 now confirmed it is planned to issue quarterly Community Leadership bulletins, in addition to the Annual Report during August 2006, to maintain a high profile with elected members and encourage a consistent spend across the year.

A summary of expenditure in relation to the Community Leadership Fund 2005-6 is attached in the Appendixes to this report:-

Appendix 1 – Summary of Spend by Ward

Appendix 2 – Summary of % Budget Allocation by Year

Appendix 3 – Summary of Spend by Quarter during 2005/6

Appendix 4 – Summary of Spend by Community Strategy Theme

Appendix 5 – Full Community Leadership Fund Listing 2005/6

Development of Community Leadership Issues

Member Development

Discussions have been held regarding Member Development with the Chief Executives Programme Area. As a result information around the purpose and aims of the Community Leadership Fund now forms part of the induction package for new Ward Members.

Community Leadership Network

A cross programme area Community Leadership Network has been formed in partnership with community and voluntary groups to look at the profile of Community Leadership both within the Council and the wider community in Rotherham.

The group is currently drafting an action plan based around the Community Strategy themes to develop leadership issues with young people, encourage active citizenship and support leaders emerging from local communities.

Area Assemblies

To support the introduction of the new Area Assemblies process a Community Leadership action plan will be devised as part of the Community Involvement Unit plan to offer support to elected members, parish and town councillors and community members to be more effective in their roles as leaders and advocates of their communities.

8. Finance

The Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel discussed the Community Leadership Fund at its meeting of the 23/02/06. The Panel heard that during February 2006 only 23% of the fund had been committed to projects. Due to this underspend and the financial difficulties experienced by the Council at that time the Fund became subject to a cut of 1.5%.

The Scrutiny Panel suggested that, to prevent this occurring again, certain elements of the financial rules around the Fund could be examined, in particular:-

- Elected Members being able to carrying money over from one year to another to improve the flexibility of the Fund.
- An application deadline earlier in the financial year to enable Members to 'bid' into a final grant pot of remaining underspend.

The feasibility of the issues raised by Scrutiny are currently being looked at by the Neighbourhoods finance team.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The Community Leadership Fund has a demonstrable record of improving quality of life within communities.

Original guidance around the Fund required Members to make a direct link between their proposed project and the Community Strategy. Over recent years this link has been lost and reinstating this connection could ensure the Fund compliments the wider priority themes of the Council.

With regard to this suggestion a draft amended application form is attached in Appendix 6. The amendments are highlighted and require members to indicate which theme their proposed project will contribute toward.

It is also difficult to assess the Fund's role in encouraging a more visible and powerful community leadership role for local councillors.

The Local Government Association has defined several elements of effective community leadership as:-

- Listening to and involving – being in touch with all parts of the community.
- Working in Partnership – Fostering good working relationships between service providers and communities.
- Standing up for communities – acting on priority local issues
- Empowering communities – encouraging active citizens
- Using community resources effectively – seeking match funding with other partners

This issue could be addressed by assessing using a checklist to assess Fund applications with reference to the criteria above and using the feedback from grant recipients as an assessment tool.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The government is currently advocating the further devolving of budgets to a local level. Local authorities such as Staffordshire delegate £10,000 a year to be spent on local projects by elected members. Typically, where larger grants are devolved, members are required to demonstrate a clear link between the proposed project, Corporate and Service priorities, and the well being of local residents. The final decision on financial allocation is made by a 'mini' Cabinet.

This process ensures that local issues are addressed and priorities identified through the Community Strategy are supported. A similar process could be considered for Rotherham if further devolving of budgets to ward member level are considered.

The Community Leadership Fund makes direct links with the Governments agenda for Neighbourhood Arrangements as detailed in the discussion paper "Citizen Engagement and Public Services: Why Neighbourhoods Matter" :- The paper outlines a vision for Neighbourhood arrangements which include:-

- Local government playing a much stronger role in supporting active citizens and neighbourhoods.
- Extending Ward Members community leadership role at the centre of neighbourhood arrangements.
- Real decision making at a Neighbourhood level by the devolution of small budgets to ward councillors to tackle 'liveability' issues and improving the local environment.

Community Strategy

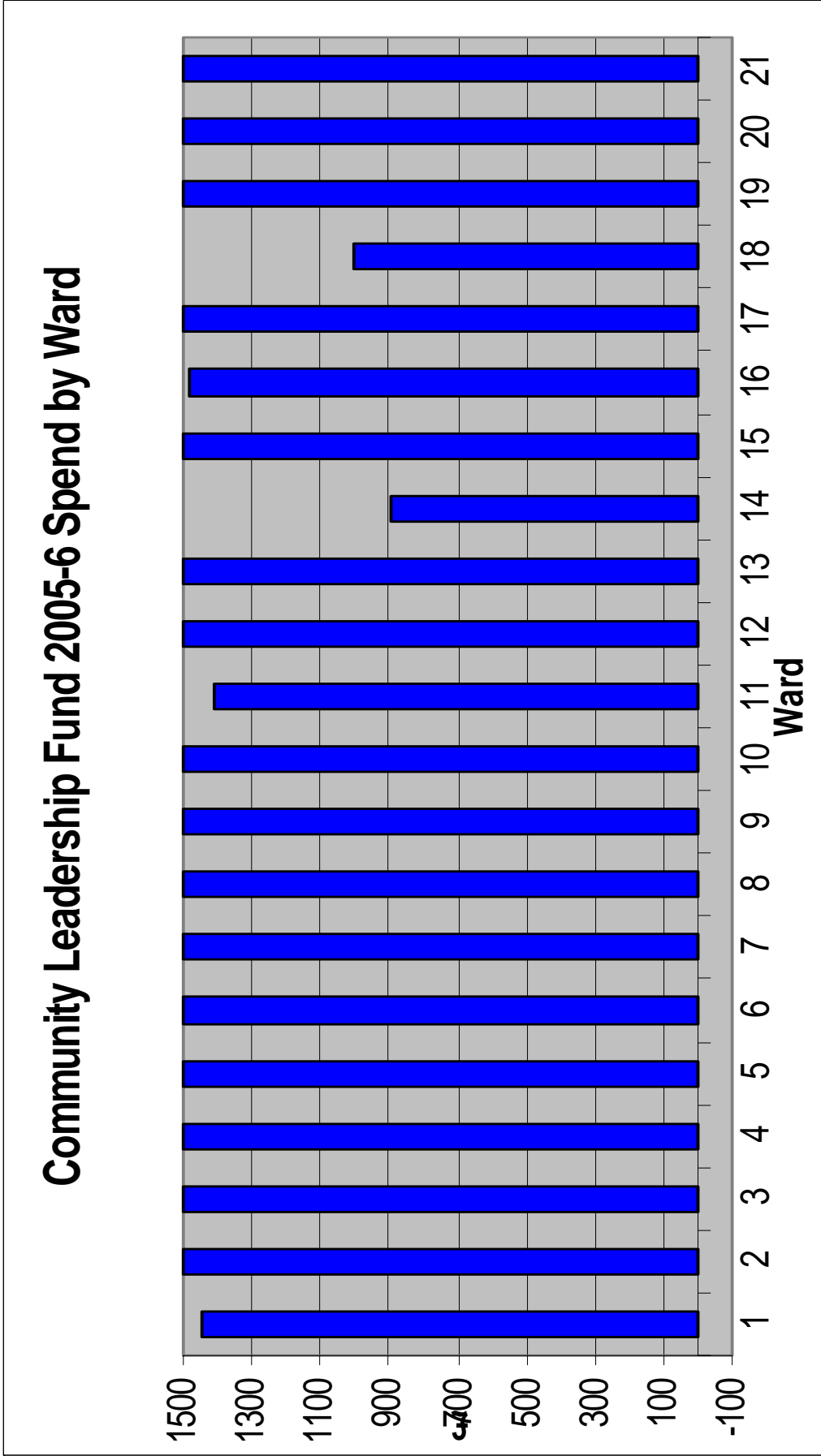
The Community Leadership Fund contributes directly to the key themes of the Community Strategy; Achieving, Learning, Alive, Proud and Safe

11. Background Papers and Consultation

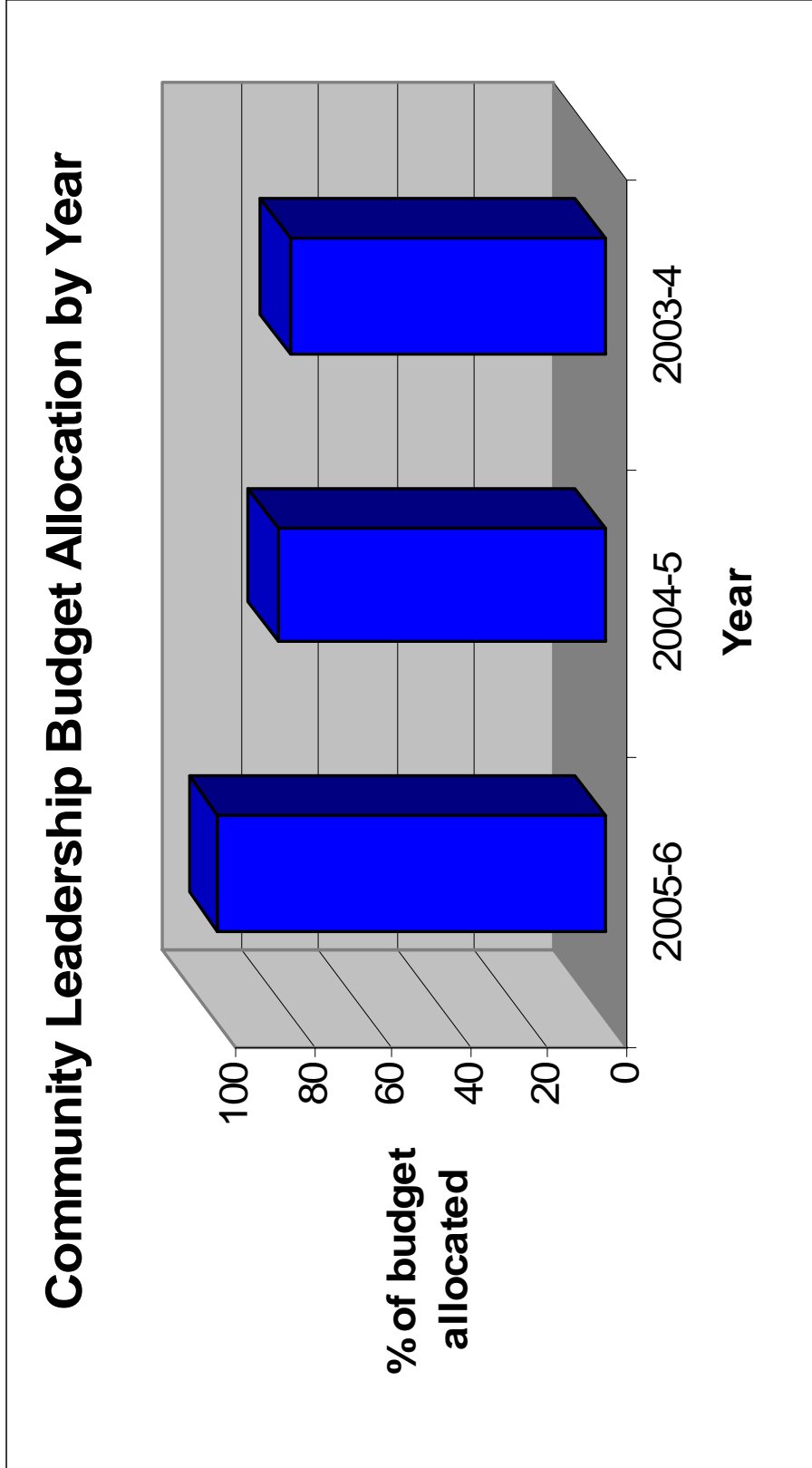
- “Empowering people in their local communities” Speech by David Miliband to the New Local Government Network 18/01/06.
- Citizen Engagement and Public Services: Why Neighbourhoods Matter ODPM 2005
- Vibrant Local Leadership ODPM 2005
- Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel 23rd February 2006
- Community Leadership: A Councillors Guide 2005 LGA

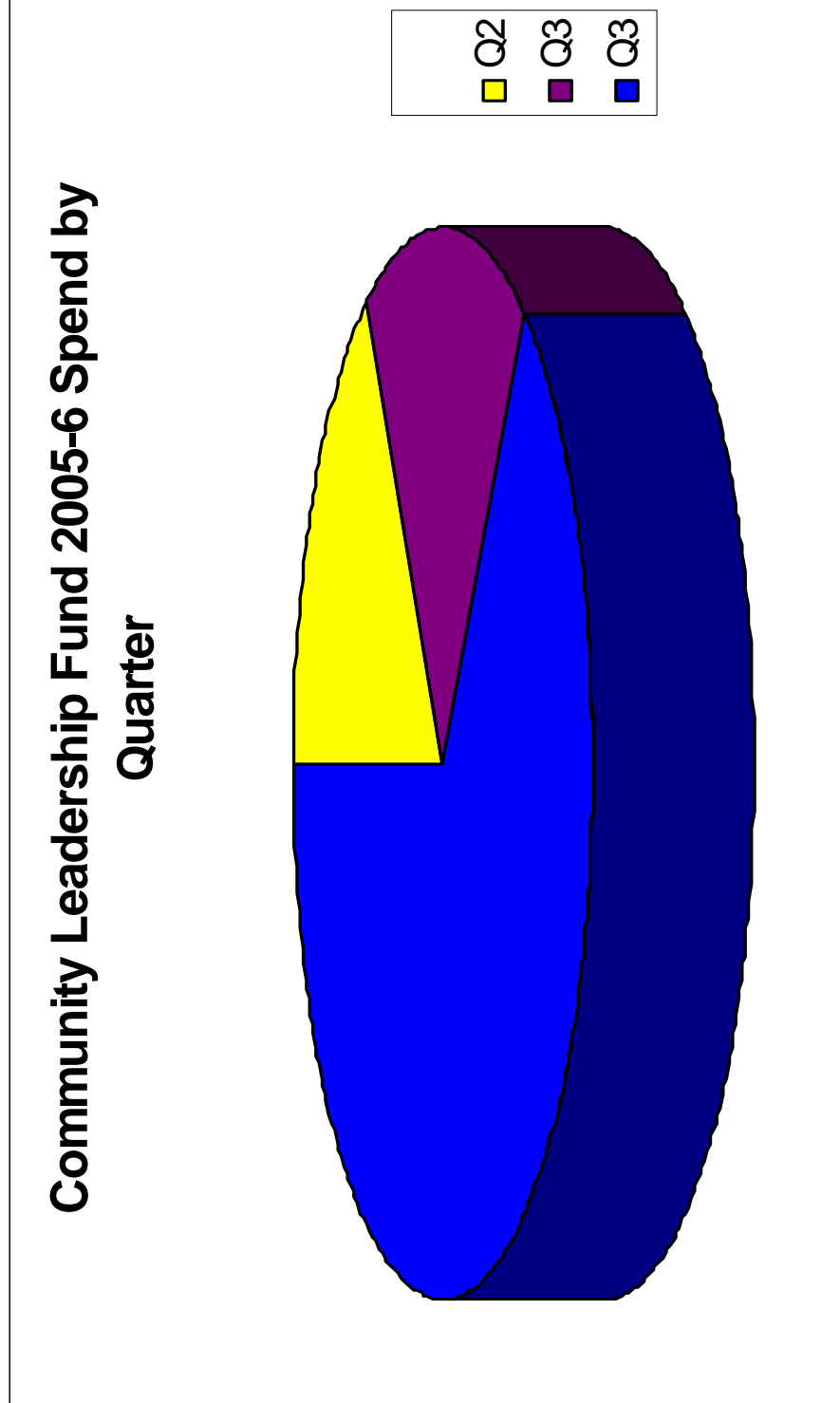
Contact Names : Paul Griffiths, Community Leadership Manager - Neighbourhoods, Ext 6965 paul.griffiths@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix 1



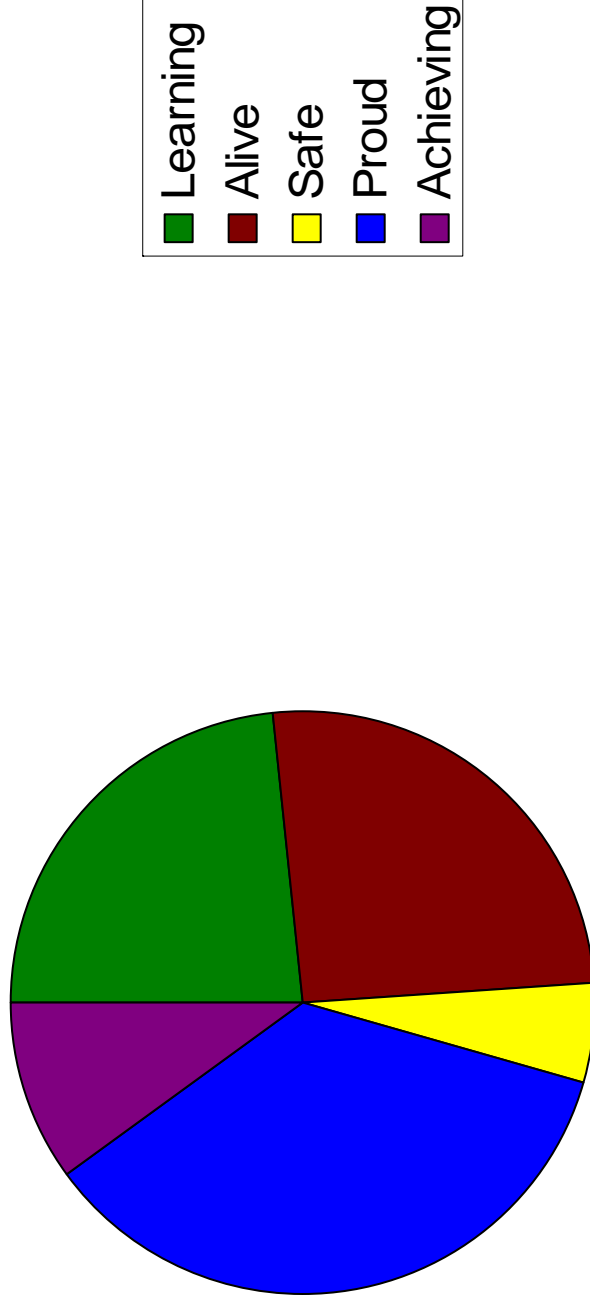
Appendix 2





Appendix 4

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP FUND 2005-6 SPEND BY
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME**



Appendix 5

| Ward No. | Councillor | Date | Organisation | Project Activity | Amount Spent |
|------------|-----------------|----------|--|--|--------------|
| Ward 1 | R Stonebridge | 31.03.06 | Woodland Drive Family Learning Centre | Youth Activities | 500.00 |
| Anston & | I G L St John | 30.11.05 | Stepping Stones | To purchase a data projector | 250.00 |
| Woodsetts | I G L St John | 07.03.06 | Woodland Drive Family Learning Centre | Improvements to soft play area | 200.00 |
| | J A Barton | 28.02.06 | Woodsetts Neighbourhood Watch | Room Hire | 200.00 |
| | J A Barton | 07.03.06 | Woodland Drive Family Learning Centre | Improvements to soft play area | 300.00 |
| Ward 2 | Mahroof Hussain | 22.01.06 | Ethnic Disabled Childrens Parent Group | Consultation/Eid event for Rotherham disabled Children | 250.00 |
| Boston | Mahroof Hussain | 28.02.06 | Maitings Tenancy Group | To purchase allotment equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Friends of Clifton Park | To purchase additional Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Beeverleigh Action Group | To purchase additional equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 20.03.06 | Friends of Boston Castle & Parklands | To purchase additional Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Tiddlywinks Parent & Toddler group | To provide play equipment | 50.00 |
| Castle | P A Wooton | 22.09.05 | Canklow Woods Primary School | Providing Multi-lingual sport resources in school | 50.00 |
| | P A Wooton | 25.11.05 | Friends of Oakwood Grange | Activites to stimulate and entertain patients | 50.00 |
| | P A Wooton | 28.02.06 | Maitings Tenancy Group | To purchase allotment equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Friends of Clifton Park | To purchase additional equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Beeverleigh Action Group | To purchase additional equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 20.03.06 | Friends of Boston Castle & Parklands | To purchase additional Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Tiddlywinks Parent & Toddler group | To provide play equipment | 200.00 |
| | R A McNeeley | 22.09.05 | Canklow Woods Primary School | Providing Multi-lingual sport resources in school | 50.00 |
| | R A McNeeley | 25.11.05 | Friends of Oakwood Grange | Activites to stimulate and entertain patients | 50.00 |
| | R A McNeeley | 28.02.06 | Maitings Tenancy Group | To purchase allotment equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Friends of Clifton Park | To purchase additional equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Beeverleigh Action Group | To purchase additional equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 20.03.06 | Friends of Boston Castle & Parklands | To purchase additional Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Tiddlywinks Parent & Toddler group | To provide play equipment | 200.00 |
| Ward 3 | A G Jackson | 23.01.06 | Brinsworth Library Improvement Group | Towards the cost of bookmarks for publicity of the group | 120.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Brinsworth Howarth Primary School | towards costs of fitness & culture Projects | 200.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Brinsworth & Catcliffe Local History Group | Towards costs of string up new Community Group | 180.00 |
| Brinsworth | R G Littleboy | 07.02.06 | Catcliffe Primary School | To install listening stations in each classroom | 250.00 |
| Catcliffe | | 03.03.06 | Friends of Whitehill | Redecorate Community room | 250.00 |
| | F Wright | 23.11.05 | Friends of Whitehill School | To purchase Furniture & Equipment | 500.00 |
| Ward 4 | J P Wardle | 07.11.05 | Dinnington Community Development Forum | Mobile Skate Park | 350.00 |

| | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------|---|--|--------|
| Dinnington | | 23.11.05 | Lyric Theatre Players | To fund a drama teacher | 150.00 |
| | J A Havenhand | 07.11.05 | Dinnington Community Development Forum | Mobile Skate Park | 350.00 |
| | D W Davies | 17.02.06 | Dinnington Resource Centre | To redecorate the centre | 150.00 |
| | | 23.11.05 | Lyric Theatre Players | To fund a drama teacher | 250.00 |
| | R A J Turner | 23.02.06 | Dinnington Community Development Forum | Room Hire | 250.00 |
| Ward 5 | R A J Turner | 31.03.06 | CRUSE | Support for Bereavement counselling services | 200.00 |
| Hellaby | B Cutts | 31.03.06 | WING | Wickersley neighbourhood group annual outing | 300.00 |
| | | 27.02.06 | St Albans Church | Educational Puppets | 500.00 |
| Ward 6 | L Binnie | 31.03.06 | Rotherham SeaScouts | Activites to for young people | 500.00 |
| | H L Jack | 21.02.06 | Aston Recreation Team | Varios Gardening Equipment | 500.00 |
| Holderness | J Austen | 21.02.06 | Aston Recreation Team | Varios Gardening Equipment | 500.00 |
| | G Smith | 21.02.06 | Aston Recreation Team | Varios Gardening Equipment | 500.00 |
| Ward 7 | F Hodgkiss | 27.02.06 | Cortonwood Ladies Guild | Room Hire | 105.00 |
| | | 27.02.06 | Ann Rhodes Pensioners Club | To fund trips | 130.00 |
| | | 27.02.06 | Wentworth Old P Treat Fund | coach trip to the seaside | 135.00 |
| | | 27.02.06 | York Gardens Social Club | Day trip out to Lightwater Valley | 130.00 |
| | J Hamilton | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm, Monkwood, Thorogate Comm Centre | Cost of coach for an outing | 175.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm TARA | Leafles, posters and childrens rides dor community day | 100.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | West Melton Primary School | Portable Junior basketball hoops & balls | 100.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Cartonwood Comeback Community | Gardening Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Brampton Youth Group | towards cost of outings | 75.00 |
| | R S Russell | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm, Monkwood, Thorogate Comm Centre | Cost of coach for an outing | 175.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm TARA | Leafles, posters and childrens rides dor community day | 100.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | West Melton Primary School | Portable Junior basketball hoops & balls | 100.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Cartonwood Comeback Community | Gardening Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Brampton Youth Group | towards cost of outings | 75.00 |
| Ward 8 | S Walker | 18.07.05 | Haynooks OAP's Social Club | towards the cost of hiring coach for trip to Skegness | 200.00 |
| Keppel | | 15.08.05 | Thorpe Hesley & Scholes Youth Forum | storage cabin for equipment | 120.00 |
| | | 15.08.05 | Forty Martyrs Bowls Club | towards the cost of a coach for trip to Bridlington | 100.00 |
| | | 13.09.05 | Forty Martyrs Parish Social Club | coach trip to Bridlington | 80.00 |
| | B A Kaye | 26.07.05 | Munsbrough Junior FC | pair of 'full size' steel goalposts | 500.00 |
| | I C Barron | 15.08.05 | Thorpe Hesley & Scholes Youth Forum | storage cabin for equipment | 200.00 |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------|---|--|--------|
| Ward 9 | G B Robinson | 13.10.05 | Thorpe Hesley & Scholes Ladies Section | window blinds | 300.00 |
| Maltby | B Slade | 31.03.06 | Maltby Comprehensive School PTA | Mentor Training at Hallam University | 500.00 |
| | | 23.11.05 | Friends of Parkhill Lodge | to purchase lights for disco for residents party night | 200.00 |
| | | 30.11.05 | Maltby Manor Schools | bee-bots and active learning resource | 300.00 |
| Ward 10 | Rushforth A | 31.03.06 | Maltby Comprehensive School PTA | Mentor Training at Hallam University | 500.00 |
| | | 18.07.05 | St Joesphs Catholic School residential Outing | residential visit to Scarabrough | 100.00 |
| | | 22.09.05 | Rawmarsh Allotment Youth Group | towards set up costs of a community allotment project | 50.00 |
| | | 24.03.06 | Friends of Ashwood | Coach Trip to London | 250.00 |
| | | 05.01.06 | Rawmarsh Ashwood Road School | books for foundation unit | 100.00 |
| | N Hamilton | 18.07.05 | St Joesphs Catholic School residential Outing | residential visit to Scarabrough | 100.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm, Monkwood, Thorogate Comm Centre | Cost of coach for an outing | 150.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | Rawmarsh Thorogate J & I | Residential visit to Isle of Wight | 250.00 |
| | S Wright | 18.07.05 | St Joesphs Catholic School residential Outing | residential visit to Scarabrough | 100.00 |
| | | 03.02.06 | Rawmarsh Community School & Sports College | Educational trip to Houses of Parliament | 250.00 |
| | | 07.03.06 | Manor Farm, Monkwood, Thorogate Comm Centre | Cost of coach for an outing | 150.00 |
| Ward 11 | G D | 15.11.05 | Treeton Junior Youth Club | Community Cinema | 150.00 |
| Rother Vale | Nightingale | 16.02.06 | The Friday Club | Cost of coach for an outing | 30.45 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Community Crafts | Room Hire | 40.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Friday Circle | Cost of coach for an outing | 35.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | 2nd Rotherham Thurcroft Scouts | Camping Equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft knitting & sewing Group | Equipment for Embroidery Machine | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Ulley Parish Council | 2 Benches in the Recreation area | 117.00 |
| | J F Swift | 15.11.05 | Treeton Junior Youth Club | Community Cinema | 150.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | The Friday Club | Cost of coach for an outing | 35.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Community Crafts | Room Hire | 30.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Friday Circle | Cost of coach for an outing | 30.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | 2nd Rotherham Thurcroft Scouts | Camping Equipment | 55.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft knitting & sewing Group | Equipment for Embroidery Machine | 50.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Ulley Parish Council | 2 Benches in the Recreation area | 117.00 |
| | M G Boyes | 15.11.05 | Treeton Junior Youth Club | Community Cinema | 150.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | The Friday Club | Cost of coach for an outing | 35.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Community Crafts | Room Hire | 30.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft Friday Circle | Cost of coach for an outing | 35.00 |

| | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|----------|--|--|--------|
| | | 16.02.06 | 2nd Rotherham Thurcroft Scouts | Camping Equipment | 55.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Thurcroft knitting & sewing Group | Equipment for Embroidery Machine | 50.00 |
| | | 16.03.06 | Ulley Parish Council | 2 Benches in the Recreation area | 116.00 |
| Ward 12 | M R Kirk | 26.09.05 | Clifton Garden Society | cost of skip hire to clear land to create more gardens | 333.00 |
| Rotherham | | 10.10.05 | Rotherham Lifestyles | workshops/activities run in Eastwood | 167.00 |
| East | B Dodson | 26.09.05 | Clifton Garden Society | cost of skip hire to clear land to create more gardens | 334.00 |
| | | 10.10.05 | Rotherham Lifestyles | workshops/activities run in Eastwood | 166.00 |
| | S Ali | 26.09.05 | Clifton Garden Society | cost of skip hire to clear land to create more gardens | 333.00 |
| | | 10.10.05 | Rotherham Lifestyles | workshops/activities run in Eastwood | 167.00 |
| Ward 13 | P J Lee | 28.02.06 | west Central Community Partnership | to purchase a noticeboard at Wingfield Pond | 500.00 |
| Rotherham | A Senior | 31.10.05 | Meadows Community Partnership | It Project Management | 250.00 |
| West | | 05.12.05 | Blackburn Community Partnership | Room Hire | 250.00 |
| | C Vines | 18.07.05 | Caine Gardens Friendly Society | Cost of coach for an outing | 250.00 |
| | | 15.08.05 | Blackburn Community Partnership | 12 months public liability insurance | 250.00 |
| Ward 14 | G A Russell | 13.09.05 | Kilnhurst Action Group | Materials for lanterns | 86.67 |
| Silverwood | | 26.09.05 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 85.00 |
| | | 15.11.05 | March Flatts community Centre | two low flush w/c's | 83.00 |
| | | 29.03.06 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 44.00 |
| | R Stone | 13.09.05 | Kilnhurst Action Group | Materials for lanterns | 86.66 |
| | | 26.09.05 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 85.00 |
| | | 15.11.05 | March Flatts community Centre | two low flush w/c's | 84.00 |
| | | 29.03.06 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 43.00 |
| | P A Russell | 13.09.05 | Kilnhurst Action Group | Materials for lanterns | 86.67 |
| | | 26.09.05 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 80.00 |
| | | 15.11.05 | March Flatts community Centre | two low flush w/c's | 83.00 |
| | | 29.03.06 | Ravenfield Events Group | Towards events held in the Parish Hall | 44.00 |
| Ward 15 | J M Clarke | 22.08.05 | Whiston Memorial Barn | Clear an area of land to display historical artefacts | 500.00 |
| Sitwell | J Gilding | 22.08.05 | Whiston Memorial Barn | Clear an area of land to display historical artefacts | 500.00 |
| | S Smith | 22.08.05 | Whiston Area Community Partnership | start up grant and room hire | 250.00 |
| | | 22.08.05 | Whiston Memorial Barn | Clear an area of land to display historical artefacts | 250.00 |
| Ward 16 | K Wyatt | 23.11.05 | Sports & Health sub Group Swinton Comm Partner | To regenerate Swinton Welfare Playing Fields | 500.00 |
| Swinton | J Doyle | 17.03.06 | Swinton Community Partnership | To fund the Baby Stop Think Programme | 488.00 |
| | N License | 17.08.05 | Meadow View Community Association | A sign for outside the office | 200.00 |
| | | 20.03.06 | Charles Street Social Club Association | Digital Camera | 290.00 |
| Ward 17 | P F Burke | 16.02.06 | Friends of Valley Park | Towards the cost of proving seating in the park | 150.00 |

| | | | | | | |
|------------|----------------|----------|---|--|---|--------|
| | | 15.03.06 | DTH Community Partnership | | Towards costs for young people forum | 350.00 |
| Valley | P M Leakin | 16.02.06 | Friends of Valley Park | | Towards the cost of proving seating in the park | 150.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Dalton Youth Centre | | Gardening Equipment | 75.00 |
| | | 27.01.06 | Friends of Dalton Foliambe Primary School | | Towards the cost of a seating area | 175.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Herringthorpe Youth Centre | | To purchase a greenhouse | 100.00 |
| | D Pickering | 16.02.06 | Friends of Valley Park | | Towards the cost of proving seating in the park | 150.00 |
| | | 16.02.06 | Dalton Youth Centre | | Gardening Equipment | 75.00 |
| | | 27.01.06 | Friends of Dalton Foliambe Primary School | | Towards the cost of a seating area | 175.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Herringthorpe Youth Centre | | To purchase a greenhouse | 100.00 |
| Ward 18 | K S Barton | 28.02.06 | The Tenpence Coffee Club | | Towards the cost of a healthy meal | 100.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Harthill Cricket Club | | Cricket Equipment | 400.00 |
| Wales | D K Hall | 15.03.06 | Harthill Outdoor Bowls Club | | Room Hire & Refreshments | 250.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | The Over 60's Club | | Towards costs of various trips | 250.00 |
| | D J Nuttall | | | | | 0.00 |
| Ward 19 | A Gosling | 30.11.05 | Streetpride clearing of land 15 Moor Road, Wath | | Clearing of overgrown land | 344.00 |
| Wath | | 28.02.06 | Moving on 2 | | 25 Dumbells, music centre and cd's for group | 67.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Wath Festival | | Material for festival | 89.00 |
| | A Sangster | 30.11.05 | Streetpride clearing of land 15 Moor Road, Wath | | Clearing of overgrown land | 344.00 |
| | | 28.02.06 | Moving on 2 | | 25 Dumbells, music centre and cd's for group | 67.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Wath Festival | | Material for festival | 89.00 |
| | A Atkin | 30.11.05 | Streetpride clearing of land 15 Moor Road, Wath | | Clearing of overgrown land | 344.00 |
| | | 28.02.06 | Moving on 2 | | 25 Dumbells, music centre and cd's for group | 66.00 |
| | | 15.03.06 | Wath Festival | | Material for festival | 90.00 |
| Ward 20 | S Ellis | 17.03.06 | Mark Grove Subscribers Activity Fund | | Towards costs of various trips | 100.00 |
| | | 17.03.06 | Wickersley After School Club | | Towards cost of new equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 26.06.06 | St Albans Wickersley | | Towards the cost of a projector | 50.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Blessed Trinity Church & Parish Hall | | For development of the site | 50.00 |
| | | 13.04.06 | Wickersley Operatics Society | | Towards the cost of the 2007 show | 250.00 |
| Wickersley | P Thirlwall | 17.03.06 | Mark Grove Subscribers Activity Fund | | Towards costs of various trips | 100.00 |
| | | 26.06.06 | St Albans Wickersley | | Towards the cost of a projector | 50.00 |
| | | 17.03.06 | Wickersley After School Club | | Towards cost of new equipment | 50.00 |
| | | 31.03.06 | Blessed Trinity Church & Parish Hall | | For development of the site | 50.00 |
| | | 13.04.06 | Wickersley Operatics Society | | Towards the cost of the 2007 show | 250.00 |
| | P Darby | 31.03.06 | Wickersley Northfield Primary School | | For equipment for engineering challenges | 500.00 |
| Ward 21 | L M S Johnston | 30.11.05 | Removal of bench in Greasbro cemetery | | Replace bench in Cemetery | 375.00 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|---|----------|
| Wingfield | | 28.02.06 | Munsbrough Junior FC | new football boots & kit | 125.00 |
| | T R Sharman | 15.11.05 | Neuro Support Group | Materials for craft making classes | 200.00 |
| | | 15.11.05 | Kimmie Park Rangers FC | Equipment for team | 300.00 |
| | T E Bowmar | 28.02.06 | west Central Community Partnership | to purchase a noticeboard at Wingfield Pond | 310.00 |
| | | 28.02.06 | Munsbrough Junior FC | new football boots & kit | 190.00 |
| Total: | | | | | 30229.45 |

Appendix 6

Members' Community Leadership Fund

A P P L I C A T I O N F O R M

How to complete this Application Form

Notes for Members:

- (i) You should complete section 1 of this form first.
- (ii) If this proposal involves giving a grant to a voluntary or community group, please ask an office holder of that group to complete sections 2, 3, 4 and 5. Once they have completed their details, they should return the form to you.

OR

If this proposal involves work to be done by the council directly, please complete section 2 below.

- (iii) *Your proposal should link clearly with the themes of the Community Strategy. Please consult the list of Community Strategy themes and their sub headings for your guidance.*
- (iv) You should then endorse the application at Section 6 and send it through to the Community Involvement Unit, Neighbourhoods Programme Area for processing. If more than one Member is endorsing the project then all relevant Members should sign.

Notes for Groups / Organisations supported through the Fund:

- (i) You should complete sections 2,3, 4 and 5 of this form. Please ensure you give daytime contact numbers as requested in sections 3 and 5 – this is the quickest way for us to contact you in case of any query.
- (ii) Make a copy of the form for yourself
- (iii) Attach a copy of your group's latest bank statement
- (iv) Submit the completed form with your bank statement to your councillor(s) who will endorse the application at section 6 of the form.

Please note:

- Your application may be delayed if it is not completed correctly or if documentation is missing.
- All applications will be expected to show value for money.

- For larger applications we may need further information about your organisation – if this is the case we will contact you directly.

Community Strategy 2005-2006

The Strategic Themes

Rotherham Achieving

- Social enterprise development
- Mixed economy
- Developing business
- Developing / linking to town centre
- Transport and accessibility

Rotherham Learning

- Available and varied education & learning / training / opportunities
- vocational courses etc/
- Volunteering
- Encouraging entrepreneurship

Rotherham Alive

- Health / healthcare services
- History, heritage and culture – varied and accessible
- Local publications / newsletters / websites etc.
- Children and young people
- Sports and social activities – wide range and accessible
- Environment, parks and open spaces

Rotherham Safe

- Crime & safety, anti-social behaviour
- Housing – well designed and good quality
- Accessible local facilities

Rotherham Proud

- Active citizenship / democracy and local decision making (community planning / public meetings etc)
- Celebrating diversity and achievement
- Supporting vulnerable people
- Community cohesion

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| ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER |
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| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--|
| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion |
| 2. | Date: | 17th July 2006 |
| 3. | Title: | Progress on the integration of Parish and Town Councils into Neighbourhood Management arrangements. |
| 4. | Programme Area: | Neighbourhoods |

5. Summary

Following the signing of the Joint Working Charter, work has begun to ensure that Parish and Town Councils are able to play a full and pivotal role within Neighbourhood Management arrangements in Rotherham as part of the new way of working for Area Assemblies.

6. Recommendations

THAT CABINET MEMBER NOTES THE PROGRESS BEING MADE WITH:

- 1) ENCOURAGING JOINT WORKING BETWEEN RMBC AND PARISH AND TOWN COUNCILS.**
- 2) DEVELOPING THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL COUNCILS TO PLAY A PARTNERSHIP ROLE WITHIN NEIGHBOURHOOD ARRANGEMENTS.**

7. Proposals and Details

In February 2005 the government published "Citizen Engagement and Public services: Why Neighbourhoods Matter." This key discussion paper looked at the how best to develop and strengthen community level governance as part of a ten year vision for the future of local government.

The paper clearly indicated that the Government envisages local councils providing strong local community leadership, working in partnership with local authorities, improving the quality and range of services available and making an effective contribution to the sustainability of neighbourhoods.

In order to meet these challenges the following actions are being developed to support the integration and development of Parish and Town councils into neighbourhood management arrangements:-

Progressing the Joint Working Charter

During March 2006 twenty five of Rotherham's twenty nine local councils and parish meetings signed up to the framework of joint working arrangements outlined in the Charter.

It was agreed that the Charter would be a 'living' document, updated regularly to reflect changing circumstances and the development of stronger ties between the two tiers of local government.

The Joint Working Group have scheduled quarterly meetings throughout the coming year and have agreed an Action Plan to deliver the major themes of the Charter.

A small handful of councils and parish meetings declined to sign the Charter. Discussions will be held with these groups in order to address any issues that may have discouraged their support for the joint working arrangements.

Please see Action Plan attached in Appendix 1.

Supporting Quality Parish Council Status

Quality status requires a parish or town council to demonstrate that it is representative of the whole community, communicates with it's residents and is properly managed and responsible. The award enhances the status of local councils by demonstrating a level of competence that enables them to play a wider role in terms of consultation, delivery of services, information and partnership working. At the present time only Whiston has achieved Quality Parish Council status within Rotherham. RMBC has agreed a challenging Local Area Agreement target with the government to support 3-4 local councils to meet Quality Status by March 2007. Recent research indicates that several local councils are close to meeting the mandatory criteria but still require the clerk to obtain the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA).

To assist with this the Yorkshire Local Councils Association (the awarding body) have been asked to facilitate several sessions to ensure that clerks are supported to submit completed portfolios for assessment over the next six months.

Area Assemblies

Parish and Town Councils are an integral part of the new way of working for Area Assemblies. They are a partner organisation and may have representation on co-ordinating groups across the Borough and as such would be able to ensure that action is taken on issues being raised at local level.

Parish councillors sitting on the co-ordinating groups will be supported by a training package to ensure that they have the skills required to play a full role and feedback issues to the parishes they represent.

Parish 'Forum' Meetings

The Joint Working Group have approved proposals to develop the concept of a 'Parish Forum'. This would involve all Parish and Town Councils having the opportunity to meet four times a year as a whole group. It has been suggested that two of the meetings will focus on planning issues while the other two will concentrate on general issues effecting all local councils.

The meetings will give Parish and Town Councils the opportunity to actively input into existing RMBC initiatives e.g Safer Neighbourhood Teams, Streetpride, etc and improve access and awareness of the council and other services.

Local councils will be able to share good practice, build networks and improve their capacity to deliver improved services to local people.

Further consultation on the proposed structure and purpose of the 'forum' is to be carried out with local councils and through the appropriate channels within RMBC.

Co – opted Membership on Council Bodies and Training

A Parish and Town Council representative currently sits on the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel as a co-opted Member. The YLCA are currently balloting Parish Councils to elect a second representative to sit on the panel.

The YLCA have also been asked to ballot for a representative to sit as a co-opted member on the Member Development Panel.

Following the signing of the Joint Working Charter all suitable Member Development events have been opened up to Parish Councillors.

8. Finance

Support for the CiLCA is being met from existing budgets within the Community Involvement Unit. The support sessions for clerks are likely to cost in the region of £1500.00

The following items will have resource implications if RMBC are to continue to support the further integration and wider role of Parish and Town Councils:-

- Support for IT projects to meet the Quality Status criteria

- Training and support for parish representatives on the Area Assembly co-ordinating group
- Delivery of the parish partnership 'forum' proposals

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Successful neighbourhood arrangements exist where there are good relationships between the two tiers of local government. Parish and Town councillors will need continued support and encouragement if their role within the new Area Assembly arrangements are to be developed successfully.

Local councils may not meet mandatory elements around Quality Status, in particular the electoral mandate test (on first accreditation 80% of members of the council must have been elected). This may jeopardize the Local Area Agreement target around Quality Status. The YLCA are currently assessing each local council who are looking to apply for Quality status over the next six months.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The issues set out in this report link to key elements of the Government's vision for neighbourhood development, promoting local democracy and delivering community leadership.

Community Strategy

Developing closer ties with Parish and Town Councils links with the PROUD theme and the key priorities: "Develop local democracy at a neighbourhood level, devolving powers and resources and increasing opportunities for engagement."

Corporate Plan

Rotherham PROUD: Support Parish and Town Councils in achieving quality status: Develop a Parish Councils accord and strengthen joint working.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- The Potential of Parish and Town Councils to Support Neighbourhood Arrangements LGIU June 2006
- Parish and Town Councils and Neighbourhood Governance: Joseph Rowntree Foundation Seminar Match 2005.
- Citizen Engagement and Public Services: Why Neighbourhoods Matter ODPM 2005

Contact Names : Paul Griffiths, Community Leadership Manager - Neighbourhoods, Ext 6965 paul.griffiths@rotherham.gov.uk

| Objective: 1 Action plan to embed the commitments of the Joint Working Charter and the capacity of all Parish and Town Councils to achieve Quality Parish Council status. (Local Area Agreement Target, Dec 06) | | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Action | Target Date | Task Status (R, A, G,) | Measure/Milestone |
| 1. To hold quarterly meetings of joint Working Group to act as the monitoring framework for embedding the Joint Charter within RMBC, Parish Councils and Rotherham Partnership | June 06 | G | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of the joint working group scheduled for June 06, Sep 06, Dec 06 and March 07 Annual conference to take place in February 07 to review progress made. |
| 2. To hold quarterly meetings of the officers group who were responsible for developing the Charter to ensure issues from Joint Working Group are actioned and reported back to the relevant stakeholders | July 06 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings of the officers working group scheduled for July 06, Oct 06, Jan 07 and March 07. |
| 3. To strengthen the links between local councils, RMBC and Rotherham Partnership to ensure local councils are actively involved in the development and refresh of the Community Strategy | Mar 07 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead from C/X's |
| 4. To ensure the Integration of Parish Councils and Voluntary / Community sector organisations within the Neighbourhood Management Model | Sep 06 | A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nomination process for Executive group of the Area Assembly resolved Support programme for local council representatives in place to enable parish councillors to play a more active community leadership role within the Area Assemblies |

| | | | |
|---|------------|---|--|
| 5. To produce a joint newsletter to improve communication between all stakeholders | March 07 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project feasibility assessed and developed by Joint working group meeting on the 29/06/06. |
| 6. To investigate the support provision requirements e.g. parish plans/IT/Funding advice in order to establish a programme of practical support to develop the capacity of Parish/Town councils | October 06 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support/skills audit completed |
| 7. Training for officers and elected members to increase awareness around the roles, functions and potential of local councils. | March 07 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training programme in place for elected members and officers lead by YLCA. • Programme to be discussed at meeting with the YLCA on the 22/06/06. |
| 8. Provide position statement around the QS essential criteria. | July 06 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish number of local councils eligible to apply for QS during 2006/7. • Questionnaire sent to all parishes on the 13/06/06 requesting a current position statement relating to QS. |
| 9. Establish training programme for clerks to meet the CiLCA element of QS. | July 06 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questionnaire sent to all parishes on the 13/06/06 requesting a current position statement relating to QS. • Training plan to be agreed with the YLCA on the 22/06/06. |
| 10. Examine the feasibility of Quarterly Parish Partnership Meetings. The meetings will ensure proactive input into RMBC initiatives, build their capacity as elected community leaders and enable good practice to be shared between councils. | March 07 | R | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be discussed at the Joint Working Group meeting on the 29/06/06. |

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| ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS |
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| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--|
| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion |
| 2. | Date: | 17 July 2006 |
| 3. | Title: | Draft International Links Policy |
| 4. | Programme Area: | Chief Executive's Department |

5. Summary

The International Links Policy framework was approved by Cabinet in November 2005 and has been used as the basis for developing a draft International links Policy (attached at Appendix 1). The aim of the Policy is to raise the profile of Rotherham on the international stage, promote international co-operation and maximise funding opportunities for the benefit of Rotherham people, in accordance with our agreed priorities.

It includes seven objectives and an action plan for future work.

The draft International Links Policy will be considered by Cabinet on 19 July.

The summary of the Equalities Impact Assessment is attached at Appendix 2.

6. Recommendations

- **Note the development of the draft International Links Policy**

7. Proposals and Details

An International Links policy is being developed for Rotherham for three main reasons:

1. to profile the positive aspects of international work
2. to ensure a more co-ordinated and coherent approach to international work within available resources, and
3. to clarify to partners RMBC's objectives for engaging in international work and identify our priorities and proposed actions

Following research within programme areas and with partners, an International Links Policy Framework was written and approved by CMT and Cabinet in late 2005. The framework identified seven objectives for international work in Rotherham:

1. To encourage cultural exchanges and visits; helping to break down stereotypes, increase global awareness and understanding, offer opportunities for language learning, and present exciting possibilities for international work experience, professional development and aid work.
2. To develop international business and trade opportunities – maximising inward investment, export opportunities, information sharing and the promotion of Rotherham businesses abroad.
3. To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work in other countries.
4. To gain a better understanding of international issues, including a thorough grasp of European policy and funding thus increasing RMBC's influence at local, regional, national and international level and maximising funding opportunities and the benefit for Rotherham communities.
5. To raise the profile of international work through improved communication and promotion to ensure as many people as possible can benefit from the links.
6. To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues by involving people from a range of geographical areas and communities of interest.
7. To develop partnerships with towns and areas facing similar economic and social regeneration challenges in order to develop our collaborative knowledge around economic and social restructure.

Consultation undertaken with members and officers as part of the development of the International Links Policy has revealed support for such work in adding clarity and focus to Rotherham's international work programme.

During the members' seminar, no one objective from the list above was identified as a clear priority, although it was felt that the first three objectives were of particular importance. The Policy also aims to promote community cohesion by helping to enhance relationships between communities of different countries and cultures, increasing understanding and respect of the world, reducing ignorance and tackling polarisation. If used appropriately, international work provides an opportunity to engage people from the whole community irrespective of age gender, ethnicity,

religion, disability, social or economic status, and can be used as a stimulus for involving groups of people e.g. Black and Ethnic Minority people, young people or other disadvantaged groups who may not otherwise be motivated to engage with the local authority.

The Policy sets out an action plan of work to be undertaken in 2006/07 related to each objective and includes a forward plan of known visits and projects with the flexibility to accommodate new projects where possible. There is currently a modest budget within the Chief Executive's Department of £10,000 to support this work. A dedicated Town Twinning and International Links Officer is also based within the Chief Executive's Department co-ordinating the twinning link with St Quentin, the partnership with Riesa and working corporately on other international projects. However, it should be noted that some actions included in the Policy will be undertaken with staff resources and funding from other Programme Area budgets.

An annual monitoring report will be prepared each year to assess work undertaken against the action plan and how the budget has been spent. In addition the report will look forward to the next year and outline future work and projects to be undertaken.

Currently the International Links Committee meets to consider project proposals and forthcoming activity and makes decisions on allocation of the International Links budget. There is also the International Links Partners Group, which is a forum for the dissemination of good practice and a network for those involved in international work in the borough.

The committee structure is to be reviewed to make sure that it operates effectively and works to maximise opportunities. The proposal is to introduce an overarching 'international links committee' with several spokes or sub-committees reporting in to it, each with a specific theme.

8. Finance

No direct financial implications at this time.

The Policy aims to maximise the use of the limited existing resources (both staff and budgets) through collaborative work across programmes areas within the Council and with our partners both here and abroad. If significant further activity were to be undertaken, eg another partner agreement, additional resources would need to be secured.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are always risks that international links may not be sustained due to political, economic or priority changes. For a link to continue there must be interest and commitment from both parties.

The aim of the International Links Policy is to focus the work being undertaken to ensure that resources are used in line with the Council's priorities.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The seven objectives within the International Links Policy have been aligned with the Community Strategy themes. The table below shows the fit between the objectives and Community Strategy themes:

| International Links Policy Objectives | Community Strategy Themes |
|--|----------------------------------|
| To encourage cultural exchanges and visits | Proud, Alive, Learning |
| To develop international business and trade opportunities | Achieving |
| To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work in other countries | Safe |
| To gain a better understanding of international issues to increasing RMBC's influence at local, regional, national and international level and maximising funding opportunities and the benefit for Rotherham communities. | Achieving, Learning, Proud |
| To raise the profile of international work through improved communication and promotion to ensure as many people as possible can benefit from the links. | Proud, Fair |
| To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues by involving people from a range of geographical areas and communities of interest. | Fair |
| To develop partnerships with towns and areas facing similar economic and social regeneration challenges in order to develop our collaborative knowledge around economic and social restructure. | Achieving, Learning |

International Links contribute to the Council's equality and diversity commitments by giving people the chance to learn about other cultures and breaking down stereotypes. They also contribute to the regeneration of the borough by encouraging tourism and inward investment.

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken and a summary of the findings is attached at Appendix 2.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

An officers' workshop was held in March 2006 with key officers who have been involved in work with an international element.

A members' seminar was held in May and attended by 13 members. Following the seminar a briefing was circulated to all members with the main points from the presentation and resulting discussion.

Consultation was undertaken with Programme Areas across the Council.

A report was presented to the LSP Chief Executive Officers' meeting on 3 July.

An update on the development of the International Links Policy was given at the International Links Partners' group on 6 July.

The draft Policy document was considered by CMT on 10 July.

Contact Name : *Emily Knowles*
Town Twinning and International Links Officer
x2795

Joanne Wehrle
Partnership Officer (Regional)
x2738

**The International Links Policy
2006-2009
DRAFT**

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Foreword – by Councillor Roger Stone, Leader of the Council

The context for an international links policy

“Our aim in developing this International Links policy is to raise the profile of Rotherham on the international stage, promote international co-operation and maximise funding opportunities for the benefit of Rotherham people, in accordance with our agreed priorities.

In today’s world there is growing recognition of the impact international events and issues as varied as the expansion of the European Union, globalisation, fair trade or environmental disasters can have at local level, and the role local government can play in global matters. It is also recognised that there are many global challenges that we cannot solve on our own and we are more effective at dealing with them in partnership.

The importance of international co-operation has never been greater. As the elected member with responsibility for International issues I feel that it is essential that Rotherham has a robust international policy which clearly outlines the importance of engaging in international partnerships, their benefits and our current and future priorities in this respect. Rotherham is already working at an international level and this policy will allow us to ensure a more coherent approach to build on success so far and profile the positive aspects of international links.”

Why is international work important?

The potential benefits of international activity are numerous and diverse, ranging from an improvement in community cohesion by breaking down stereotypes and celebrating diversity, engaging young people in worthwhile activities and raising aspirations, promoting trade in Rotherham, encouraging inward investment and providing overseas aid. The specific benefits will depend on the type of activity undertaken, but the proposed outcomes of all international activity should be clearly stated and subsequently evaluated in order to monitor achievement against set objectives.

The national focus for international partner working has moved away from the traditional twinning locations of Western Europe to focus on linking with poorer countries, and there are many high profile campaigns to support such projects.

The Local Government International Bureau (LGIB) has just launched a new international strategy to promote all forms of international co-operation and highlight the benefits of engagement in this type of activity. The objectives of the policy are:

- i. to encourage more involvement in international co-operation
- ii. to raise awareness of the existing level of activity and highlight the potential role for local government in international cooperation
- iii. to emphasise the equal validity of all forms of activity, ranging from formal twinning to development co-operation
- iv. to outline the variety of benefits available and their direct relationship to the function of local government
- v. to lend more legitimacy and therefore confidence to local government involvement in international co-operation.

Recommendations are also made that local authorities in England and Wales should:

- i. become more actively involved in all forms of international co-operation
- ii. adopt an international policy and develop a strategy for engagement and activities
- iii. appoint an elected member to promote the international dimension.

In 2005 the LGIB published an International Development Strategy in recognition of the key role that UK local government must play in supporting the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The 8 MDGs were agreed in September 2000 during the UN Millennium Summit attended by 189 heads of state and governments, and aim to reduce poverty and build a fairer and safer world by 2015. The Goals are:

1. To eradicate extreme hunger and poverty
2. To achieve universal primary education
3. To promote gender equality and empower women
4. To reduce child mortality
5. To improve maternal health
6. To combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. To ensure environmental sustainability
8. To develop a global partnership for development

The MDGs see human development as the key to sustainable social, economic and environmental progress in all countries.

The UK has been a member of the European Union (EU) since 1973. Being part of the EU enables the UK to maximise on the actions that the European nations do better when they work together including:

- removing trade barriers to boost growth and create jobs
- improving our environment
- improving standards and rights for consumers
- fighting international crime and illegal immigration
- bringing peace and stability to Europe by engaging with its neighbours
- giving Europe a more powerful voice in the world.

Rotherham, together with the other districts in South Yorkshire, has benefited for many years from funding from the EU to help regenerate the economy and create new jobs. Since 2000 South Yorkshire has received the highest level of structural funds support from the EU in the form of Objective 1 money to improve the economic performance of the sub region relative to other areas in the EU. Under the Objective 1 programme South Yorkshire received over £730 million via the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) which aims to stimulate economic development and regeneration and the European Social Fund (ESF) designed to strengthen economic and social cohesion and support the Employment Action Plan. To date Rotherham has secured £26 million and has also directly benefitted from many county-wide projects.

A new Structural Funds programme is currently being negotiated for the period 2007-2013 which will see South Yorkshire and hence Rotherham receive a much reduced level of funding. This is due to the improvements to our economic performance over the last 7 years, but also the enlargement of the EU which has seen the accession of relatively poorer countries who require higher levels of support to raise their economies to the EU average. Nevertheless, South Yorkshire will receive significant levels of transitional support from the EU.

One of the requirements of the EU Structural Funds support is that a minimum of 75% of the funding received must be spent on activities to support the EU Lisbon Agenda. The Lisbon Strategy was agreed in 2000, committing the EU to becoming the most dynamic and competitive knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth, with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion and respect for the environment by 2010. During 2005 the Lisbon strategy underwent a mid term review and the strategy was relaunched.

The strategy now focuses on jobs and growth and has three strategic objectives:

- making Europe a more attractive place to invest and work

- knowledge and innovation for growth
- creating more and better jobs.

Future priorities for international work in Rotherham, as outlined in this strategy will take into account the Lisbon Agenda and its strategic objectives.

Increasingly European funding opportunities outside of the Structural Funds programme require an element of partnership working to secure funding for proposals. This is to encourage and promote trans-national working to facilitate the sharing of information and ideas between EU Member states, promote cohesion and develop European relations. Effort to build international partnerships can take time, so work to promote international links of any kind can provide the foundation for future joint work to secure European funds to progress projects of mutual interest.

The Yorkshire and Humber European Office in Brussels is a resource which aims to promote the region's strengths in Europe and secure influence for our region over future EU policies and legislation. They offer a variety of practical services including:

- a partner search facility for authorities wishing to develop trans national projects
- notification of new funding opportunities being offered by the EU.
- general information about EU policy development

The Department for Education and Skills (DfES) launched a strategy in 2004 entitled 'Putting the World into World Class Education' which underlines the importance of equipping people to work in a global economy, engaging with international partners and maximising the UK's contribution to overseas trade and inward investment. In line with this strategy many schools in Rotherham have developed links with schools in other countries.

Rotherham as an international borough

The Community Strategy and Corporate Plan - and future Community Action Plans – will identify clear priorities which will drive the whole process of external funding within the Council.

The Community Strategy describes the future vision for the borough and the priorities, key targets and actions that partner organisations across Rotherham have committed to achieving, working individually and collaboratively, in partnership.

There are five strategic themes which will direct the future work of the Rotherham Partnership and together with two cross cutting themes, provide the strategic framework for the 2020 Vision:

Rotherham Achieving
Rotherham Learning
Rotherham Alive
Rotherham Safe
Rotherham Proud

Fairness
Sustainable Development

These strategic themes are also echoed in the Corporate Plan, which outlines the Council's role in delivering the Community Strategy for Rotherham. The Corporate Plan outlines the priorities that will be delivered over the next five years to support the local economy, promote the health and well being of local people, provide an environment where they can enjoy their lives to the full and provide them with easier access to even better services.

The contribution that the International Links Policy makes to the Community Strategy is shown through the links between each of the seven objectives and the Community Strategy themes.

Rotherham's place as an international borough has been boosted by the recent opening of Robin Hood Doncaster Sheffield Airport (DSA) conveniently located close to the north borough border, and only 6 miles from the Rotherham boundary. This greatly improves accessibility in and out of the area, and flights are available from DSA to a wide range of international destinations.

There are approximately 90 overseas companies located in Rotherham, employing around 7,000 people. About 50 of these companies originate from Europe, employing approximately 4,700 people. In addition there are many international links with local businesses exporting all over the world. A good example of this is Martek Marine who since commencing trading in 2000 have developed total export sales of £4.1M in 60 countries.

Rotherham regularly plays host to numerous visitors from around the world; the visitors' book in the Visitors' Centre from 2005/6 includes entries from places as far apart as India, Taiwan, Greece, USA, New Zealand, Malta, Poland and Australia among others. Many of the schools in Rotherham have partnerships with schools in other countries and often organise for groups of international students to visit the borough. Young People's Services also regularly invite groups of young people to visit from abroad. The Visitor Centre in Rotherham town centre opened in 2003 and is a valuable source of information for visitors to the town, providing a comprehensive reference collection of guides, street plans, maps, and events leaflets, in addition to a wide range of Rotherham merchandise.

International-themed events are organised in the town, including regular continental markets which give local people the chance to sample produce from across Europe. International events such as International Women's Day are celebrated in the town by a range of agencies including RMBC. A Diversity Festival is held each year alongside the Rotherham Show in September and recognises the diversity of Rotherham's communities.

According to 2001 Census data, the size of Rotherham's ethnic minority community is 5.2% of the total population, which is significantly lower than the average of 8.7% for England and Wales. The largest ethnic group within Rotherham is Pakistani with 2% of the total population. More recently there have been refugees and asylum seekers from Iran, Iraq, French speaking African countries and migrant workers from Eastern Europe since the expansion of the EU.

Rotherham **libraries** are an important resource for people arriving in Rotherham, and are well-used by the asylum seeker and refugee communities. There is free internet access and everyone is entitled to an email account which can provide a much needed link with friends and family in other countries. There are books and other resources available in several languages. They also run a Home from Home project which seeks to encourage those asylum seekers and refugees who are new to the area to improve their literacy and conversational skills and learn more about the English way of life. Also based in the Central Library is a designated European Public Information Centre (EPIC) which is one of a network of centres around the country and holds a range of information on European issues.

Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council has a **Translation and Interpretation Service (ITS)** based in Adult Services which helps improve the access of Social and Health Care Services for members of the Ethnic Minority Community residing in Rotherham whose first language is not English. The Interpretation and Translation Service is now widely used by all Council services and other agencies external to the Council. This service will assist the members of the Non-English speaking community in their dealing with council departments and facilitate their access to services provided by all other agencies involve in community

care. This service will also assist these people in exercising their right to full and informed participation in the planning, delivery and receipt of such services.

The International School Award is an accreditation scheme for curriculum-based international work in schools and is open to all schools from all sectors across the UK. Schools are encouraged to develop an international ethos in the school, develop year-round international curriculum-based work with partner schools, and involve the wider community and the majority of the pupils. Schools that gain the Award are given accreditation for three years and can then re-apply to renew their Award to reflect their current achievements. The scheme is supported and funded by the DfES, and they are keen for all schools to gain the award over time. Wales High School in Rotherham has held an International School Award since 2003 in recognition of their extensive international programme. Wales High has active links with Sri Lanka, Paraguay, Korea, Romania, France and Zanzibar and uses these partnerships to successfully enhance work across all subject areas.

Rotherham Young People's Services offer an accreditation opportunity for all young people who take part in International Youth Work, through the Open College Network (OCN) accredited *Introduction to Independent Travel* course. In 2005 around 40 young people in Rotherham were accredited for their involvement in international work. This included young people who went to Morocco or Tanzania and young people who took part in the work placements in Romania. All young people follow an accredited preparatory course before taking part in an international visit and some then put their file forward for accreditation. The course covers a range of topics including: teambuilding, culture, globalisation, health and safety and details specific to the visit, for example the programme, travel, climate, language and health issues. Young People's Services are also in the process of writing a generic course specifically to cover their international work which will be accredited through the OCN or other organisation.

The Rotherham Chamber led a delegation to Nashville in Tennessee to attend the Global ATHENA Awards in March 2006. For 20 years, the ATHENA Foundation has advocated for women's leadership by recognising individuals who are achieving professional excellence, giving back to their communities and opening doors of leadership for women. Rotherham Chamber brought the prestigious ATHENA programme to Europe for the first time in 2005 after having discovered the ATHENA Foundation during a benchmarking visit to Youngstown Chamber in Ohio, USA.

Rotherham's current international work

For RMBC, participation with any twinning arrangement or international link should be based upon its direct relevance and contribution to the corporate plan and the community strategy. The local authority has a power to promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of its community. The international link should have a beneficial impact for people in Rotherham.

The **local authority** can benefit from international links by improved service delivery through sharing information and expertise, increased international awareness leading to more effective global participation, access to more European funding via collaborative working with other countries and development opportunities for elected members and officers, including the opportunity to work with a wider range of people, leading to a better understanding of diverse cultures in the local communities.

RMBC's international work is currently overseen by a Town Twinning and International Links committee that meets bi-monthly to discuss proposals and forthcoming events. The committee takes decisions on the allocation of grants to groups travelling to the twin town of St Quentin. In addition to the RMBC committee, there is an International Links Partners' Group which acts as a forum for individuals from a variety of organisations who are involved

with international work in various forms. This group also meets bi-monthly. A review of the committee structure is currently underway to ensure that the most effective work practice is employed.

A range of **networks** have been established to enable officers working in the field of European and International links to share information and expertise, collaborate and improve efficiency through joint working. These include:

- Yorkshire and Humber European Officers Network
- South Yorkshire Collaborative working group on European and International Links
- Regional Twinning Officers Network
- Youth Work Unit – Regional International Youth Work Team.

Communities and partner agencies can also benefit from international work by improving relationships between communities, enhancing young people's provision and education and helping to improve public discussion and engagement on major global and local issues, such as the EU, racism and social exclusion. Businesses can also benefit from international contact which leads to commercial transactions and trading or to the exchange of technical knowledge to improve business efficiency and service delivery.

Rotherham's only current official twinning link is with **Saint Quentin** in France. The partnership began in 1990 when a Twinning Agreement was signed by the two towns. It is a very active partnership with some well established links and new ones continually being formed. The support from politicians and officers in both towns was reinforced during a meeting held in October 2005 to evaluate the twinning link. St Quentin's location in the North of France makes it accessible (and affordable) to groups wishing to visit from Rotherham, and for many young people it is their first experience of travelling abroad.

Examples of joint projects between Rotherham and Saint Quentin in 2005/6 have included: football team exchanges, work experience placements, school study visits, joint youth project, charity cycle ride between the two towns, junior school exchange, and exchange of information and expertise on priority issues.

There is an annual budget of £10,000 allocated to town twinning. This is used to support groups visiting St Quentin, and groups from our twin town visiting Rotherham. It also covers the cost of the annual civic visit and some other joint activities. There is currently no specific budget allocated to other international links.

In addition to the official twinning link, RMBC has connections with many other parts of the world. For example, there is a partnership agreement between Rotherham and **Riesa** in the east of Germany, which was signed in 1998, with the aim of sharing best practice and ideas around regeneration following the demise of the steel industry in both towns. The partnership was reactivated in 2004 after several years of lying dormant, and is now vibrant. A very successful long-term work experience programme has been set up between Riesa University and *ALcontrol Laboratories* in Templeborough, which provides invaluable work experience to the German undergraduates and enthusiastic, qualified volunteers to ALcontrol. In 2006 there have also been other work experience placements, a catering students study trip, participation in the Riesa dragon boat race, and performances in Riesa by the Rotherham Schools Youth Orchestra.

Several years ago, Rotherham was involved in a link with Sergeevka, near Odessa, on the Black Sea in southern **Ukraine**. Recently there has been some talk of re-establishing these links with a view to accessing the tourism market and developing international business and trade opportunities. Further discussions need to be held to determine the appropriateness of developing such a link.

Rotherham is currently involved with two municipalities in Bosnia-in-Herzegovina (namely Tuzla and Zenica), as part of the Beacon Council scheme for local economic development.

Delegates from the two areas visited Rotherham in June 2006, with a reciprocal visit planned for September 2006. This activity is part of a wider UK and Bosnia scheme co-ordinated by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The two areas are steel and mining communities and the potential joint work is initially around regeneration and economic development.

Rotherham is involved in various aid and assistance projects, giving support to international partners on specific issues. Young People's Services are extremely active in this area with long-term, sustainable projects in Tanzania and Nepal and a more recent link established with Romania. Aston Comprehensive School has a well-established and nationally recognised partnership with Makunduchi in Zanzibar, and in addition to cultural visits and exchanges, work experience and curriculum development, they have developed Aston Trade, a fair trade project to raise money for the Makunduchi school by selling local handicrafts from Zanzibar in Rotherham.

At the end of 2004 a survey of international links was carried out across the borough to gain a better understanding of the types of international projects that Rotherham people were involved in. The results were extremely positive and showed that there are links with over 25 countries around the world, and of many different types including school exchanges, work experience, trade and export links, aid work and links between sports clubs and other organisations. The results also highlighted a lack of knowledge about existing links and very limited information sharing. It was decided that an international links policy should be developed for Rotherham in order to coordinate and focus RMBC's international work programme and to share this with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) in order to develop an LSP approach to international work.

Future priorities for international work in Rotherham

From a consultation process, the seven objectives outlined on the following pages were agreed as part of the International Links policy framework. The objectives are already being met to varying degrees and examples have been listed under each one to show what is being done, as well as what more could be done in the future. The Vision themes which the objectives relate to and support have been shown in order to demonstrate how international work contributes to wider corporate priorities.

All of the objectives are important and could contribute to RMBC's corporate plan and community strategy. Consultation with Elected Members showed interest in a range of activity, which mirrors a central objective of the LGIB's new international policy launched in 2006 which underlines the equal validity of all types of international work. Members did however assign particular importance to the first three objectives:

1. To encourage cultural exchanges and visits; helping to break down stereotypes, increase global awareness and understanding, offer opportunities for language learning, and present exciting possibilities for international work experience, professional development and aid work.
2. To develop international business and trade opportunities – maximising inward investment, export opportunities, information sharing and the promotion of Rotherham businesses abroad.
3. To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work in other countries.

Objective 1

To encourage cultural exchanges and visits; helping to break down stereotypes, increase global awareness and understanding, offer opportunities for language learning, and present exciting possibilities for international work experience and professional development.

[Rotherham PROUD, Rotherham ALIVE, Rotherham LEARNING]

Current work

- Many Rotherham schools have established links with schools in other countries, and the importance of 'global education' is now nationally recognised. The school links in Rotherham range from virtual ones to physical exchanges, from subject-focused to full-school participation, from well-established to newly formed, and with locations in Europe, Asia, Africa and America.
- A successful, sustainable programme of student work placements has been set up between the University in Riesa and ALcontrol Laboratories at Templeborough. The placements give invaluable international work experience to the German students, provide ALcontrol with experienced, qualified volunteers, and strengthen the Rotherham-Riesa partnership. A variety of work placements have also been organised within the Council for young people from other countries. In 2005/6, young people from Bulgaria, France, Germany and Slovenia were all hosted on placements relevant to their area of interest.
- A new partnership has been set up between the catering division at Rotherham College and the *Qualifizierungszentrum* catering school in Riesa, allowing exchanges of students and a sharing of skills and ideas.
- Rotherham Schools orchestra have recently performed in Riesa and St Quentin and established links with the music schools in both towns.
- Young players from the Rugby Club in Rotherham represented the town at the annual dragon boat race in Riesa in 2005. They have been invited back for 2006 and will combine it with a training camp.
- A folk group from Cluj Napoca in Romania performed in Rotherham in July 2006, giving local people the chance to experience traditional Romanian dance.
- Rotherham Young People's Services have developed a wide variety of long term international opportunities, with partners across the world. In 2005/6 these have included: participating in an international conference in Morocco with young people from six other African and European countries, work experience in an orphanage in Romania, and supporting a school and orphanage in Tanzania.

Future work

- Continue to encourage and support the links between Rotherham schools and organisations and partners abroad.
- Aim to strengthen existing links and make them more sustainable and self-reliant, so that less support is required which will enable requests for new exchanges to be accommodated.
- Secure funding to host an international Youth Conference in 2007 in conjunction with partners with the aim of fostering cross-cultural understanding and

communication. Consider linking this with the International Youth work Training opportunities, developed through the regional Youth Work Unit.

- To support language learning, produce a quick reference guide in French and German for people taking part in visits to those countries.
- Provide support to international exchange students on placement within RMBC.
- Young People's Services to participate in a developmental project during 2007/8 with organisations in Pakistan, 'Engaging Community Youth Forums', through the British Council in Islamabad. Six local authorities will be involved and each one will link with one youth forum in Pakistan. The project will include regular contact between young people through video conferencing, e-mailing and letters, plus two visits to the UK from Pakistani young people, and one visit from UK young people to Pakistan.
- Continue to develop and diversify existing partnerships, for example with St Quentin and Riesa, within available resources.

Objective 2

To develop international business and trade opportunities – maximising inward investment, export opportunities, information sharing and the promotion of Rotherham businesses abroad.

[Rotherham ACHIEVING]

Current work

- There are currently around 90 overseas companies located in Rotherham, employing approximately 7,000 people. Around 50 of these companies originate from Europe, employing approximately 4,700 people.
- There are many international links with local businesses exporting all over the world. A good example of this is Martek Marine who since commencing trading in 2000 has developed export sales in more than 60 countries representing 80% of annual sales in the last year. They were announced 16th fastest growing company in the prestigious Sunday Times Fast Track 100.
- Rotherham recently hosted a delegation of Bosnian officials who were keen to learn about our work on supporting new businesses. As a result of the work the LGIB are involved in an initiative to establish a Beacon Councils scheme in Bosnia-Herzegovina, they recommended Rotherham to act as a 'mentor' authority and share examples of good practice with Bosnia.

Future work

- Maximise opportunities to promote Rotherham and local businesses abroad via appropriate networking opportunities.
- Ensure that 'mainstream' deliverers of international trade links (e.g. South Yorkshire International Trade Centre) are aware of RMBC's priorities and we engage them where relevant with any actions and activities arising from international links/work.
- Any potential inward investment activity (including marketing overseas) can be co-ordinated through the RiDO office, utilising the UK Trade & Investment teams overseas, where necessary.
- The Head of RiDO recently visited Nashville, in Tennessee to participate in the Athena Awards Ceremony. As a result of the recent visit to Nashville, there are negotiations underway regarding :
 - arranging flights to local airports and tourism initiatives,
 - and Destination Management Partnership – a South Yorkshire Tourism Marketing Programme,as well as a Young People's Reading Project and linkages between schools.

Objective 3

To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work in other countries.

[Rotherham SAFE]

RMBC is currently involved in several projects providing assistance and aid to poorer countries. Many of these are through Young People's Services. There are many countries in the world who would welcome aid and careful thought needs to be given to how resources can be used most effectively. With aid work there is a danger of appearing patronising or providing well-meant gifts or materials that are completely useless because they are not what the partner community needs or wants. Consultation with partners is essential to understand their issues and priorities.

It is also worth remembering that aid and assistance work holds benefits for the 'giver' as well as the 'receiver'.

Current work

- Young People's Services project in Tanzania with the J.K Nyerere school in Moshi and orphanage in Machame, supporting their educational needs through group work, small project work, resources and visits – offering a link with other parts of the world.
- Work with Cluj Napoca in Romania led by RMBC Social Services - exchange visits by managers and assistance given to the officials in Cluj-Napoca for the foundations of new partnerships and new services for older people, children, and people suffering with HIV/AIDS, as well as partnership working on tackling issues associated with drugs and substance misuse.
- Romania aid work – Young People's Services, in partnership with the Princes' Trust, are involved with a project with young unemployed adults, including care leavers, from Rotherham working in an orphanage in Romania.
- Long term lottery funded project, (since 1997) with Lungthung village in eastern Nepal, supporting health and education needs – employment of health & education workers, volunteer visits, scholarships and resources.
- Initial discussions about creating a link with a village in the Kashmir region of Pakistan. The majority of Pakistanis living in Rotherham come from the Kashmir area and many have friends and family there. It would therefore be a natural place for Rotherham to link with. Money raised following the earthquake was donated to the READ (Rural Education And Development) Foundation towards building a school in Kashmir.

Future work

- Consider how to best progress setting up a valuable and sustainable link with Pakistan. South Yorkshire police have strong links with Pakistan and Young People's Services have previously organised exchanges to the area so this knowledge and expertise can be drawn on. Consider involving Friends of Lungthung (Nepal), and staff involved in aid work in Tanzania and Zanzibar, for advice and support in how best to develop a sustainable link.
- Support the development of appropriate aid and assistance projects as able within available resources.
- Consider the development of more international volunteering opportunities, as both a hosting and sending organisation.

Objective 4

To gain a better understanding of international issues, including a thorough grasp of European policy and funding thus increasing RMBC's influence at local, regional, national and international level and maximising funding opportunities and the benefit for Rotherham communities.

[Rotherham ACHIEVING, Rotherham LEARNING, Rotherham PROUD]

Current work

- RMBC Officer representation on the regional European Officers' Network which reports in to the national group organised by the LGIB.
- The European Public Information Centre in the Central Library provides up-to-date information on a range of European issues.
- Provide comments on European policies that are relevant to the work of the local authority. For example RMBC have contributed towards consultation on the National Strategic Reference Framework and the Assisted Areas map which will influence how EU Structural Funds will be allocated in England and how funds can be spent within the programme period from 2001-2013.
- Young People's Services are represented on the Yorkshire & Humberside International Team, which is the regional committee for Connect Youth, the national body for accessing European funding for international youth activities.

Future work

- Develop a more strategic and co-ordinated approach to distributing information on funding to the relevant officers and partners.
- Consider available funding opportunities and develop appropriate project proposals with international partners to secure funding for international projects which will benefit Rotherham.
- Promote available funding and encourage groups and individuals to apply where appropriate.
- Benefit from the LGIB's International Cooperation Officer Network, a consultative forum which was set up in late 2005 to keep local government informed of developments in international cooperation work and share good practice.
- Enhance Rotherham's relationship with the Yorkshire and Humber Brussels Office in order to increase our awareness of European policies and relevant issues and in doing so become more influential on a European level.
- Continue to provide policy comments and briefings on European issues and distribute the information more effectively to raise awareness of how the European dimension is relevant to the work of the local authority and partners.
- Play more of a part in South Yorkshire related work via the city region, especially with regard to trade and business opportunities internally that support Rotherham.

Objective 5

To raise the profile of international work through improved communication and promotion to ensure as many people as possible can benefit from the links.

[Rotherham PROUD, Rotherham FAIRNESS]

Current work

- An International Links Partners' group was established in 2004 as a forum to share information, promote events and best practice and develop partner working on international issues.
- One article on an international theme is included in each issue of Rotherham Council Matters. Since being agreed in early 2006, this has had some positive results with each article published so far creating interest and generating enquiries from members of the public.
- Regular press releases issued via RMBC communications team to local press.
- Rotherham Young People's Services organised a regional conference at Rotherham International Centre, promoting International Youth opportunities.
- European and International links were identified by the South Yorkshire Chief Executives as issues for greater collaborative working between the four districts in the sub region. Agreement has been reached on sharing information and the workload around notification of EU funding opportunities, EU policy news and analysis and responding to EU policy consultations.

Future work

- Gain recognition for good practice and innovation in international work by considering a submission to the Council of Europe's *Europe Prize*. The Europe Prize was set up in 1955 to recognise engagement between local and regional authorities with European partners. Applicants must show what action they have taken under 9 headings around significant contact with other European towns, and the promotion of Europe in their home town.
- Develop current international links, to involve more officers, elected members and Rotherham residents to maximise the benefits of the link. Prepare an annual action plan of work to be undertaken with each international partner/link.
- Produce an annual report on international activity and circulate appropriately to raise awareness of the international work that is taking place.
- Consider the existing committee structure and how it can work to best effect.
- Enhance collaborative working, related to international links, across the sub region in order to make best use of our limited resources.
- Consider how more effective cross Programme Area and partner working might increase the benefits of, and strengthen, existing international links. Initially this will include the establishment of a network of people willing to support and facilitate international links eg via exchange visits, translation, etc

Objective 6

To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues by involving people from a range of geographical areas and communities of interest.

[Rotherham FAIRNESS]

Current work

- Promotes community cohesion by facilitating opportunities that lead to a better understanding of diverse cultures in the local community.
- A project with a group of Asian girls from Rotherham to spend a week in St Quentin in summer 2006 working on activities with French young people learning about cultural differences.
- A private visit of older people from Rotherham to St Quentin to explore the twin town and surrounding area, including members of the Access Liaison group who previously visited St Quentin in 2003.
- A condition of the travel grants awarded to groups visiting St Quentin is that no person be excluded from the visit because they are unable to afford the costs.

Future work

- Consider groups that might have not been involved in international work and be more proactive in promoting opportunities to these groups. Investigate funding to develop a new project aimed at involving disadvantaged groups in international opportunities - could be based on the Access to Adventure & Travel Project, which was funded through SRB 3 in Rotherham from 1997 to 2003.
- Ensure future international links align with Rotherham's priorities in order for projects to achieve maximum benefits for people in Rotherham through the development of appropriate assessment criteria.
- Collate data relating to age, gender and race of individuals taking part in international projects in order to identify any groups that might not be engaged in international work and identify potential barriers to their involvement.

Objective 7

To develop partnerships with towns and areas facing similar economic and social regeneration challenges in order to develop our collaborative knowledge around economic and social restructure.

[Rotherham ACHIEVING, Rotherham LEARNING]

Current work

- The partnership with Riesa in the East of Germany was established due to the towns' similar heritage as coal and steel towns. Riesa is currently struggling to reduce their high unemployment rate of over 15% and are very interested to learn from Rotherham's experience in regenerating the economy. There is currently an active programme of events between Rotherham and Riesa.
- St Quentin have been particularly interested to learn about the work undertaken in Rotherham on economic and social regeneration. A presentation to the Senator-Mayor in St Quentin was hugely successful in promoting current and future regeneration projects in Rotherham. As a direct result, the Senator-Mayor will visit in person and will use examples from Rotherham in his paper to the Senate on the regeneration of French towns.
- The Commonwealth Local Government Forum is setting up a pilot database of senior local government practitioners who would be willing to provide practical advice and assistance to other Commonwealth countries. RMBC Corporate Management Team agreed to support appropriate officers who were interested in applying. Senior officers from the Council registered expressions of interest.
- RMBC was selected by the LGIB to host a 2-day visit in June 2006, looking at Supporting New Businesses for the municipalities of Tuzla and Zenica in Bosnia-Herzegovina, as part of the Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) Beacon Scheme. Both areas have an economic background in coal and steel and during the visit it became apparent that many similarities and a potential for future collaboration existed. A reciprocal visit has been organised by the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) to BiH in September 2006.

Future work

- Be more proactive in learning from international partners on specific issues.
- Be more proactive in promoting our knowledge, success and experience to other partners.
- Investigate the potential for future collaborative work with local authorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Participate in a reciprocal visit to BiH in September 2006.
- Investigate the potential benefits of re-establishing the link with Sergeevka in the Ukraine.

Conclusions

In order to focus international work in Rotherham and to clarify what we want to achieve, it was decided to produce an annual action plan drawing on the 'future work' identified under each objective. The action plan will reflect the particular emphasis that has been placed by Members on the three objectives related to cultural exchanges and visits, business and trade opportunities and aid and assistance. The plan will be reviewed at the end of the financial year and a report produced and circulated showing the work that has taken place during that year measured against the set targets. It is envisaged that the International Links Policy will be revised in 2009 and the objectives will be reviewed at that stage.

Appendix A shows the Action Plan for 2006/7.

Appendix B shows a summary of international visits and exchanges for 2006.

Contacts / sources of information

The following resources are a useful starting point for information about international work.

The **European Public Information Centre (EPIC)** is located upstairs in the Central Library in Rotherham and contains current information on a range of European issues.

Rotherham Central Library
Walker Place
Rotherham S65 1JH
Tel: 01709 823611/823606
e-mail:central.library@rotherham.gov.uk

The **South Yorkshire International Trade Centre** is a regional support organisation dedicated to supporting local companies in all aspects of international trade.

www.syitc.com

Albion House
Savile Street
Sheffield
S4 7UD
Tel: 0114 201 2555

The **Development Education Centre (South Yorkshire)** – DECSY- works with teachers and others involved in education, promoting a development and global perspective in the curriculum. Based at Scotia Works in Sheffield.

info@decsy.org.uk

Tel: 0845 458 2957 or 0114 241 2750

Local Government International Bureau (LGIB)

www.lgib.gov.uk

The LGIB is the European and International arm of the Local Government Association. They work to represent UK local government within Europe and the Wider World.

UK Local Government Alliance for International Development

<http://www.lgib.gov.uk/lg-alliance/index.html>

The Alliance is made up of 5 key local government agencies with backing from the British government, and aims to increase understanding of the importance of international development issues in local government.

The **Global Gateway** website was launched in 2004 by the British Council as a gateway to educational partnerships between schools and colleges across the world.

www.globalgateway.org.uk

The **READ Foundation** (Rural Education And Development)

www.readfoundation.org.uk

Appendix A – Action Plan 2006/07

| FUTURE WORK | 2006/07 ACTION | LEAD |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Objective 1 – To develop cultural exchanges and visits | | |
| Continue to encourage and support the links between Rotherham schools and organisations and partners abroad. | Deliver projects as per Appendix B. | CXD/ALL |
| Aim to strengthen existing links and make them more sustainable and self-reliant, so that less support is required which will enable requests for new exchanges to be accommodated. | Identify suitable projects capable of becoming self sustaining in 2006/07. | CXD |
| Secure funding to host an international Youth Conference in conjunction with partners with the aim of fostering cross-cultural understanding and communication. Consider linking this with the international Youth Work Training Opportunities, developed through the regional Youth Work Unit. | Put together a proposal for EU funding from the EU Active Citizenship budget. | CXD |
| Consider how international links can tie in to work being carried out across the Council on language learning. | To support language learning, produce a quick reference guide in French and German for people taking part in visits to those countries. | CXD/ ALL |
| Provide support to international exchange students on placement within RMBC. | Provide appropriate support as required. | All – host PA to lead |
| Participate in a developmental project with organisations in Pakistan, 'Engaging Community Youth Forums' , through the British Council in Islamabad. | Set up the project and deliver preparatory work with Rotherham Young People. | CYP Services |
| Continue to develop and diversify existing partnerships, for example with St Quentin and Riesa, within available resources. | Deliver projects as per Appendix B and consider proposals from partner towns for future projects. | CXD / ALL |
| Objective 2 – To develop international business and trade opportunities. | | |
| Maximise opportunities to promote Rotherham and local businesses abroad via appropriate networking opportunities. | | EDS |
| Maximise inward investment potential through international links | Through Yorkshire Forward, North of England office, UKTI – ensure relevant international links, visits etc have considered inward | EDS |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------|
| | investment activity. | |
| Objective 3 - To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work | | |
| Consider how to best progress setting up a valuable and sustainable link with Pakistan. | Set up a working group to scope potential projects | CXD??? |
| Support the development of appropriate aid and assistance projects as able within available resources. | Identify suitable projects to support as opportunities arise | ALL |
| Consider the development of more international volunteering opportunities, as both a hosting and sending organisation. | Gather intelligence on what other local organisations are doing on volunteering, and consider RMBC involvement. | ALL |
| Objective 4 - To gain a better understanding of international issues | | |
| Develop a more strategic and co-ordinated approach to distributing information on funding to the relevant officers and partners. | Via South Yorkshire collaborative working share information and workload around notification of EU funding opportunities, EU policy news and analysis and responding to EU policy consultations | CXD |
| Promote available funding and encourage groups and individuals to apply where appropriate. | Develop intelligence around funding opportunities from European sources and to support international projects. | CXD |
| | Distribute relevant information via Partners Group, Rotherham Matters and existing contacts. | CXD |
| Benefit from the LGIB's International Cooperation Officer Network, a consultative forum to keep local government informed of developments in international cooperation work and share good practice. | Rotherham to join network, liaise at a regional level with officers about regional representation, ensure systems are in place for effective dissemination of information. | CX Department |
| Enhance Rotherham's relationship with the Yorkshire and Humber Brussels Office. | Rotherham to become more active within the Yorkshire and Humber European Officers Network | CX Department |
| Continue to provide policy comments and briefings on European issues and distribute the information more effectively to raise awareness of how the European dimension is relevant to the work of the local authority. | Include international/ European issues in regular briefings for elected members and senior officers. Disseminate information to the international committee as appropriate. Develop intelligence on emerging European policy | CX Department |

| | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | issues. Take part in appropriate consultation exercises. | |
| Objective 5 – To raise the profile of international work. | | |
| Gain recognition for good practice and innovation in international work. | Scope out the process for applying for the Council of Europe's European Prize in December 2007. | CX Department / all |
| Develop current international links to involve more officers, elected members and Rotherham residents. Prepare an annual action plan of work to be undertaken with each international partner/link. | Plan the Civic visit from St Quentin in 2007 to co-incide with a high profile event to maximise benefits eg possibility of St Quentin having a stand at Rotherham Show | CX Department |
| Produce an annual report on international activity and circulate appropriately to raise awareness of the international work that is taking place. | Produce first monitoring report and forward plan, including budget information, for April 2007 | CX Department / all to contribute |
| Consider the existing committee structure and how it can work to best effect. | Develop Terms of Reference for International Links Committee in consultation with the LSP. Develop and strengthen the International Links Partners group via a review of the terms of reference and membership. | CX Department |
| Enhance collaborative working, related to international links, across the sub region in order to make best use of our limited resources. | Take an active role in the South Yorkshire collaborative working group to influence activity across the sub region. | CX Department |
| Consider how more effective cross programme area and partner working might increase the benefits for and strengthen existing international links. | Establish a network of people willing to support and facilitate international links eg via exchange visits, translation, etc | CX Department |
| Objective 6 - To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues | | |
| Consider groups that might have not been involved in international work and be more proactive in promoting opportunities to these groups. | Promotion of international links work via appropriate events eg Diversity Festival. Scope, plan and prepare for an event in 2007. Investigate funding to develop a new project aimed at involving disadvantaged groups in international opportunities. | ALL |
| Ensure future international links align | Develop criteria for | CXD |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------|
| with Rotherham's priorities in order for projects to achieve maximum benefits for people in Rotherham. | assessing the appropriateness and potential value of new and existing links, ensuring that they are inclusive and work to address equality and diversity and community cohesion issues in the borough. | |
| Collate data relating to individuals taking part in international projects in order to identify any groups that might not be engaged in international work and identify potential barriers to their involvement. | Add questions on equalities data to the established monitoring process. | CX Department |
| Objective 7 - To develop partnerships with towns and areas facing similar economic and social regeneration challenges | | |
| Be more proactive in learning from international partners on specific issues. | Use visits to gain an understanding of relevant issues and how best practice can be applied to Rotherham. | ALL |
| Be more proactive in promoting our knowledge, success and experience to other partners. | Use available networks to promote our best practice and successes to partners. | ALL |
| Investigate the potential for future collaborative work with local authorities in Bosnia-Herzegovina. | Visit BiH – September 2006 Investigate potential future collaboration and joint work. | EDS |
| Investigate the potential benefits of re-establishing the link with Sergeevka in the Ukraine. | Measure the value of potential collaboration with Sergeevka against the criteria which are being developed for assessing the appropriateness of future links. | CX Department/ all |

Appendix B - Summary of International visits and exchanges 2006

| | | | |
|------------------------|---|----------|----------------|
| 7 Jan - 11 Feb | 2 students from Riesa on work placement at ALcontrol laboratories | incoming | Riesa |
| 4-6 February | Thomas Rotherham College group of students learning French to St Quentin | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 9-12 February | Annual civic visit to St Quentin, including a presentation on Rotherham's economic developments to Senator-Mayor Pierre André | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 12 Feb - 17 Mar | Students from Riesa on placement at ALcontrol. | incoming | Riesa |
| 17 February – 13 March | Work placement at Lugoj orphanage in Romania, RYPS and Prince's Trust. | outgoing | Lugoj |
| 3 – 24 March | Team Challenge in Romany Community House, Timisoara, Romania, RYPS and Prince's Trust | outgoing | Timosoara |
| 3 March - 31 May | Matjaz Macek, youth worker from Slovenia on voluntary placement with Young People's Services, RMBC. | incoming | Slovenia |
| 1 – 14 April | Visit to Kathmandu in Nepal, to evaluate a seven year aid project in Lungthung, supporting health and education in the village. | outgoing | Nepal |
| 17-21 April | Wath Comprehensive School visit to St Quentin (football theme) | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 14-18 May | Catering students from RCAT to Riesa for a catering themed visit. | outgoing | Riesa |
| 18-21 May | Civic visit from St Quentin to Rotherham | incoming | St Quentin |
| 22 - 26 May | Brinsworth Comprehensive School pupils visit to St Quentin | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 7-8 June | Bosnian Beacon Councils 'mentoring' visit to Rotherham (EDS lead) | incoming | Bosnia |
| 19-22 June | Mayor and delegation official visit to Kaiserslautern, Germany. | outgoing | Kaiserslautern |
| 19-23 June | Aston Hall Junior School visit to St Quentin | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 21-28 June | Charity cycle ride from Rotherham to St Quentin | outgoing | St Quentin |
| 25 June - 6 Aug | Riesa students on work placement at Alcontrol laboratories. | incoming | Riesa |
| 3 – 10 July | Cultural visit to Granada RYPS | Outgoing | Granada |
| 9th July | Romanian folk concert from Cluj Napoca in Rotherham | incoming | Romania |

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--|----------|-------------------|
| 24 July - 25 August | Nicolas Macke, university student from St Quentin on work placement in CX office, RMBC | incoming | St Quentin |
| 1 – 15 August | Visit to Rotherham from 20 young people from Morocco RYPS | incoming | Morocco |
| 7 Aug - 17 Sept | Riesa students on work placement at Alcontrol laboratories. | incoming | Riesa |
| August | Naida Razzaq and group from Eastwood Community Centre to St Quentin | outgoing | St Quentin |
| August | Anti Fascist visit to Poland including a visit to Auschwitz RYPS | outgoing | Poland |
| August | Independent Travel visit to Prague and Berlin RYPS | outgoing | Prague/ Berlin |
| 24-27 August | Dragon boat race in Riesa - Rotherham rugby club to participate. | outgoing | Riesa |
| September 1-5 | Visit of approx 50 Rotherham over 50s to St Quentin. | outgoing | St Quentin |
| September 17-22 | EDS reciprocal visit to Bosnia-Herzegovina to look at work relating to 'Supporting New Businesses' beacon award. | outgoing | Bosnia |
| September - dates tbc | Visit of Senator-Mayor Pierre Andre to Rotherham, looking at developments in town. | incoming | St Quentin |
| 20 October – 10 November | Team Challenge in Lugoj and Timisoara, Romania, RYPS and Prince's Trust | Outgoing | Romania |
| 20 – 27 October | Maltby Linx visit to Tarnow in Poland RYPS | Outgoing | Poland |
| October - tbc | Visit of members of Riesa's business community to Rotherham to look at economic regeneration in the borough | incoming | Riesa |
| November | Quentin Barré school from St Quentin visit Aston Hall Junior School. | incoming | St Quentin |
| December (late) tbc | Rotherham Schools orchestra to St Quentin to participate in Christmas Village | outgoing | St Quentin |

Appendix 2

Equality Impact Assessment Website
Summary

Programme Area Chief Executive

Function, policy or procedure International Links

Name of Lead Officer completing the assessment Emily Knowles.....

Date of assessment 26th June 2006.....

Key findings from the impact assessment

- Objectives of the International Links policy:
 1. To encourage cultural exchanges and visits
 2. To develop international business and trade opportunities
 3. To engage in appropriate aid and assistance work in other countries.
 4. To gain a better understanding of international issues
 5. To raise the profile of international work
 6. To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues
 7. To develop partnerships with towns and areas facing similar economic and social regeneration challenges
- Generally international work in Rotherham is inclusive and taking account of equality and diversity issues.
- Remain vigilant and ensure that future visits and exchanges continue this good practice.
- We have worked with the majority of communities of interest, with the exception of the LGBT community, who we have to date not engaged with.
- There could be potential for international projects which engage with Rotherham's refugee and asylum seeker communities.
- The importance of considering issues such as disability access when planning international visits and events.
- Recognition that some people may have specific concerns or uncertainties about visits overseas and around issues such as food, dress, religious observance, racism, sexism, transphobia or homophobia.
- Inclusive international projects help to overcome stereotypes and can

promote community cohesion by helping to enhance relationships between communities of different countries and cultures, increasing understanding and respect of the world, reducing ignorance and tackling polarisation.

- If used appropriately, international work provides an opportunity to engage people from the whole community irrespective of age gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, disability, social or economic status, and can be used as a stimulus for involving groups of people e.g. Black and Ethnic Minority people, young people or other disadvantaged groups who may not otherwise be motivated to engage with the local authority.

Future actions

- Deliver the objective from the International Links Policy to “**To ensure that current and future international links address equality and diversity issues** by involving people from a range of geographical areas and communities of interest.” Via the following actions:
- Consider groups that might have not been involved in international work and be more proactive in promoting opportunities to these groups. Investigate funding to develop a new project aimed at involving disadvantaged groups in international opportunities - could be based on the Access to Adventure & Travel Project, which was funded through SRB 3 in Rotherham from 1997 to 2003.
- Ensure future international links align with Rotherham’s priorities in order for projects to achieve maximum benefits for people in Rotherham through the development of appropriate assessment criteria.
- Deliver the Equalities and Diversity Action Plan objective relative to international work.
- Continue to be aware of any issues which could be of particular relevance to groups travelling abroad, eg- disability issues, religious issues.
- Collate data on age, gender and race to monitor groups taking part in international work.
- Promote an attitude of respect and a willingness to accommodate cultural differences within international work.

| |
|--|
| ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS |
|--|

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|--|
| 1. | Meeting: | Cabinet Member (Community Cohesion) |
| 2. | Date: | 17th July 2006 |
| 3. | Title: | Year Ahead Statement 2006-07 |
| 4. | Programme Area: | Chief Executive's Department |

5. Summary

This paper introduces the Year Ahead Statement, 'Making A Difference' for 2006-07 and specific commitments under the responsibility of the Community Cohesion portfolio.

6. Recommendations

Members are requested to note the attached specific Year Ahead Commitments for which the Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion has responsibility.

7. Proposals and Details

The annual Year Ahead Statement provides a summary of key priorities for the year. The Year Ahead Statement is not a comprehensive list of all that the council needs to do over the year nor a set of new policies or substitute for other plans-- it is drawn from existing plans and is a means of providing focus and tracking progress .

The year Ahead Statement for 2006-7 is entitled 'Making A Difference'. This theme reflects the Councils commitment to improving outcomes for all residents across the entire range of services and through major investments in the coming year. We are proud of our progress in service improvements, reducing deprivation and rating now as a 'Good' Council, but much still needs to be done to ensure all citizens benefit from improved quality of life .The Year Ahead helps focus on continuing to achieve our vision for Rotherham and the objectives in our joint Local Area Agreement, as shared by our LSP partners. It will also support our aim of achieving Excellent Council status in the coming year. This year there are 62 new commitments building on the platform of last year's good progress and delivery.

Attached are those commitments which come under the responsibility of the Community Cohesion portfolio.

8. Finance

The Year Ahead work is resourced as it reflects our corporate plan and Budget/MTFS. The printing of the document and supporting work and dissemination will be met from the Chief Executives Department budget.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risks in not meeting the commitments will be mitigated through monitoring the risk register, performance management, and taking any necessary action. A report of the first six months progress will we produced in October 2006.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The year Ahead stems from the Corporate Plan reflects service plans and contributes to the achievement of the Community Strategy, Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and LAA.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Year Ahead Statement 2006-7

12. Contact Names:

- Lee Adams, Assistant Chief Executive, ext 2788, lee.adams@rotherham.gov.uk
- Colin Bulger, Head of Policy and Partnerships, ext 2737,
- colin.bulger@rotherham.gov.uk

CEX

Commitment 1 Improving CPA score

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:- To achieve a high rating in the Corporate Assessment for CPA and the Joint Area Review by July 2006

Aim:- To help the Council deliver a successful Corporate Assessment and thereby continue the improvement trend of recent years

To project manage the corporate assessment, including the joint area review, ensuring that key deadlines are met with regard to self assessments, document control, on site requirements and reporting.

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

May 2006 Submit self assessments to Audit Commission/JAR team
Ensure all key documents are fit for purpose

June 2006 Whilst on site effectively communicate and liaise with inspectors, members and service areas to ensure that the Council has a comprehensive understanding of the process and is equipped to succeed

July-Sep 2006 Report from CPA to Council

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Matt Gladstone, Head of Performance and Quality

CEX

Commitment 2 Implement CPA recommendations

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:- To implement CPA improvement recommendations arising from inspection by November 2006.

Aim:- To identify Action and Project Plans for all key improvement recommendations by September 2006

To begin implementation of Action and Project Plans for all key improvement recommendation areas by October 2006

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

September 2006 Action and Project plans written

October 2006 Action and Project Plans implemented

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Matthew Gladstone

CEX

Commitment 3 Organisational Development Strategy

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:- To implement the 'Our Future' review work and complete an Organisation Development Strategy for the Council by November 2006

Aim:- To develop and implement an Organisational Development Strategy for the council

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

June/July 2006 Six review groups comprising Cabinet and Scrutiny Members and members of CMT (plus other senior managers) be formed to examine and make recommendations on:

- Strategic Capacity, Governance and Structural Change;
- Strategic Partnerships and Procurement Strategy;
- Devolution, Empowerment and Neighbourhoods Strategy;
- Value for Money and Resource Strategy;
- Innovation, ICT and Workstyle Strategy;
- RBT Contract Review/Change.

October 2006 Review groups report their findings to Cabinet/CMT

December 2006 Organisational Development Strategy put before Council

Lead Officer:-
Mike Cuff
CMT

CEX

Commitment 5 Public Health Strategy

Linking to: Rotherham Alive

Commitment Description:- To implement the Public Health Strategy during 2006

Aim:- To finalise and implement the Public Health Strategy

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

July 2006 Finalise Public Health Strategy, gain agreement from Cabinet and LSP

September 2006 Appoint Public Health Manager
Action Plan for Implementation developed

October 2006 Strategic RMBC group established
PH Strategy being performance managed

Lead Officer:-
Mike Cuff
Lee Adams

CEX

Commitment 6 Rural Strategy

Linking to: All Themes

Commitment Description:- To complete and implement with partners a borough Rural Strategy by December 2007

Aim:- To produce and implement a Rural Strategy for Rotherham BC by September 2006 and to adopt a borough wide Rural Strategy by December 2007.

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|----------------|---|
| May 2006 | Report to CMT with a Framework for a Rural Strategy |
| June 2006 | Complete consultation with interested Stakeholders |
| July 2006 | Agreed by CMT |
| September 2006 | Agreed by Cabinet |
| November 2006 | Complete consultation with partners and regional bodies |
| December 2007 | Agreement by Rotherham Partnership |

Lead Officer:-
Mike Cuff
Colin Bulger

CEX

Commitment 7 Town Centre Renaissance

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:-

Further Develop and deliver the Town Centre Social and Environmental Action Plan by March 2007

Aim:- To implement a delivery plan to promote social and environmental well-being in the Town Centre by October 2006

Timescale for delivery and milestones:

The timetable for completion of the delivery plan is:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| June 2006 | Agreement of draft delivery plan by CMT |
| July 2006 | Further consultation with Members on delivery plan |
| July 2006 | Presentation of final delivery plan to CMT & Cabinet |
| October 2006 | Delivery of Action Plan |
| March 2007 | Review of Action Plan |

Lead Officer:

Mike Cuff

Colin Bulger, Head of Policy and Partnerships

CEX

Commitment 9 Research Plan

Linking to: All Themes

Commitment Description:- To publish a council-wide Research Plan by October 2006

Aim:- To develop and implement a Research Plan for the council by October 2006

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

July/September 2006 Identify research being conducted/planned by Programme Areas

October 2006 Present to CMT a coordinated cost-effective Research Plan

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Colin Bulger

CEX

Commitment 10 State of the Borough

Linking to: All Themes

Commitment Description:- To publish and publicise an updated 'State of the Borough' report by July 2006

Aim:- To research and publish a State of the Borough Report
To publicise report through ½ day Research Seminar

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|----------------|--|
| June 2006 | Complete research for State of the Borough |
| July 2006 | Consult on finding with interested partners |
| July 2006 | Agreement by CMT and Cabinet |
| September 2006 | To LSP |
| September 2006 | Publish report and publicise through research seminars |

Lead Officer:-
Mike Cuff
Colin Bulger Head of Policy and Partnerships

CEX

Commitment 25 Equalities

Linking to: Fairness

Commitment Description:- To achieve level 4 of the Equalities Standard for Local Government by March 2007

Aim:- To identify criteria for achieving Level 4 of the Equalities Standard for Local Government

To ensure systems are in place that satisfy needs of Level 4 of the Equalities Standard

To support audit of council when undertaking Level 4 inspection

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| May 2006 | Identify areas for development to meet criteria for achieving level 4 |
| June/September 2006 criteria | Put systems in place to ensure RMBC matches |
| December 2006 | Support audit of council |

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff
Zafar Saleem

CEX

Commitment 26 Implementing Equalities and Diversity Strategies

Linking to: Rotherham Fairness

Commitment Description:- To develop and deliver a Women's Strategy by March 2007

Aim:-

To develop and implement a Women's Strategy

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| April 2006 | Set up Women's Strategy Group |
| July 2006 | Framework for Women's Strategy completed |
| Sept/November 2006 | Consultation Process |
| December 2006 | Draft strategy for CMT/Cabinet/LSP approval following consultation |
| March 2007 | Women's Strategy launched. |

Lead Officer/s:-

Mike Cuff

Lee Adams Assistant Chief Executive

CEX

Commitment 27 Implementing Equalities and Diversity Strategies

Linking to: Rotherham Fairness

Commitment Description:- To develop and implement a Borough Disability Equality Scheme by December 2007

Aim:-

To produce a Borough Disability Equality Scheme (DES) and action plan, (Jointly with Adult Services)

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|----------------|---|
| June 2006 | Steering group set up and project plan produced |
| September 2006 | 1st draft of DES for consultation |
| December 2006 | DES produced and implemented |

Lead Officer/s:-

Mike Cuff

David Hamilton

Zafar Saleem, Equalities, Community Cohesion & Inclusion Manager

Craig Jacques-Newton Divisional Manager Adult Social Services

CEX

Commitment 29 Liaison with Ethnic Minority Communities

Linking to: Rotherham Fairness

Commitment Description:- To strengthen our liaison arrangements with Ethnic Minority Communities by March 2007

Aim:- To improve consultation and engagement arrangements with Ethnic Minority Communities

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

September 2006 Review of current liaison mechanisms

October 2006 Draft proposals for improving liaison with Ethnic Minority Communities

December 2006 Report to CMT/Cabinet after consultation

March 2007 Implement recommendations

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Colin Bulger Head of Policy and Partnerships

CEX

Commitment 34 Effective Partnership Structures

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:- To secure continuing 'green' status for the Rotherham Partnership by March 2007

Aim:- To develop partnership structures, including the LSP, to ensure all partners are actively participating and that LSP activity is fit for purpose. To maintain green rating for the LSP

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Ongoing | Support LSP staff and & Chair and all Strategies of LSP |
| July 2006 | Implement compact agreement |
| Sept/Oct 2006 | Complete LSP self assessment |
| July & Dec 2006 | Ensure LSP Performance Management report are produced to LSP Board |

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Vince Roberts – LSP Manager

CEX

Commitment 35 Developing LAA

Linking to: All Themes

Commitment Description:- To implement the Local Area Agreement (year 1 of 3) and provide a refresh for agreement amongst partners and GOYH

Aim:- To implement the LAA, Performance Manage it and ensure all targets delivered.

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|----------------|---|
| September 2006 | LAA review process |
| February 2007 | Refresh of LAA completed |
| March 2007 | Increased number of pooled/aligned budgets agreed with Partners and GOYH |
| Ongoing | Implementation of LAA, performance management and period reports to CEO's and LSP Board on progress |

Lead Officer:-

Mike Cuff

Lee Adams, Assistant Chief Executive

CEX

Commitment 63 To improve community consultation and engagement

Linking to: Rotherham Achieving

Commitment Description:-

Improve community consultation and engagement with regard to service developments and the ensuing well being outcomes by March 2007

Aim:- To ensure community consultation and engagement is fed into service plans

Timescale for delivery and milestones:-

| | |
|---------------|---|
| June 2006 | Implement CI Strategy |
| November 2006 | Process for ensuring consultation and feedback is fed into service planning process |
| February 2006 | All service plans can remonstrate both community consultation and engagement actions and how plans reflect community influence. |

Lead Officer

Mike Cuff

Colin Bulger, Head of Policy and Partnerships

| |
|----------------------------------|
| ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL |
|----------------------------------|

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Meeting: | Community Cohesion Delegated Powers Panel |
| 2. Date: | 17 July 2006 |
| 3. Title: | State of the Borough |
| 4. Programme Area: | Chief Executive's Department |

5. Summary

This report invites the Panel to consider the State of the Borough report which aims to provide a general understanding of conditions in the Borough, highlighting relevant trends and issues for Council services, together with supporting policy and service delivery and performance management.

State of the Borough 2006 updates the previous document of the same name produced in 2004. The report is intended to give an overall picture of Rotherham in terms of population, deprivation, the economy, education, health etc.

6. Recommendations

The Panel is asked to:

1. Consider and note the contents of State of the Borough as outlined in section 7 of this report
2. Ensure that this Plan is embeded into the strategic and service delivery planning process, policy and performance management arrangements
3. Agrees to its wider dissemination as outlined in section 11

7. Proposals and Details

Background

State of the Borough was first produced in 2004 to provide a statistical overview of the Borough, demonstrate trends and indicate expected changes. The intention was to produce further reports to update the picture. The 2006 State of the Borough is the first update and has changed in format to reflect current requirements. Although the report is a statistical portrait of Rotherham it is presented as a descriptive commentary, with relatively few charts and tables.

State of the Borough is a summary of the information held by the corporate research team. Rotherham MBC undertakes and co-ordinates a wide range of research projects, some of which achieved national recognition from:

- Audit Commission for community profiling work on older people
- Office for National Statistics for the Study of Deprivation in Rotherham 2005
- Department for Communities & Local Government for the Rotherham Neighbourhood Statistics project

A 'live' document it will be updated on a regular basis.

Further information on these projects and other research on which State of the Borough is based can be found at:

<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/graphics/YourCouncil/Policy+Research+and+Consultation/Research.htm>

State of the Borough has been produced by the Policy & Research Team in Chief Executive's Department with assistance from colleagues in the Economic & Development Service, Community Safety Team and Primary Care Trust.

Summary of Content

Population

- Rotherham has a growing population, currently estimated at 252,300, with an increase of 2.2% projected over the next 10 years.
- The population is ageing and the number of people over 65 are projected to increase by 23% over the next 10 years.
- There is a diverse mix of people with 13,200 people (5.2%) being from minority ethnic groups, about 80% of these being non-white.

Deprivation

- Rotherham is the 63rd most deprived district in England and 33% of the Borough is within the most deprived 20% nationally. However, Rotherham was previously 48th most deprived and deprivation is falling.
- The key drivers of deprivation are employment, health and education deprivation.
- Differences in deprivation within the Borough are far greater than those between Rotherham and the national average.

The Economy

- Rotherham's employment rate has increased at a faster rate than the national average.
- The number of jobs located in Rotherham has increased by 29% since 1998.
- The number of people in employment has increased by 12% since 1999.
- Unemployment has fallen to around the national average.

Health and Illness

- Life expectancy has improved but rates remain below the national average.
- Death rates from heart disease have halved over the last 10 years.
- The teenage pregnancy rate has fallen by 11% since 1999.

Education and Skills

- GCSE performance (5+ A-C) has increased by 34% between 1997 and 2005, and from 45.9% to 49.5% between 2004 and 2005.
- There are large differences in GCSE attainment (5+ A-C) within the Borough with Sitwell 3 times higher than Maltby.
- The number of students entering higher education has increased at a faster rate than the national average.

Crime, Environment and Housing

- Rotherham has a relatively good built and natural environment.
- House prices have doubled since 2001 but are well below the national average.
- Rotherham has the lowest crime rate in South Yorkshire.
- Domestic burglaries have halved since 2002/03

Inclusion and Cohesion

- Since 2001, the number of residents actively involved with a local community or voluntary organisation has increased from 20% in 2001 to 22% in 2004.
- 45% of people agree that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together and 58% said the same for people of different ages.

8. Finance

There are no direct and significant financial implications with this report. The report was completed within existing research budgets.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

This report will help to identify the changing nature of needs and priorities for the Borough and should be used to help shape and inform strategy, policy and service development by the Council and partners.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Developing and implementing a coherent approach to research, consultation and intelligence is pivotal to a wider network of plans, strategies and initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, Chief Executive Service Plan and Local Area Agreement. Developing this approach to understanding the needs of the Borough and local communities also contributes to the development of key strategic documents such as the Corporate Plan. It is envisaged that the report along will play a key role in shaping and informing future policy and service delivery across the Borough and by partner organisations.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

State of the Borough 2004 and 2006

We intend to disseminate the report widely, including all members, programme areas, local MPs, neighbouring local authorities and other key partners. A copy of the report will also be placed on the intra-net and inter-net. We also planning to hold a research seminar later this year where this will feature prominently.

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| ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL |
|----------------------------------|

| | | |
|-----------|------------------------|---|
| 1. | Meeting: | Community Cohesion Delegated Power |
| 2. | Date: | July 2006 |
| 3. | Title: | A statistical analysis of Rotherham's Chinese and Pakistani communities |
| 4. | Programme Area: | Chief Executive's Department |

5. Summary

This report invites the Panel to consider the main findings from two reports. The first examines Rotherham Pakistani community and the second Rotherham's Chinese Community. The report represents a wider approach adopted by the Research and Policy Team to help develop a greater understanding of the needs and priorities of the many communities in Rotherham based on the community of interest groups identified in the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy. The approach under-pinning there development has been identified as 'best practice' by the Audit Commission.

The reports are the third and fourth in a series of reports which will be produced by the Research and Policy Team over the next twelve months. The Research and Policy team aim to produce ten reports over the next twelve months on the main (and diverse) communities of interest in the Borough. To date, two other reports have been completed; Older people and the Irish community. Future report will cover, Black, Indian, Other Asian, Other White (not British or Irish) and Mixed or Dual Heritage.

6. Recommendations

The Panel is asked to:

1. **Consider and discuss the main findings from the report as outlined in section 7 of this report**
2. **Agree that the findings of the report be taken into account by Programme Areas in developing policies and services**
3. **Agree that dissemination of the key findings to Programme Areas and interested partner agencies be undertaken.**
4. **Note that this is the third in a series of reports to be developed by the Policy and Research Team looking at the needs and priorities of the main (and various) communities of Interest in the Borough.**

7. Proposals and Details

Background

These are part of a series of reports, which seeks to develop a greater understanding of Communities of Interest in Rotherham. Better information and Research is part of the Year Ahead commitment to further understand local needs in order to plan and deliver more effective services for local people in Rotherham. Its findings will be made widely available, and help to shape and inform services and policies by the Council and partners.

The improvement of available data from various sources and the development of more sophisticated approaches to profiling through for example the Council's involvement in the Audit Commission's Area Pilot Profile have enabled the Policy and Research Team to develop a more in depth understanding of the needs and priorities of its many of its communities.

Main Findings: Pakistani Community in Rotherham

Demographic Characteristics

- Rotherham's Pakistani population stands at 1.9 per cent of the total Borough population.
- As a percentage of the total population, the Pakistani population in Rotherham is significantly higher than the national average.
- Forty seven per cent of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Pakistani. This is much higher than neighbouring Borough's and regional and national averages.
- In 2006 Pakistani pupils account for 3.97 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham's Schools.
- The Pakistani population are predominantly located in and around the urban core of Rotherham Town Centre.
- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has more people aged under 16 (1 in 3) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 10). Whereas the total population in Rotherham has more people aged over 50 (1 in 3) compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5).
- The number of young Pakistani residents in the Borough is disproportionately large. Young people under 16 account for nearly 40 per cent of the total Pakistani population in Rotherham.

Ethnicity and Religious Characteristics

- Fifty eight per cent of the Pakistani population living in Rotherham were born in the UK.
- Ninety three per cent of Rotherham's Pakistani population stated their religion was Muslim in the 2001 Census.

Family and Living Characteristics

- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a higher number of married couples compared to the Borough average.
- The Pakistani community in Rotherham has higher numbers of lone parent families (14 per cent) compared with the Borough average (10 per cent)

Health Characteristics

- Across the age spectrum, the Pakistani population has higher than Borough average numbers of people with a limiting long term illness.
- The health gap widens quite significantly between the Borough average aged 65 and over and the Pakistani average aged 65 and over.
- However, when looking at the total Pakistani population in Rotherham, 1 in 6 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Over half of all Pakistani women aged 50-64 years of age have a limiting long term illness compared to just over one third of the Borough average equivalent.
- Pakistani children living in Rotherham are almost twice as likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child (2.69 per cent and 1.37 per cent respectively).
- Forty three per cent of Pakistani carers in Rotherham feel that their needs would be better met if they had more information and advice.

Household Characteristics

- One in 3 Pakistani residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.

- One in 8 Pakistani residents living in the Borough rent from the Local Authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Over half (53 per cent) of Pakistani households in the Borough own at least one car. This is slightly higher than the Borough average of 44 per cent.
- In 2006, Free School Meal eligibility (FSM) for Pakistani pupils in primary and secondary education in Rotherham stands at 29.1 per cent. This compares to the total Borough average FSM rate of 19 per cent.¹

Economic Characteristics

- Over half (54 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 16-24 living in Rotherham are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average of 31 per cent. This is mainly due to the high numbers of students.
- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a slightly higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the Borough average.
- Over half (56 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 25 years and over are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average of 36 per cent.
- Economic inactivity amongst Pakistani residents aged 25 and over is mainly due to looking after the home/family (46 per cent)
- Pakistani women in Rotherham have strikingly low economic activity rates at 19 per cent compared to a national economic rate of 72 per cent.
- Pakistani women aged over 25 in Rotherham are much more likely than their male counterparts to be economically inactive; 80 per cent and 31 per cent respectively.
- At the age of 16-24, 20 per cent of Pakistani women in Rotherham were looking after the home/family in the 2001 Census. This is more than twice the proportion of the White British population in Rotherham.
- One in 5 Pakistani men and women aged 25 and over are economically inactive due to permanent sickness and disability.
- Pakistani residents aged 16-24 years are twice as likely to be self-employed when compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 (3.4 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively). The trend is the same for those aged 25 and over.

¹ PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services

Education Characteristics

- Across all ages the Pakistani population in comparison to the total Borough population are the most likely to have no qualifications (52.3 per cent and 36.8 per cent respectively).
- The gap between the Pakistani population aged 16-24 without any qualifications compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 is much narrower in comparison to other age group differences.
- In the 2001 Census the proportion of Pakistani people with no qualifications aged 16-24 was 31 per cent. This was substantially lower than that of their counterparts aged 25-34 (45 per cent).
- The difference in GCSE English attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils has closed since 2003 and now stands at just over 16 per cent achieving grades A*-C.
- Maths GCSE attainment differences at grade A*-C between Pakistani and White British pupils have seen a slight increase since 2004 but an overall decrease since 2003.
- There has been a significant shift in differences in Science GCSE attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils. In 2003, the difference in attainment between the two groups achieving grade A*-C was over 15 per cent, with Pakistani pupils achieving less than White British. In 2005, the gap had almost closed which shows significant progress in this subject area.

Crime Characteristics

- In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported.
- One-third (32.4 per cent) of all reported incidents were from Pakistanis (including four Pakistani Asylum Seekers). Additionally, the areas where most of the racial incidents took place were around the central urban core areas of the Borough where high numbers of Pakistani residents reside.

Main Findings Chinese Community in Rotherham

Demographic Characteristics

- Rotherham's Chinese population stands at 0.12 per cent of the total Borough population.
- As a percentage of the total population, the Chinese population in Rotherham is much lower than the national average (0.45 per cent) and the regional average (0.25 per cent)
- The Chinese population in Rotherham has increased by 41 per cent between the 1991 Census and the 2001 Census, significantly more than neighbouring South Yorkshire Authorities (Doncaster 27 per cent increase and Barnsley 25 per cent increase).
- Three per cent of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Chinese. This is slightly lower than the national average but significantly lower compared to neighbouring authorities.
- In 2006 Chinese pupils account for 0.15 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham's Schools.
- The Chinese population are not confined to the main urban areas but are widely distributed across the Borough.
- The Chinese population in Rotherham has slightly more people aged under 16 (1 in 4) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 5). Whereas the total population in Rotherham has more people aged over 50 (1 in 3) compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5).

Ethnicity and Religious Characteristics

- Thirty nine per cent of the Chinese population living in Rotherham were born in the UK and 59 per cent were born in Asia.
- Sixty per cent of Rotherham's Chinese population stated they had no religion in the 2001 Census. Around 1 in 5 Chinese people living in Rotherham are Christians.

Family and Living Characteristics

- The Chinese population in Rotherham has a higher proportion of married couples compared to the Borough average.
- The Chinese community in Rotherham has proportionately lower numbers of lone parent families (3 per cent) compared with the Borough average (10 per cent).
- The Chinese community in Rotherham have the lowest rate across all ethnic groups of children living in workless households (1 in 11 compared to 1 in 5 of the total Borough population).

Health Characteristics

- Across the age spectrum, the Chinese population are proportionately less likely to suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to the total Rotherham population (1 in 10 and 1 in 4 respectively).
- When looking at the total Chinese population in Rotherham, 1 in 10 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Chinese females living in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all females living in Rotherham.
- Chinese males living in Rotherham are proportionately more likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all males living in Rotherham.
- Chinese children living in Rotherham are two and a half times more likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child (3.44 per cent and 1.37 per cent respectively).

Household Characteristics

- One in 3 Chinese residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- One in 10 Chinese residents living in the Borough rent from the Local Authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Ninety per cent of Chinese households in the Borough own at least one car. This is much higher than the total Borough average of 70 per cent.
- The Chinese community in Rotherham have the highest rate of car ownership across all ethnic groups in Rotherham (including White British).

- In 2006, Free School Meal eligibility (FSM) for Chinese pupils in primary and secondary education in Rotherham stands at 9 per cent. This is much lower in comparison to the total Borough average FSM rate of 19 per cent.²

Economic Characteristics

- The Chinese community in Rotherham have a significantly lower rate of unemployment compared to the total Borough rate (1.8 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively).
- Over two thirds (68 per cent) of Chinese residents aged 16-24 living in Rotherham are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average of 31 per cent. This is mainly due to a high proportion of Chinese residents being a student (77 per cent).
- The Chinese population in Rotherham has a much higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the Borough average.
- Economic inactivity amongst Chinese residents aged 25 and over is lower than the total Borough average.
- Chinese residents aged over 25 are ten times more likely to be economically inactive due to being a student compared to the total Borough population.
- Chinese residents aged over 25 are also proportionately less likely to be economically inactive due to permanent sickness or disability (the second lowest rate across all ethnic groups in Rotherham).
- There are proportionately higher numbers of economically active Chinese women in Rotherham compared to the total Borough population.
- Chinese men aged over 25 have a proportionately higher employment rate compared to the total Borough employment rate for men aged 25 and over.
- Chinese residents aged 25 years and over are four times as likely to be self-employed when compared to the total Borough population aged 25 and over.

Education Characteristics

- Across all ages the Chinese population in comparison to the total Borough population have similar levels of people without any qualifications.

² PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services

- The Chinese population have significantly higher numbers of individuals qualified to Level 4/5 across the working age spectrum compared to the total Borough average.
- In the 25-34 age group the Chinese population are more than two and a half times more likely than the total Borough population to be qualified to Level 4/5.

Crime Characteristics

- In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported.
- Four per cent of all reported incidents were from Chinese.

These are 'live' documents that will develop and evolve as new or refined data and other sources come on stream.

8. Finance

There are no direct and significant financial implications with this report. The study itself was completed within existing research budgets.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

It is essential that the findings from this report which identify the needs and priorities of this particular community in the Borough are used to help shape and inform services and policies by the council and partners.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Developing more sophisticated approaches to profiling communities of interest enables the council to develop a more in depth understanding of the needs and priorities of its many communities. This sophisticated approach identifies and highlights any gaps in research and consultation relating to specific communities of Interest enabling bespoke targeting and consultation within these groups.

Developing and implementing a coherent approach to research, consultation and intelligence is pivotal to a wider network of plans, strategies and initiatives such as the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, Chief Executive Service Plan, Local Area Agreement and The Audit Commissions Area Profiling Pilot project. Developing this approach to understanding the needs of our communities also contributes to the development of key strategic documents such as the Corporate Plan. It is envisaged that the report along with others that are developed in the future will play a key role

in shaping and informing future policy and service delivery across the Borough and by all partners.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The report has been developed following detailed analysis and desk based research. Guidance was also given through the Audit Commission's Pilot Area profiling project.

It is envisaged that this report along with future reports that are produced are disseminated across programme areas and key partner agencies. It is also envisaged that these reports will be made available to the voluntary, community and not for profit sectors and the public via the RMBC internet to support and maximise funding opportunities for specific communities of Interest in the Borough.

It is hoped that the findings of this report will enable the council to establish and maintain effective ways to consult with communities of Interest and will drive forward community involvement and consultation in relation to policy and service delivery across the Borough. This report will be used as a tool to support and inform key strategies such as the developing Women's Strategy. The report has received a great deal of interest and was utilised at the International Women's Day event held at Rotherham College in March 2006.

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Analysis of the Chinese Community in Rotherham

June 2006

Report by

**Catherine Dale, Research Officer, Matthew Woodward, Research Assistant and
Asim Munir Community Involvement Officer, Policy & Research Team, Chief
Executives Office, Rotherham MBC**

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1. Introduction - National Context & the needs of the Chinese Community

1.1 Background

The Analysis of the Chinese Community in Rotherham is the fifth in a series of reports, which seeks to develop a greater understanding of Communities of Interest in Rotherham. Its findings will be made widely available, and help to shape and inform services and policies by the Council and partners.

This report represents a wider approach adopted by the Research and Policy Team in the Chief Executives Department of Rotherham MBC to help develop a greater understanding of the needs and priorities of the many communities in the Borough.

The improvement of available data from various sources and the development of more sophisticated approaches to profiling through for example the Council's involvement in the Audit Commission's Area Pilot Profile have enabled the Policy and Research Team to develop a more in depth understanding of the needs and priorities of its many of its communities. In May 2006, the Audit Commission identified Rotherham's approach to profiling as an "*Example of Best Practice*"

1.2 National Context

A Cabinet Office report¹ (2004) focusing on inequalities of ethnic minorities in the Labour Market suggested that:

"Chinese are, on average, doing well, and often outperforming Whites in school and in the labour market. Their success shows that there are no insuperable barriers to successful economic and social integration." (Cabinet Office, 2004:1).

However, national research (Law, 2004; Chan et al. 2004) suggests there are often hidden difficulties that Chinese people in the UK face such as; pressures of long working hours, discrimination and family care.²

¹ Cabinet Office, 2004 - Ethnic Minorities and the Labour Market, Final Report

² Law, I. (2004) Chinese Action Research Project: Household needs, public services and community organisations. University of Leeds

1.3 Population

In terms of demographics, the Chinese population is the smallest of the main ethnic minorities in Britain, although it has grown in the past decade mainly from renewed immigration. Chinese people form one of the smaller minorities in the population of England, less than one quarter of a million and 0.45 per cent of the total population in 2001.

In terms of the non-white population, Chinese people account for 5.3 per cent nationally. Since 1991, the growth of the Chinese population in the UK has been, in the main, due to immigration. The table below shows the change in population since the 1991 Census.

Table 1.1 –National working age population, 1991 and 2001 Census

| | 1991 WORKING AGE (NUMBERS) | 2001 WORKING AGE (NUMBERS) | INCREASE (NUMBERS) | INCREASE (TOTAL %) |
|----------------|---|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chinese | 113,247 | 182,777 | 69,530 | 61.4 |
| White | 31,701,853 | 32,224,206 | 522,353 | 1.6 |
| All | 33,589,496 | 35,158,421 | 1,568,925 | 4.7 |

The Chinese population is rapidly growing with a 62 per cent increase from 1991 to 2001. Furthermore, the 2003 mid-year population estimates show a 25 per cent growth in the UK Chinese population since the 2001 Census. This increase is a result of natural increase and international migration. Patterns of household formation are changing due to the decline of traditional patterns of family support particularly for the elderly.³

The UK's Chinese population is itself quite diverse, constituting at least five major groupings: Hong Kong Chinese, Mainland Chinese, UK Born Chinese, Singapore and Malaysia Chinese, and those from other countries. China itself is a diverse nation with over forty ethnic minority groups identified. There are many other smaller groupings, as the Chinese have traditionally been a migrant population. As with other minorities, which are actually formed from several sub-minorities, there are different

³ Law, I. (2004) Chinese Action Research Project: household needs, public services and community organisations. University of Leeds

characteristics and differential patterns of socio-economic attainment between these different sub-groupings.⁴

The Chinese community in the UK has existed since the latter half of the 1800s and has traditionally been perceived “as *insular and self-sufficient*”.⁵ In the early 1900s, Chinese people were mainly employed as seamen in Britain and the early Chinese communities were established in the main seaports of London and Liverpool. These communities remained relatively small until the 1940s.

From the end of the Second World War to the 1950s, many of the later Chinese immigrants were students and professionals from other parts of the world – mainly South East Asia. In the 1960s and 1970s, there was a large influx of Chinese into the UK to work in catering businesses, the majority arriving from Hong Kong

Few Chinese families today can trace their roots back to the early British Chinese Communities. Most of the 300,000 population now consists of Hong Kong immigrants from the 50's, and Vietnamese Chinese from the 70's. This makes up only 0.3 per cent of the 60 million people who live in the UK. Up to a third of Chinese today are second generation with an average age of 24.⁶

1.4 Disadvantage

Minority ethnic groups are more likely than the rest of the population to be poor.⁷ Twenty-eight percent of people in England & Wales live in households that have incomes that are less than half the national average, but this is the case for 34 per cent of Chinese people.⁸

1.5 Health

In the 2004 Health Survey for England (Health of Ethnic Minorities) Chinese men and women were less likely than the general population to rate their health as bad or very bad. The survey also found that prevalence of angina and heart attack was lowest in

⁴ Yorkshire and Humber's 'hidden' minority - the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Review, Winter 2005

⁵ Lynn, I.L. 1982 *The Chinese Community in Liverpool: their unmet needs with respect to education, social welfare and housing*. University of Liverpool: Merseyside Area Profile Group

⁶ DimSum - The British Chinese Community Website www.dimsum.co.uk

⁷ The definition of poverty used here is based on the DSS convention of net household income adjusted for family size.

⁸ R. Berthoud in T. Modood and R. Berthoud et al *Ethnic Minorities in Britain: Diversity and Disadvantage. The Fourth National Survey of Ethnic Minorities*, Policy Studies Institute, London, 1997, p159–60.

the Chinese groups and prevalence of obesity was the lowest amongst Chinese women.⁹

1.6 Education

Nationally, the Chinese population has high levels of educational attainment. Among the Chinese population aged 16-24, only nine per cent have no qualifications (this is the lowest for any ethnic group). Among those aged 25-34, 63 per cent are graduates (this is the highest proportion for any ethnic group). The Chinese population aged 16-24 are the most likely of all populations to be in education – over 60 per cent are studying. This is twice the proportion of White Britons.¹⁰

1.7 Employment

According to a report by the Department of Work and Pensions in 2004/5, the Chinese population has, on average, relatively good outcomes in the labour market. The report shows that the employment rate for Chinese men aged 25 and over in the 2001 Census is 79 per cent. In addition, Chinese men have the lowest rates of unemployment among young men. Nationally, the overall rate of unemployment for the Chinese population is five per cent. These rates are close to the White British equivalents.

Nationally, the Chinese population has significantly lower rates of employment as employees when compared to White Britons with similar qualifications. Even after taking account of age, qualifications, health and other individual characteristics, Chinese men and women's likelihood of employment are less than half of those for White Britons. Their likelihood of unemployment are, however, very similar to White Britons. The Chinese population has the lowest rates of economic inactivity due to permanent sickness and disability.¹¹

National Labour Force data shows that people from Chinese groups, along with Pakistani and White Irish groups are more likely to be self-employed than those in

⁹ Health Survey for England 2004: The Health of Minority Ethnic Groups, NHS Health and Social Care Information Centre

¹⁰ Households below Average Income, DWP, 2004/5

¹¹ Households below Average Income, DWP, 2004/5

other groups. Around 1 in 6 Chinese people (16 per cent) in employment were self-employed in 2004 compared with only one in ten White people.¹²

The data showed that certain ethnic groups were concentrated in particular industries. In 2004, just under half of Chinese men in employment worked in the distribution, hotel and restaurant industry, compared with one sixth of their White British counterparts. Chinese women are also concentrated in the distribution, hotel and restaurant industry. Two in five Chinese women worked in this industry in 2004, compared with one in five of all women in employment.

The 2004 labour force data also shows that the Chinese population are the group most likely to be employed in managerial or professional occupations (38 per cent). White British people had lower rates of people working in managerial or professional occupations (27 per cent).

1.8 Crime

In 1999, the risk of being the victim of a racially motivated incident was considerably higher for members of minority ethnic groups than for White people.¹³ According to findings from the British Crime Survey 2000, racially motivated incidents represented 12 per cent of all crime against minority ethnic people compared with 2 per cent for White people.

2. Summary of the Chinese Community in Rotherham

2.1 Demographic Characteristics

- Rotherham's Chinese population stands at 0.12 per cent of the total Borough population.
- As a percentage of the total population, the Chinese population in Rotherham is much lower than the national average (0.45 per cent) and the regional average (0.25 per cent)
- The Chinese population in Rotherham has increased by 41 per cent between the 1991 Census and the 2001 Census, significantly more than neighbouring

¹² Annual Local Area Labour Force Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics.

¹³ Clancy, A., Hough, M., Aust, R. and Kershaw, C. (2001). Crime, Policing and Justice: the experience of ethnic minorities: Findings from the 2000 British Crime Survey,

South Yorkshire Authorities (Doncaster 27 per cent increase and Barnsley 25 per cent increase).

- Three per cent of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Chinese. This is slightly lower than the national average but significantly lower compared to neighbouring authorities.
- In 2006 Chinese pupils account for 0.15 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham's Schools.
- The Chinese population are not confined to the main urban areas but are widely distributed across the Borough.
- The Chinese population in Rotherham has slightly more people aged under 16 (1 in 4) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 5). Whereas the total population in Rotherham has more people aged over 50 (1 in 3) compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5).

2.2 Ethnicity and Religious Characteristics

- Thirty nine per cent of the Chinese population living in Rotherham were born in the UK and 59 per cent were born in Asia.
- Sixty per cent of Rotherham's Chinese population stated they had no religion in the 2001 Census. Around 1 in 5 Chinese people living in Rotherham are Christians.

2.3 Family and Living Characteristics

- The Chinese population in Rotherham has a higher proportion of married couples compared to the Borough average.
- The Chinese community in Rotherham has proportionately lower numbers of lone parent families (3 per cent) compared with the Borough average (10 per cent).
- The Chinese community in Rotherham have the lowest rate across all ethnic groups of children living in workless households (1 in 11 compared to 1 in 5 of the total Borough population).

2.4 Health Characteristics

- Across the age spectrum, the Chinese population are proportionately less likely to suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to the total Rotherham population (1 in 10 and 1 in 4 respectively).
- When looking at the total Chinese population in Rotherham, 1 in 10 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Chinese females living in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all females living in Rotherham.
- Chinese males living in Rotherham are proportionately more likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all males living in Rotherham.
- Chinese children living in Rotherham are two and a half times more likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child (3.44 per cent and 1.37 per cent respectively).

2.5 Household Characteristics

- One in 3 Chinese residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- One in 10 Chinese residents living in the Borough rent from the Local Authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Ninety per cent of Chinese households in the Borough own at least one car. This is much higher than the total Borough average of 70 per cent.
- The Chinese community in Rotherham have the highest rate of car ownership across all ethnic groups in Rotherham (including White British).
- In 2006, Free School Meal eligibility (FSM) for Chinese pupils in primary and secondary education in Rotherham stands at 9 per cent. This is much lower in comparison to the total Borough average FSM rate of 19 per cent.¹⁴

2.6 Economic Characteristics

- The Chinese community in Rotherham have a significantly lower rate of unemployment compared to the total Borough rate (1.8 per cent and 3.9 per cent respectively).
- Over two thirds (68 per cent) of Chinese residents aged 16-24 living in Rotherham are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average

¹⁴ PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services

of 31 per cent. This is mainly due to a high proportion of Chinese residents being a student (77 per cent).

- The Chinese population in Rotherham has a much higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the Borough average.
- Economic inactivity amongst Chinese residents aged 25 and over is lower than the total Borough average.
- Chinese residents aged over 25 are ten times more likely to be economically inactive due to being a student compared to the total Borough population.
- Chinese residents aged over 25 are also proportionately less likely to be economically inactive due to permanent sickness or disability (the second lowest rate across all ethnic groups in Rotherham).
- There are proportionately higher numbers of economically active Chinese women in Rotherham compared to the total Borough population.
- Chinese men aged over 25 have a proportionately higher employment rate compared to the total Borough employment rate for men aged 25 and over.
- Chinese residents aged 25 years and over are four times as likely to be self-employed when compared to the total Borough population aged 25 and over.

2.7 Education Characteristics

- Across all ages the Chinese population in comparison to the total Borough population have similar levels of people without any qualifications.
- The Chinese population have significantly higher numbers of individuals qualified to Level 4/5 across the working age spectrum compared to the total Borough average.
- In the 25-34 age group the Chinese population are more than two and a half times more likely than the total Borough population to be qualified to Level 4/5.

2.8 Crime Characteristics

- In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported.
- Four per cent of all reported incidents were from Chinese.

3. Demographic Characteristics

The size of Rotherham's ethnic minority communities (all other than white) is relatively small at 7,712 or 3.1 per cent of the total population. For England & Wales, the figure is 8.7 per cent.

According to the Census 2001, Rotherham has slightly lower numbers of Chinese people living in the Borough (0.12 per cent) compared with the national average of 0.45 per cent and the regional average of 0.25 per cent.

The Chinese population is increasing, with a 56 per cent increase for England & Wales between 1991 and 2001 and a 25 per cent increase between 2001 and 2003 according to the 2003 Mid-year population estimates. The increase for the Yorkshire and Humber region is close to the national average of 51 per cent.

The table below shows that the increase of the Chinese population between 1991 and 2001 in Rotherham is below both national and regional averages. However, the increase in Rotherham is significantly higher than neighbouring authorities such as Barnsley and Doncaster.

Table 3.1 – Chinese population of South Yorkshire by district, 1991 and 2001 Census

| | 1991 | 2001 | % TOTAL POPULATION 2001 | % CHANGE 1991-2001 |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Barnsley | 197 | 246 | 0.11 | 25 |
| Doncaster | 412 | 523 | 0.18 | 27 |
| Rotherham | 218 | 307 | 0.12 | 41 |
| Sheffield | 1,330 | 2,201 | 0.43 | 65 |

However, Table 3.2 below compares Rotherham's Chinese population as a percentage of the total ethnic minority population with other Local Authorities in the South Yorkshire region.

The table below shows that 3.0 per cent of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Chinese. This is slightly lower than the national average but significantly lower compared to neighbouring authorities.

Table 3.2 – Regional comparison of Chinese Community as a percentage of the Ethnic Population, 2001 Census

| | CHINESE COMMUNITY % OF ETHNIC MINORITY POPULATION |
|-------------------------------|--|
| England | 3.5% |
| Yorkshire & Humber | 3.0% |
| Rotherham | 3.0% |
| Barnsley | 6.0% |
| Doncaster | 5.2% |
| Sheffield | 4.0% |

According to the Pupil Level Annual School Census 2006, Chinese pupils account for 0.15 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham schools.

Fig. 3.3 below shows the geographical density of Chinese people living in Rotherham from the 2001 Census. These are the only Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Rotherham which have higher than Borough, regional and national averages of Chinese residents (>0.45 per cent).

Fig 3.3 Geographical location by SOA

| SUPER OUTPUT AREA CODE | SUPER OUTPUT AREA NAME | CHINESE POPULATION % OF PERSONS 2001 | CHINESE POPULATION (TOTAL NM) 2001 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| E01007725 | Sunnyside East | 1.09 | 15 |
| E01007660 | North Anston East | 0.82 | 11 |
| E01007694 | Brampton North | 0.61 | 10 |
| E01007683 | Bramley North | 0.60 | 9 |
| E01007756 | Maltby West - Explorers | 0.57 | 9 |
| E01007763 | Maltby East - Town Centre | 0.54 | 8 |
| E01007768 | Eastwood Central | 0.50 | 9 |
| E01007818 | Swinton North West & Warren Vale | 0.50 | 8 |
| E01007688 | Listerdale | 0.49 | 7 |
| E01007778 | Upper Haugh East | 0.47 | 7 |
| E01007797 | Bow Broom | 0.47 | 7 |
| E01007738 | East Dene North East | 0.46 | 7 |

The information below details where the specified SOAs are located within the borough:

E01007725 (Sunnyside East). - This area is located to the west of Bramley in a large residential area. This area is central to the Sunnyside region.

E01007660 (North Anston East). - This SOA is located on the east side of North Anston. It is a large area with a dense population to the west and a widely dispersed rural population to the east.

E01007694 - (Brampton North) – This area is located to the far north of Rotherham borough in the Dearne Valley. This is a residential area in the north of Brampton and just to the south of the Dearne Valley Parkway.

E01007683 – (Bramley North) - This area lies directly adjacent to the east of Sunnyside East. It is a large residential and densely populated area in the northern area of Bramley.

E01007756 - (Maltby West - Explorers) – This area is located in the west of Maltby and is densely populated.

E01007763 – (Maltby East - Town Centre) - This area is located to the southeast of Maltby on the edge of the Maltby area. It is densely populated and the area contains a number of terraced houses.

E01007768 - (Eastwood Central) – This SOA is in Eastwood to the northwest of Rotherham town centre. It is a densely populated and lies at the heart of Eastwood village.

E01007818 – (Swinton North West & Warren Vale) – This area lies to the north west of Swinton covering a large area. Most of the population is located in the north of the SOA.

E01007688 – (Listerdale) – This SOA lies in the west of Wickersley and the northeast of Listerdale. It is densely populated in an area with mostly suburban housing just to the north of Bawtry Road.

E01007797 – (Bow Broom) – This area is in the north east of Rotherham to the north of Swinton. There is an area of dense terraced housing where most of the population are located.

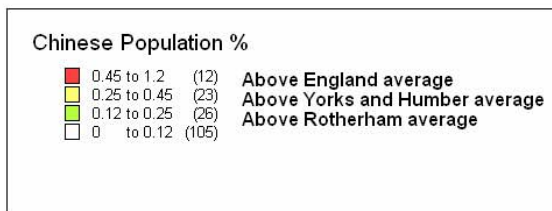
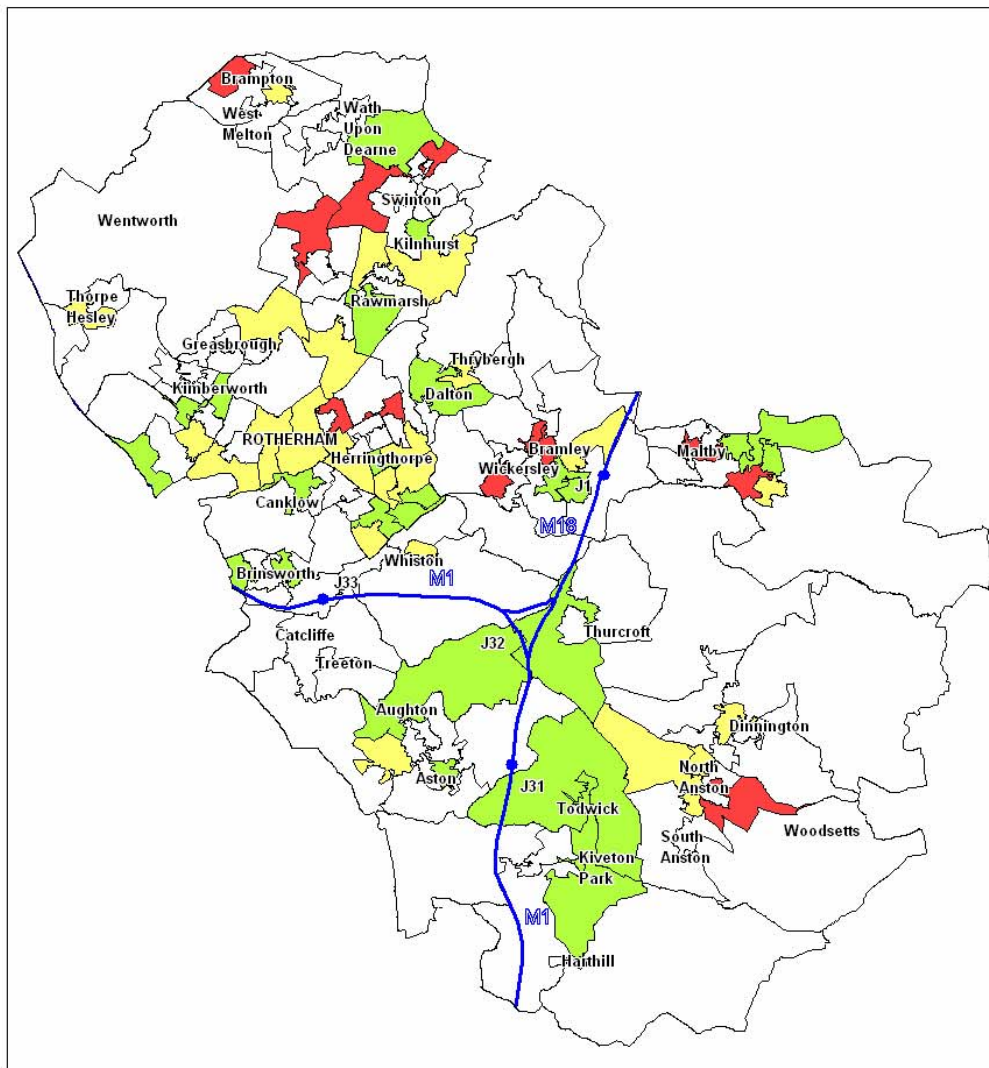
E01007778 – (Upper Haugh East) – This is a large SOA located in the east of Upper Haugh. Most of the population is located at the centre of this area.

E01007738 – (East Dene North East) – This area is located to the east of Eastwood and to the northeast of East Dene. This area is densely populated.

The map below shows the main concentrations of Chinese people living in Rotherham. The data shows that the Chinese community in Rotherham are not confined to the main urban areas but are widely distributed across the Borough. Regional data also shows that Chinese communities are not confined to the main urban areas but are widely distributed. Settlement patterns in South Yorkshire and Humber sub-regions show some concentration in urban areas but Chinese populations being present also in the more rural areas.¹⁵

¹⁵ ¹⁵Yorkshire and Humber's 'hidden' minority - the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Review, Winter 2005

Chinese Population by Super Output Area



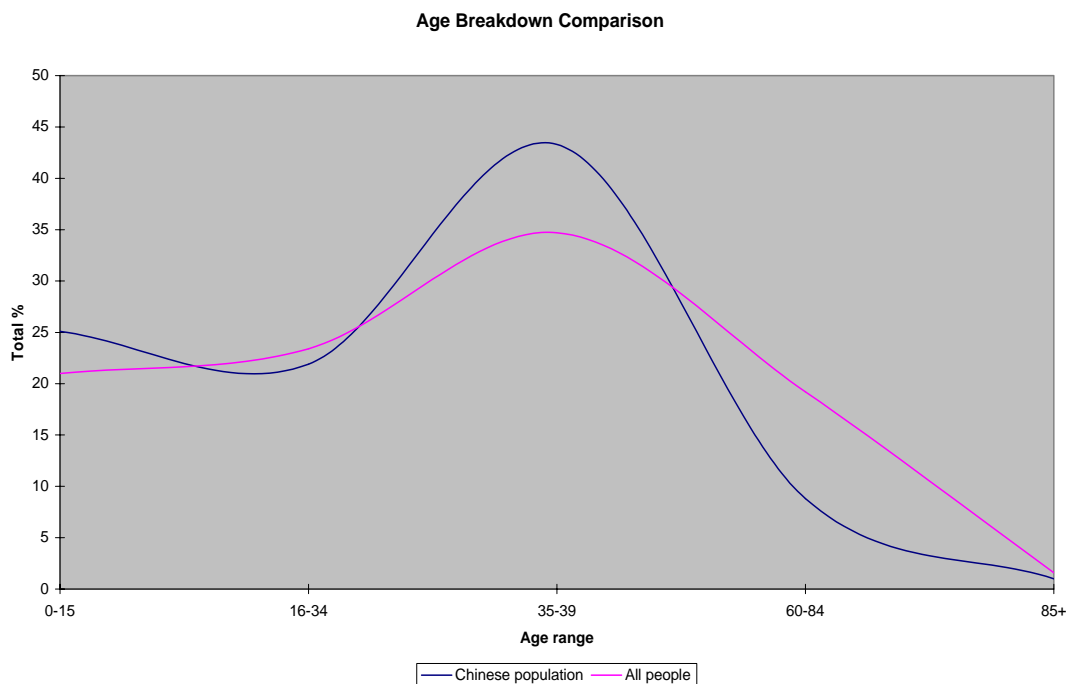
3.1 Age Breakdown

The chart below shows the age breakdown of the Chinese population in Rotherham in comparison to the total Borough population taken from 2001 Census data. The chart shows a contrast in population trends. Whereas the total population in Rotherham is an ageing population with more people now aged 50 and over (1 in 3)

compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5) the reverse is true for the Chinese population.

The Chinese population in Rotherham has more people aged under 16 (1 in 4) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 5). The biggest difference can be seen between the 35-39 age group. Seventy-nine per cent of Chinese residents in Rotherham are aged under 50 compared with 66 per cent of the total Borough population aged under 50.

Fig. 3.6 Age breakdown of the Chinese population in Rotherham, 2001 Census



4. Ethnicity and country of birth

The chart below shows the country of birth for the Chinese population living in Rotherham according to the 2001 Census. Just over one third, 39.5 per cent of the Chinese population living in Rotherham were born in the United Kingdom (UK).

This compares with 97.3 per cent of the total population living in Rotherham. The majority of the Chinese community living in Rotherham were born in Asia (59.5 per cent).

Fig. 4.1 Ethnicity and country of birth, 2001 Census

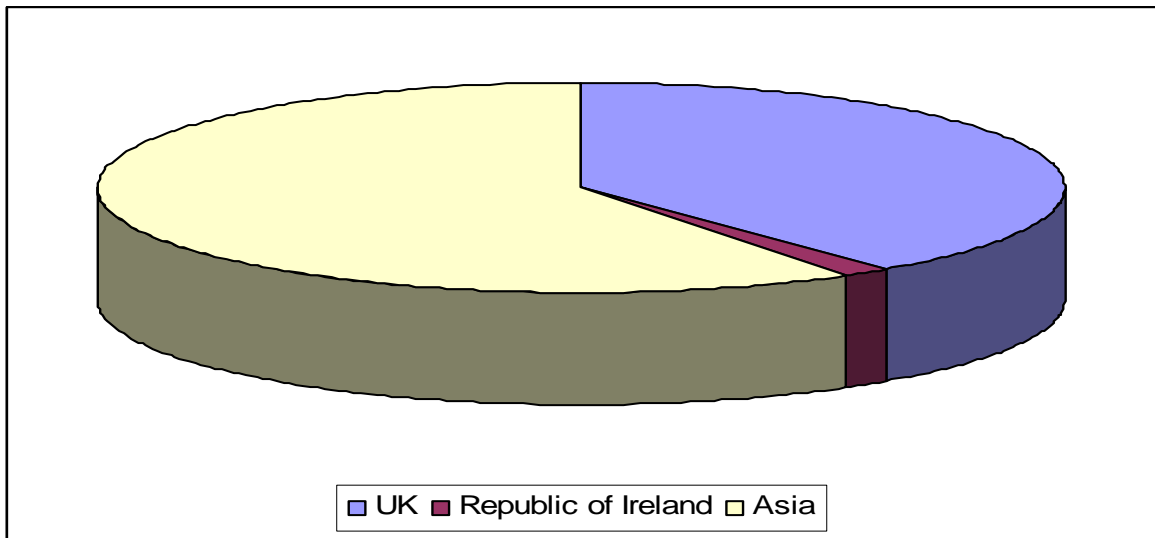
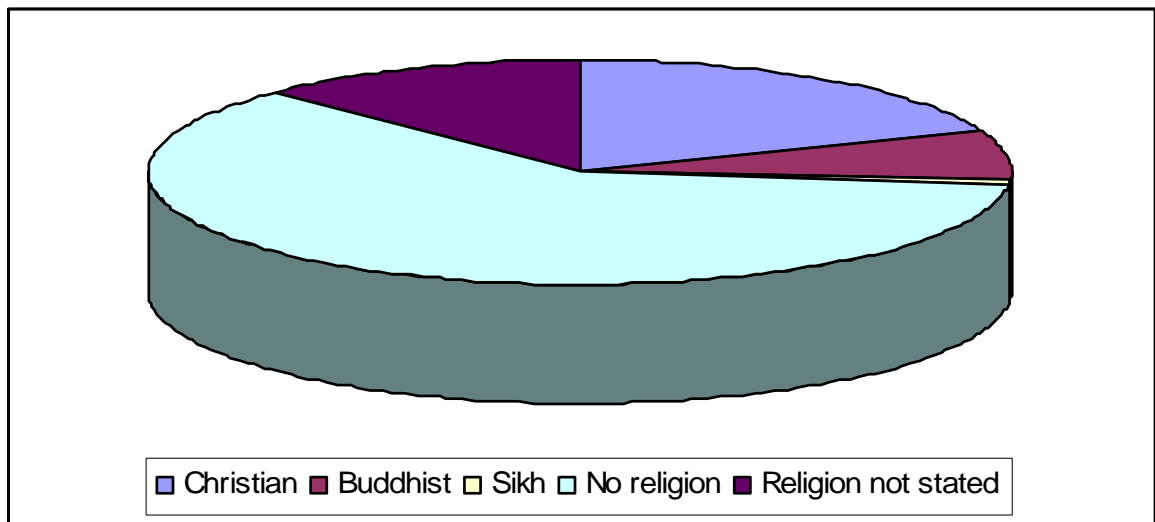


Figure 4.2 below shows that 60.3 per cent of Rotherham's Chinese population in the 2001 Census stated that they had no religion. This compares to just 10.2 per cent of the total Rotherham population.

Around 1 in 5 Chinese people living in Rotherham are Christians, compared to nearly 80 percent of the total Borough population.

Fig. 4.2 Ethnic Group by Religion, 2001 Census

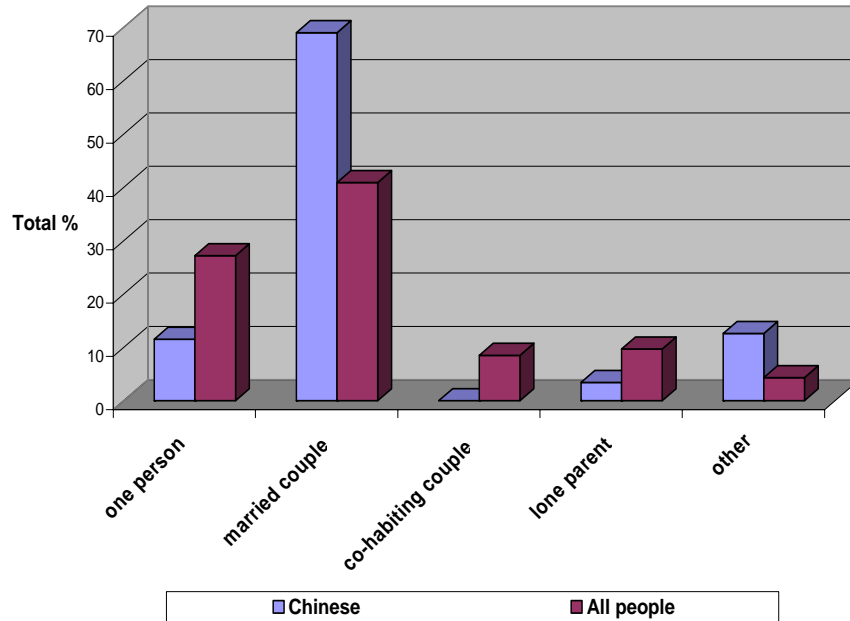


5. Family and Living Characteristics

The 2001 Census data shows that there are proportionately higher numbers of married couples within the Chinese community in Rotherham when compared with

the total Borough average. The data also shows that there are proportionately lower numbers of lone parent families within the Chinese community in Rotherham (3 per cent) compared with the total borough average (10 per cent).

Fig. 5.1. Household composition by ethnic group of HRP, 2001 Census



The table below shows that the Chinese community in Rotherham have the lowest rate across all ethnic groups of children living in workless households (1 in 11 compared to 1 in 5 of the total Borough population).

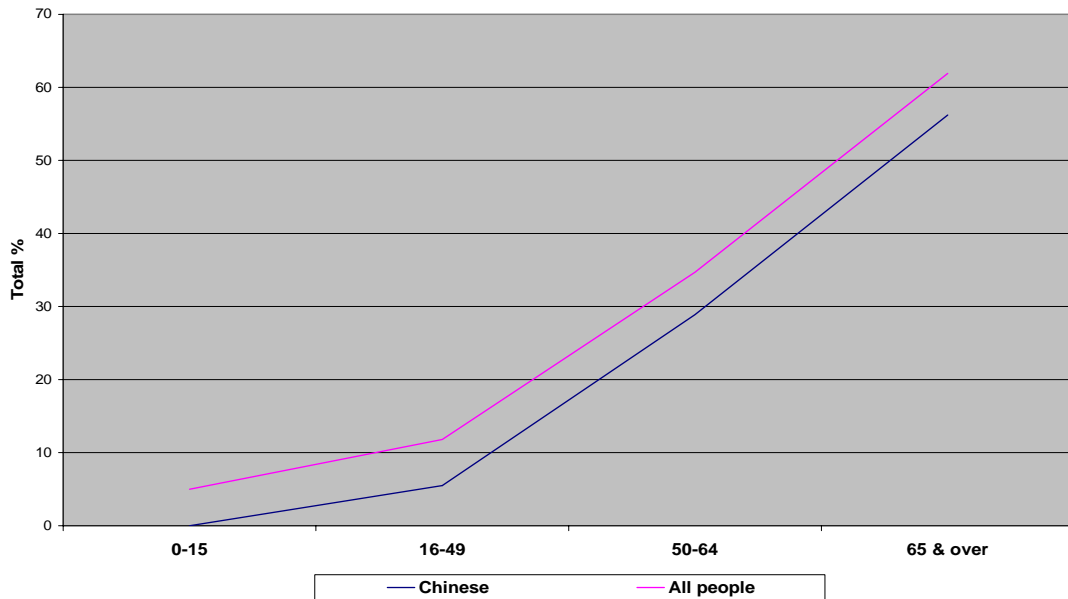
Fig. 5.2. Children living in workless households, 2001 Census

| ETHNIC GROUP | TOTAL % OF CHILDREN LIVING IN WORKLESS HOUSEHOLDS |
|------------------------|---|
| Chinese | 9.2 |
| All people | 20.4 |
| Minority Ethnic groups | 33.1 |

6. Health Characteristics

The 2001 Census asked questions related to ill health. Fig. 6.1 below shows that across the ages the Chinese population in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to the total Rotherham population.

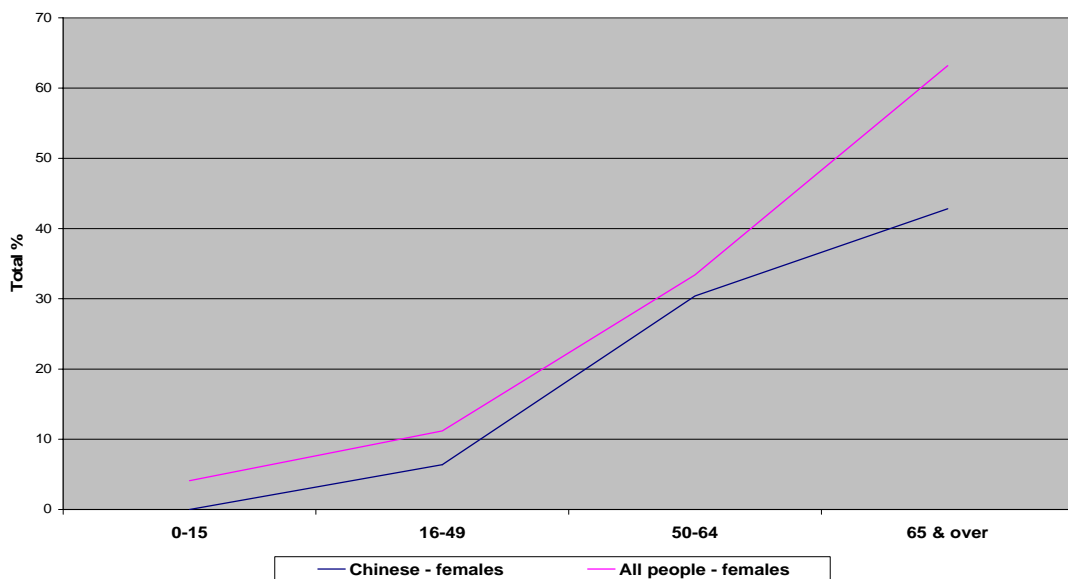
Fig.6.1 Limiting Long-Term Illness by Ethnic Group, 2001 Census



When looking at the total overall Chinese population in Rotherham, 1 in 10 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Rotherham population. The 2001 Census shows that Chinese females living in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all females living in Rotherham.

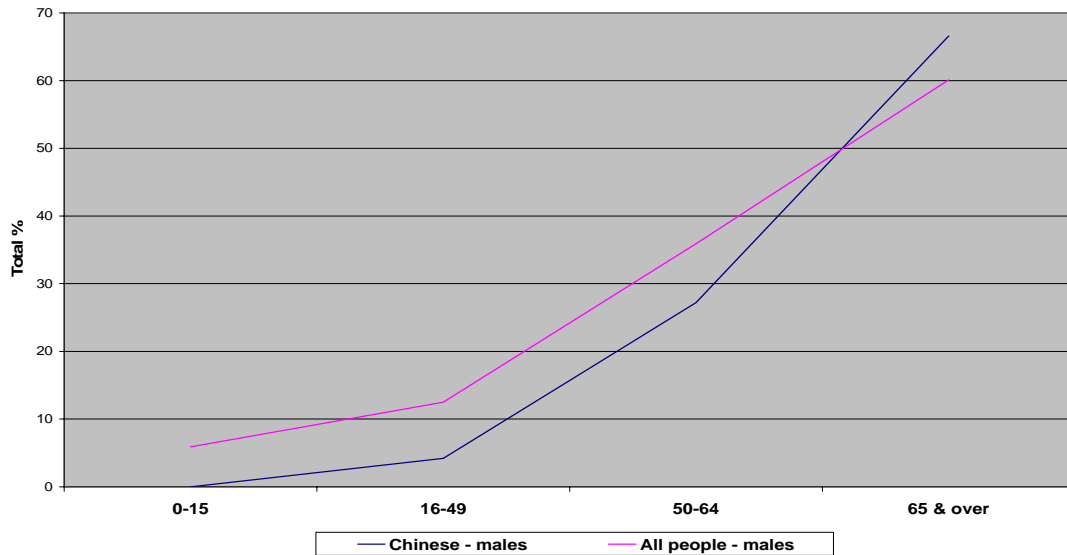
Interestingly, as Fig.6.2 shows below, the gap between Chinese females and all females living in the Borough with a limiting long term illness actually widens for Chinese women aged 50 and over.

Fig.6.2 Limiting Long-Term Illness by Ethnic Group, age and gender, 2001 Census



The 2001 Census shows that Chinese males living in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all females living in Rotherham. However, as Fig.6.3 shows below, Chinese males aged 65 and over are proportionately more likely to have a limiting long term illness compared to all males in Rotherham (66.6 per cent and 60.1 per cent respectively).

Fig.6.3 Limiting Long-Term Illness by Ethnic Group, age and gender, 2001 Census



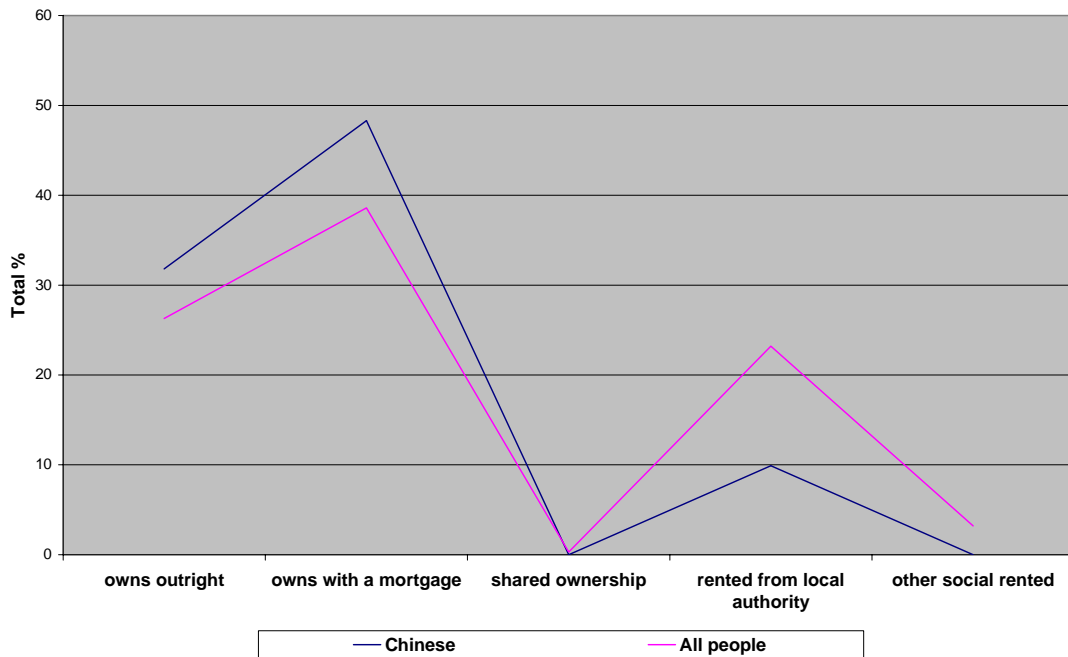
The 2001 Census shows that Chinese children living in Rotherham are two and a half times as likely to be providing unpaid care (3.44 per cent) compared to a White British child (1.37 per cent).

7. Housing Characteristics

The chart below shows the tenure of the Chinese community in Rotherham compared with all people living in the Borough. The 2001 Census findings show that almost one third (31.8 per cent) of all Chinese residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 26.3 per cent of the total population.

The 2001 Census also shows that 1 in 10 Chinese residents in the Borough rent from the local authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Rotherham population. The chart below clearly shows that the Chinese community in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to be dependent on social housing in comparison to the general Borough population.

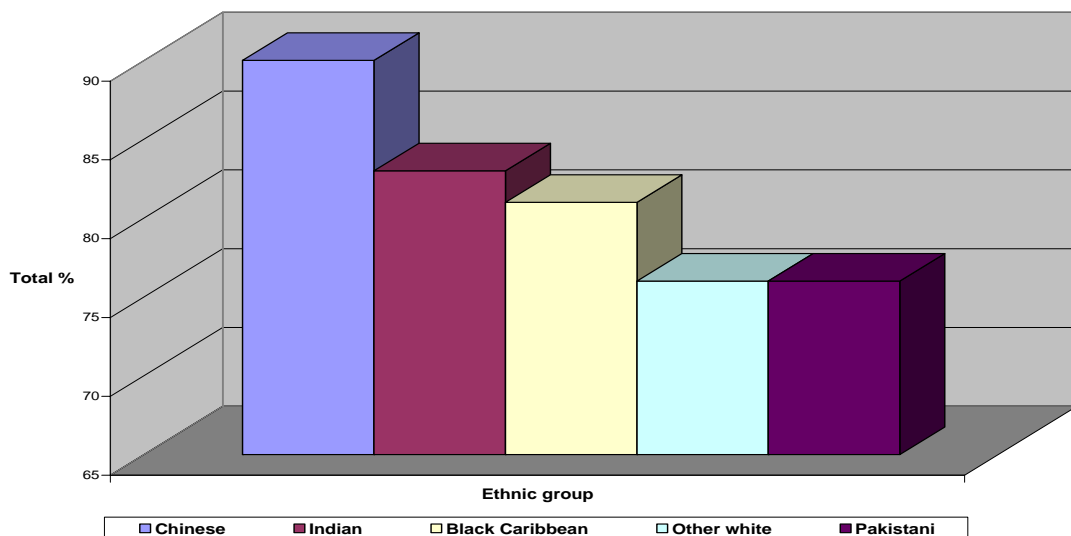
Fig 7.1: Household Tenure and Accommodation Type by ethnic group, 2001 Census



The 2001 Census also shows that 90 per cent of Chinese households in the Borough own at least one car, compared to just 70 per cent of the total Rotherham population. The Chinese community in Rotherham have the highest rate of car ownership across all ethnic groups in Rotherham (including white British).

The chart below shows the five highest rates of car ownership across all ethnic groups in Rotherham, all above the total Borough average of 70 per cent.

Fig 7.2: Number of cars by ethnic group, 2001 Census



Rotherham Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) data for 2006 shows that the Free School Meal Eligibility rate (FSM) for Chinese pupils in primary and secondary education stands at 9.0 per cent. This is much lower in comparison to the total Borough average FSM rate of 19 per cent.¹⁶

8. Economic Characteristics

The 2001 Census shows an unemployment rate of 1.8 per cent for the Chinese population in Rotherham compared to 3.9 per cent for the total Borough population.

The 2001 Census shows that over two-thirds (68 per cent) of Chinese residents aged 16-24 are **economically inactive** compared to 31 per cent of the total Borough population aged 16-24. The table below shows the reasons for economic inactivity:

Fig. 8.1 Economic inactivity by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

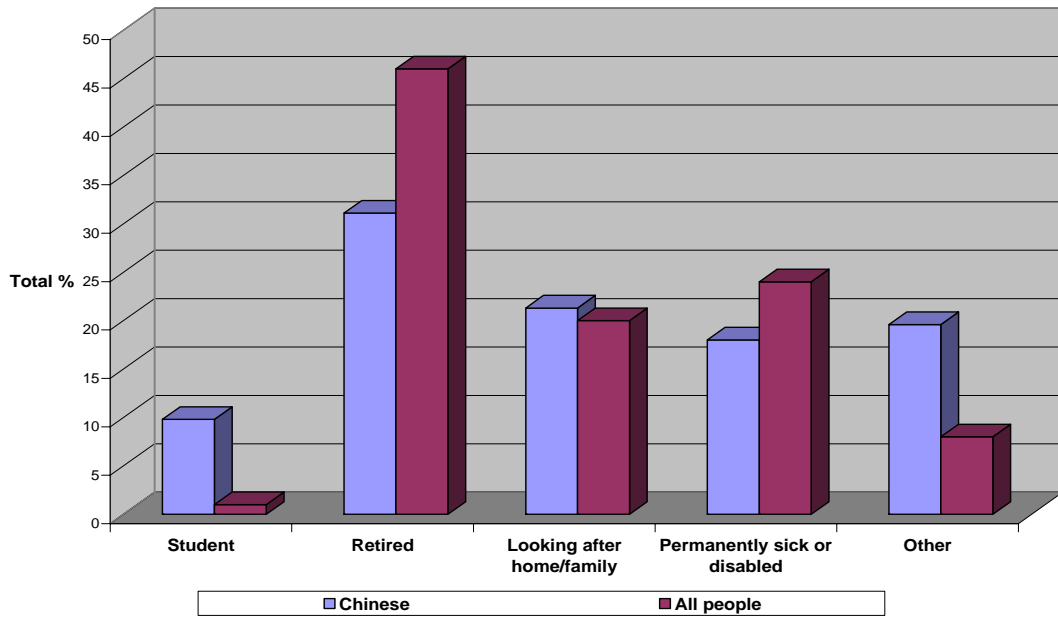
| | CHINESE POPULATION AGED 16-24 | TOTAL ROTHERHAM POPULATION AGED 16-24 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Student | 77% | 62% |
| Looking after home/family | 11.5% | 19% |
| Permanently sick or disabled | 0% | 6% |
| Other | 11.5% | 13% |

The table above shows that **economic inactivity** amongst the Chinese community aged 16-24 in Rotherham is mainly due to being a student (77 per cent). The Chinese population in Rotherham has a significantly higher proportion of its young adults in education (77 per cent) compared to White Britons (62 per cent) and the total Rotherham population (62 per cent).

Almost one third (32 per cent) of Chinese residents aged 25 years and over are **economically inactive** compared to 36 per cent of the total population. The chart below shows the reasons for economic inactivity.

Fig. 8.2 Economic inactivity by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

¹⁶ PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services



Chinese residents aged 25 years and over in Rotherham are ten times more likely to be economically inactive due to being a student compared to the total Borough population. They are also proportionately less likely to be economically inactive due to retirement (31 per cent) or permanently sick or disabled (18 per cent) compared to the total Borough population (46 per cent and 24 per cent respectively). This could be explained by the higher proportion of Chinese residents aged under 50 in Rotherham.

According to the 2001 Census data, Chinese women across all ages in Rotherham have higher than Borough average **economic activity** rates at 57 per cent compared to 54 per cent for all women in Rotherham. Chinese women aged over 25 in Rotherham are much more likely than Chinese men to be **economically inactive**, 38 per cent and 25 per cent respectively. Chinese women are more likely to be inactive because of looking after the home/family.

Chinese men aged over 25 in Rotherham have an employment rate of 74.6 per cent which is slightly higher than the total Borough employment rate for men aged 25 years and over (70.5 per cent) but lower than the national figure of 79 per cent. The table below ranks the employment rate for men aged over 25 years for all ethnic groups in Rotherham.

Fig. 8.3 Economic inactivity by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

| ETHNIC GROUPS | EMPLOYMENT RATE OF MEN AGED 25 & OVER (ROTHERHAM) |
|---------------------------|--|
| Bangladeshi | 100% |
| Indian | 92% |
| White and Black African | 78% |
| Chinese | 75% |
| Black Caribbean | 74% |
| White and Black Caribbean | 70% |
| Pakistani | 69% |
| White British | 68% |
| Other Black | 67% |
| White and Asian | 66% |
| Black African | 61% |
| Irish | 56% |

Nationally, the Chinese population has the lowest rates of economic inactivity due to permanent sickness and disability.¹⁷ In Rotherham, the Chinese population aged 25 and over have the second lowest rate of economic inactivity due to permanent sickness or disability. The table below shows rates of economic inactivity due to permanent sickness or disability across all ethnic groups in the Borough.

Fig. 8.3. Economic Inactivity due to permanent sickness or disability in Rotherham by ethnic group, 2001 Census

| ETHNIC GROUPS | ECONOMIC INACTIVITY DUE TO PERMANENT SICKNESS OR DISABILITY AGED 25 & OVER (ROTHERHAM) |
|---------------------------|---|
| All people | 9% |
| White British | 9% |
| Irish | 22% |
| White and Black Caribbean | 20% |
| White and Asian | 23% |
| White and Black African | 25% |
| Indian | 10% |
| Pakistani | 18% |
| Bangladeshi | 0% |
| Black Caribbean | 19% |
| Black African | 8% |
| Other Black | 12% |

¹⁷ Households below Average Income, DWP, 2004/5

| | |
|----------------|----|
| Chinese | 6% |
|----------------|----|

The 2001 Census shows that Chinese residents aged 25 years and over are four times as likely to be self-employed (27 per cent) when compared to the total Rotherham population aged 25 years and over (6.5 per cent).

This reflects national Labour Force data which shows that people from Chinese groups, along with Pakistani and White Irish groups are more likely to be self-employed than those in other groups. Around 1 in 6 Chinese people (16 per cent) in employment were self-employed in 2004 compared with only one in ten White people.¹⁸

9. Education

Across all ages, the Chinese population in comparison to the total Rotherham population have similar levels of people without any qualifications (38 per cent and 37 per cent respectively). However, when looking at the younger age spectrum (16-24 and 25-34) the Chinese population have significantly lower numbers of people without any qualifications compared with the total Borough average.

Fig. 9.2 Proportion with no qualifications in Rotherham by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

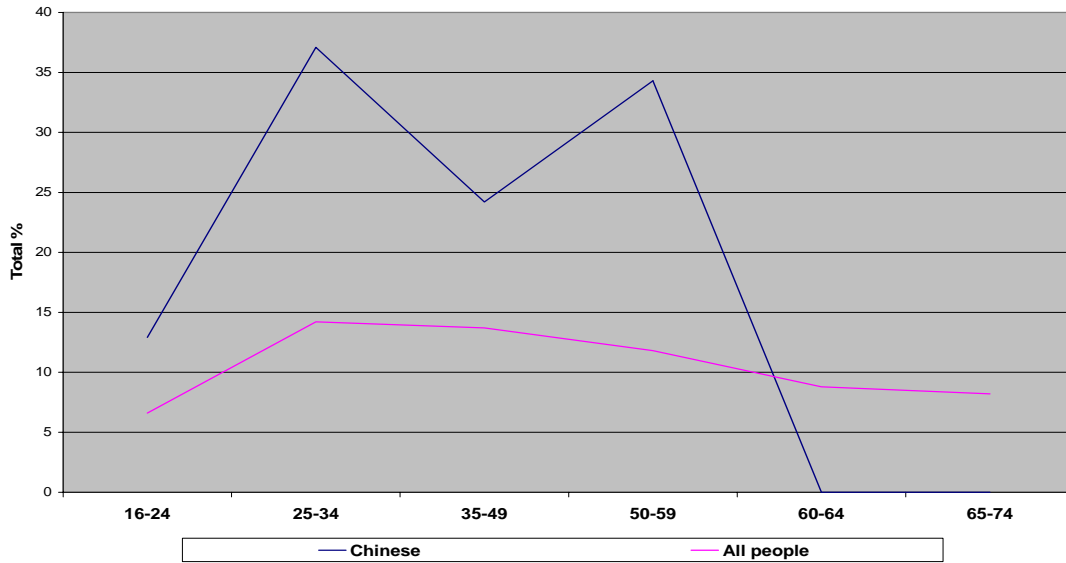
| | 16-74 | AGE RANGES 16-24 | 25-34 |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Chinese | 38% | 16% | 8.5% |
| White British | 36% | 22% | 17% |
| All people | 37% | 22% | 18% |

In terms of education, the chart above shows that the Chinese population in Rotherham have significantly higher numbers of individuals qualified to Level 4/5¹⁹ across the working age spectrum in comparison to the total Borough population. In the 25-34 age group the Chinese population are more than two and a half times more likely than the total Borough population to be qualified to Level 4/5.

¹⁸ Annual Local Area Labour Force Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics.

¹⁹ Qualifications at level 4/5 are referred to by the ONS as: First Degree, Higher Degree, NVQ Levels 4-5, HND, HNC, Qualified Teacher Status, Qualified Medical Doctor, Qualified Dentist, Qualified Nurse, Midwife, Health Visitor or equivalent.

Fig. 9.3 Proportion with Level 4/5 qualifications in Rotherham by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census



10. Crime

In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported. Four per cent of all reported incidents were from Chinese residents.

11. Community Engagement

Currently Chinese communities are engaged through REMA (Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance) which is an umbrella organisation for BME communities and organisations. REMA has a membership structure, which enables BME organisations and individuals to be signed up as members of REMA.

One of REMA’s member organisations is Wah Hong Association, which serves the Chinese community in Rotherham. Wah Hong is currently receiving capacity-building support from REMA with their constitution and their management committee.

Rotherham’s Chinese Community have been mainly consulted through exercises aimed at identifying the needs and priorities of Rotherham BME community which

Rotherham's Chinese community form a key element of. There has been limited specific consultation undertaken with Rotherham's Chinese communities.

In 2000 the respected Joseph Rowntree Foundation conducted a survey on the needs of Chinese older people. This study is based on interviews with a hundred Chinese older people in London, Glasgow, Rotherham, Doncaster, Sheffield and Barnsley. One of its main conclusions was that many Chinese older people are isolated from both the Chinese community and mainstream society.

12.Summary

Overall, the profile of the Chinese community in Rotherham has portrayed a picture similar to that of the Chinese community nationally. However, there are some significant differences between national figures and Borough figures. The findings show that Rotherham has much lower numbers of Chinese people living in the Borough compared with regional and national averages.

As a percentage of the total ethnic population, Chinese account for just 3 per cent which is slightly lower than the national average but significantly lower compared to neighbouring authorities.

The age structure of the Chinese population in Rotherham differs significantly in comparison to the total Borough population. Rotherham's Chinese population very much reflects a younger age structure with more people under the age of 16 compared to people aged over 50. The majority of the Chinese population in Rotherham are aged under 50 (80 per cent).

The report shows that well over a third of all Chinese residents in the Borough were born in the UK. However, even though many Chinese residents are British born, the Chinese population are proportionately well above the total Borough average in a number of areas.

Chinese households in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to have lone parent families in comparison to the total Borough population. Additionally, the Chinese

community in Rotherham have the lowest rate across all ethnic groups of children living in workless households (1 in 11 compared to 1 in 5 of the total Borough population).

Across the age spectrum, the Chinese population in Rotherham are proportionately less likely to suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to the total Rotherham population. Home ownership is also higher amongst the Chinese population in Rotherham with significantly less dependence on Local Authority housing compared to the total Borough average. The Chinese community in Rotherham have the highest rate of car ownership across all ethnic groups in Rotherham. Additionally, Free School Meal eligibility for Chinese pupils in primary and secondary education in Rotherham is half that of the total Borough average.

However, even though there are many areas where the Chinese population in Rotherham out perform the total Borough average, inequalities still exist. For example, Chinese males living in Rotherham are proportionately more likely to have a limiting long term illness compared with all males living in Rotherham and Chinese children living in Rotherham are two and a half times more likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child.

In terms of economic and educational disparities, there are some striking differences between the Chinese population in Rotherham and the total Borough population. Economic inactivity amongst Chinese residents aged 25 and over is much lower than the total Borough average. The Chinese population also has a much higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the total Borough average.

For Chinese residents aged 25 and over, they are ten times more likely to be a full-time student and proportionately less likely to be economically inactive due to permanent sickness or disability compared to the total Borough population. Chinese women across all ages in Rotherham have higher rates of economic activity compared to all women in Rotherham and Chinese men aged over 25 have a higher rate of employment in comparison to the total Borough employment rate for men aged 25 and over.

Furthermore, self employment amongst Chinese residents aged 25 and over is four times higher than the total Borough average of self-employment.

In terms of educational disparities, across all ages, the Chinese community in Rotherham have similar levels of people with no qualifications compared to the total borough average. However, when looking at the younger age spectrum (16-24 and 25-34) the Chinese population have significantly lower numbers of people without any qualifications in comparison to the total Borough average.

Additionally, the Chinese population have significantly higher numbers of individuals qualified to Level 4/5 across the working age spectrum. In the 25-34 age group the Chinese population are more than two and a half times more likely than the total Borough average to be qualified to Level 4/5.

Clearly, there are some very positive disparities between the Chinese population in Rotherham in comparison to the total Borough population and other ethnic groups in the Borough. In the majority of areas highlighted in the report the Chinese population are performing well above Borough averages. This reflects national findings by the Cabinet Office in 2004 which suggested that:

“Chinese are, on average, doing well, and often outperforming Whites in school and the labour market.”

However, there are some areas where inequalities exist. For the Chinese community the Borough level research suggests that their needs and priorities are focused around **Health and young Carers**.

Analysis of the Pakistani Community in Rotherham

June 2006

Report by

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Policy & Research, Chief Executives Office, Rotherham MBC

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1. Introduction - National Context & the needs of the Pakistani Community

1.1 Background

The analysis of the Pakistani Community in Rotherham is the fourth in a series of reports, which seeks to develop a greater understanding of Communities of Interest in Rotherham. Its findings will be made widely available, and help to shape and inform services and policies by the Council and partners.

This report represents a wider approach adopted by the Research and Policy Team in the Chief Executives Department of Rotherham MBC to help develop a greater understanding of the needs and priorities of the many communities in the Borough.

The improvement of available data from various sources and the development of more sophisticated approaches to profiling through for example the Council's involvement in the Audit Commission's Area Pilot Profile have enabled the Policy and Research Team to develop a more in depth understanding of the needs and priorities of its many of its communities.

1.2 National Context

Official statistics refer to people of Pakistani heritage in Britain as if they are all belong to a single community. In fact, it would be more accurate to speak of British Pakistanis as **a community of communities**, for there are many differences amongst them. They differ with regard to the areas in Britain where they live, the jobs they originally came to do, subsequent industrial history, their current employment and prospects, and the areas of Pakistan with which they most closely identify.

Talking in Lahore on 2 April 2001 about the Pakistani expatriate community living in the United Kingdom, Professor Muhammad Anwar of the University of Warwick, revealed some significant research findings.

According to the 2001 Census there are 747,285 Pakistanis living in Britain. Pakistanis are the second largest ethnic minority group behind Indians and make up 1.4 per cent of the total UK population and 17 per cent of the total minority ethnic UK

population. The majority of these British Pakistanis are Kashmiris, including those displaced by Mangla Dam in Azad Kashmir. Being Kashmiri is an important part of the Pakistani Community's identity and history.

Most Pakistanis are Muslim (92 per cent, the vast majority of whom are Sunni), and Islam plays a key role in everyday life. However, as is the case with members of all religions, they vary in their religious practice. Urdu is the main language spoken by Pakistanis. Regional languages are also spoken such as Punjabi, Sindhi, Balouchi and Pushto.

Pakistanis have settled in large cities all over the UK. More than half of the Pakistani community in 2001 are British born and almost all others have British nationality. Interestingly, unlike many other ethnic minorities, London does not have the largest concentration of Pakistani people. The Pakistani community can be found in large numbers in Humberside and Yorkshire, West Midlands and the North West. Glasgow also has a sizeable Pakistani community.

The Pakistani population in the UK has grown from around 5,000 in 1951 to 747,285 in 2001. Today, because of a high birth rate, around 35 percent of the Pakistani community in Britain are under the age of 16, compared to around 20 percent for whites.¹

Furthermore, nearly two thirds of the Pakistani Community in Britain are under the age of 30.² Pakistani households tend to be larger than those from other ethnic groups with an average of 4.2 people compared with an average of 2.3 people in white households.³ In spring 2002, 15 per cent of Pakistani families were lone parent families. This compares with 23 per cent of lone parent families among the White population in the UK.⁴

Over and above these largely historical factors, an important additional dynamic has recently begun to emerge: the frequency with which members of the younger – and by now overwhelmingly British-born – generation of Pakistanis are continuing to find spouses from amongst their kin back home. Not only has this option has been much

¹ Government Communication Network, 'Engaging Pakistani Communities', 2005

² Population Trends, Autumn 2001, ONS: 'The sizes and characteristics of ethnic populations of Great Britain - latest estimates'

³ ONS, Social Focus in Brief: Ethnicity, 2002

⁴ Annual Labour Force Survey, Spring 2002, ONS

more strongly sustained amongst Pakistani Muslims than by any other group of South Asian settlers in Britain recent research in Bradford suggests that 57 per cent of young Bradford Pakistanis married partners from overseas⁵ (Simpson 1997).

1.3 Historical Context

Large-scale immigration to Britain from Pakistan did not begin until the 1950s, when Britain encouraged migration from the former colonies mainly to satisfy its manpower needs following the Second World War. Many Pakistanis were economic migrants from rural areas of the country. Most came with a view to return to Pakistan once they had made enough money in Britain.

It is relevant to point out that migration of Pakistanis into Britain in the 1950s was to fill unskilled textile jobs in Yorkshire and Lancashire Textile Mills. However, there were two other factors which contributed to the migration of Pakistanis into Britain and then Rotherham. The first was the partition of India, when Pakistan (east and west) was created and the second was the construction of the Mangla Dam in Pakistan, in the early 1960s.

At the time of the partition in 1947, a large-scale movement of population took place between India and Pakistan. Various surveys have shown that many of these displaced people came to Britain, thus becoming migrants twice. It is estimated that about 100,000 people were displaced from Mangla Dam area in the early 1960s. The villagers were given compensation, some in the form of land in Panjab, while others received cash and settled in various areas of Pakistan.

However, some who had friends or relatives in Britain used the compensation money to come to Britain and to find work. In the 1950s, travel agents established offices in Karachi, Rawalpindi and other cities including Mirpur to help would be migrants.

Pakistani migrants filled a gap for labour mostly in the unskilled sectors and relatively low paid jobs such as textiles available as a result of the reconstruction and expansion of the British economy after 1945. In the 1960s and 1970s, the myth of return was quite common. However, more recently this myth among Pakistanis has diminished because of economic circumstances and the future of their children, which most of them see as being in Britain.

⁵ Simpson, S. (1997) "Demography and ethnicity: case studies from Bradford" in *New Community*, 23 (1)

1.4 Disadvantage

Official statistics from the 2001 census show that Pakistani communities in England, particularly in the North of the country and the West Midlands, are severely affected by poverty, unemployment and social exclusion, and that they are much less likely than the majority of the population to be employed in managerial and professional occupations. Figures collected by the DfES show that almost 40 per cent of Pakistani students in secondary schools are eligible for free school meals, compared with a national average of about 15 per cent.⁶

The National Family Resources Survey by the Department of Work and Pensions in 2000/1 found that the Pakistani Community have lower levels of household income than the White population. The survey identified that Pakistani households are heavily reliant on social security benefits –which made up nearly a fifth (19 per cent) of their income.

The findings highlighted that Pakistani households were the least likely to obtain income from earnings, reflecting their higher unemployment rates. Wages and salaries made up only around a third (36 per cent) of their total household income, whereas for other ethnic groups this proportion was around two-thirds. Pakistani households were much more reliant on earnings from self-employment than other groups and over a third of their total income came from this source.⁷

Much has been written about the high levels of poverty, deprivation, educational disadvantage and discrimination in the labour force amongst the UK's Black and minority ethnic communities. For example, a study by the Policy Studies Institute (Jones, 1996) highlights serious levels of poverty and low economic activity, especially amongst the Pakistani community.⁸ The Pakistani community in Britain are twice more likely not to have a bank or building society account than the rest of the population.⁹

⁶ INSTED - Equality and Diversity in Education, 2005

⁷ Family Resources Survey, DWP, 2000/1

⁸ National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse, 2005

⁹ New Policy Institute, Monitoring Poverty and social exclusion

1.5 Health

In the 1999 Health Survey for England Pakistani men and women were three to four times more likely than the general population to rate their health as bad or very bad.¹⁰ The Survey also found that Pakistani people generally reported having worse health than the general population and Pakistani men had higher rates of cardiovascular disease about 60 per cent to 70 per cent higher than men in the general population.¹¹

The 1999 Ethnic Minority Psychiatric Illness Rates In the Community (EMPIRIC) survey found that Pakistani women had higher rates of common mental disorders, such as anxiety and depression, than the White group. Pakistani people were more likely to have worse 'social functioning', and higher levels of chronic strain, than the general population.

The only available data regarding ethnic differences in rates of infant mortality is from the register of infant deaths in England and Wales (Office of National Statistics). The register only provides breakdowns of rates of infant deaths by mother's country of birth, which is not a certain indicator of ethnic group. However, the figures for 2002 show that the rates of perinatal deaths (within three months of birth) per 1,000 live births and still births were 14.5 for mothers born in Pakistan compared to 7.8 for mothers born in the United Kingdom.¹²

1.6 Education

Pakistani pupils perform consistently below the national average at all Key Stages and at five or more grades A*-C at GCSE and equivalent. At Key Stage 2 science, 72 per cent of Pakistani pupils achieved the expected level compared to 86 per cent nationally. In 2000, 30 per cent of Pakistani students gained five or more good GCSEs, compared with 50 per cent in the population as a whole.¹³

There are marked regional variations amongst the Pakistani community across the country. In London and the South East, some of the Pakistani communities are prosperous and their educational achievement is on a par with, or higher than, national averages. However, in the West Midlands and North, the communities have

¹⁰ The Health of Minority Ethnic Groups, Health Survey for England 1999, Department of Health

¹¹ Department of Health (DOH), 2005

¹² Office for National Statistics, 2002

¹³ The Guardian, June 17, 2002, British Muslims series

been severely affected by changes in manufacturing industries over the last 25 years and by the consequent lack of employment chances. Here, educational achievement in Pakistani communities is much lower than regional and national averages.

1.7 Employment

Nationally, Pakistanis have the highest unemployment rate, five times more than the British average.¹⁴ People from Pakistani backgrounds are more likely to be self-employed than any other ethnic minority group (including white British). In 2001/02, around one fifth of Pakistani (22 per cent) people were in self-employment, this compares with only one in ten white people and less than one in ten black people.¹⁵

There are marked differences between the economic activity rates of the Pakistani community and people from the white ethnic group. In 2001/02, economic activity rates were 85 per cent for White men and 74 per cent for White women. In 2001/02 Pakistani women had very low economic activity rates at 28 per cent.

1.8 Crime

In 1999, the risk of being the victim of a racially motivated incident was considerably higher for members of minority ethnic groups than for White people. The highest risk was for the Pakistani community at 4.2 per cent, followed by 3.6 per cent for Indian people and 2.2 per cent for Black people. This compared with 0.3 per cent for White people.¹⁶

According to findings from the British Crime Survey 2000, racially motivated incidents represented 12 per cent of all crime against minority ethnic people compared with 2 per cent for White people. The Ethnic Research Network has found that since 9/11, many Pakistanis have faced an increase in racism, especially young men, who are now more likely to be stopped and searched than any other ethnic minority group.¹⁷

¹⁴ Professor Anwar, University of Warwick, 2001

¹⁵ ONS, Social Focus in Brief: Ethnicity, 2002

¹⁶ Clancy, A., Hough, M., Aust, R. and Kershaw, C. (2001). Crime, Policing and Justice: the experience of ethnic minorities: Findings from the 2000 British Crime Survey,

¹⁷ Ethnic Research Network, 2005

2. Summary of the Pakistani Community in Rotherham

2.1 Demographic Characteristics

- Rotherham's Pakistani population stands at 1.9 per cent of the total Borough population.
- As a percentage of the total population, the Pakistani population in Rotherham is significantly higher than the national average.
- Forty seven per cent of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Pakistani. This is much higher than neighbouring Borough's and regional and national averages.
- In 2006 Pakistani pupils account for 3.97 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham's Schools.
- The Pakistani population are predominantly located in and around the urban core of Rotherham Town Centre.
- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has more people aged under 16 (1 in 3) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 10). Whereas the total population in Rotherham has more people aged over 50 (1 in 3) compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5).
- The number of young Pakistani residents in the Borough is disproportionately large. Young people under 16 account for nearly 40 per cent of the total Pakistani population in Rotherham.

2.2 Ethnicity and Religious Characteristics

- Fifty eight per cent of the Pakistani population living in Rotherham were born in the UK.
- Ninety three per cent of Rotherham's Pakistani population stated their religion was Muslim in the 2001 Census.

2.3 Family and Living Characteristics

- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a higher number of married couples compared to the Borough average.
- The Pakistani community in Rotherham has higher numbers of lone parent families (14 per cent) compared with the Borough average (10 per cent)

2.4 Health Characteristics

- Across the age spectrum, the Pakistani population has higher than Borough average numbers of people with a limiting long term illness.
- The health gap widens quite significantly between the Borough average aged 65 and over and the Pakistani average aged 65 and over.
- However, when looking at the total Pakistani population in Rotherham, 1 in 6 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Over half of all Pakistani women aged 50-64 years of age have a limiting long term illness compared to just over one third of the Borough average equivalent.
- Pakistani children living in Rotherham are almost twice as likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child (2.69 per cent and 1.37 per cent respectively).
- Forty three per cent of Pakistani carers in Rotherham feel that their needs would be better met if they had more information and advice.

2.5 Household Characteristics

- One in 3 Pakistani residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- One in 8 Pakistani residents living in the Borough rent from the Local Authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Borough average.
- Over half (53 per cent) of Pakistani households in the Borough own at least one car. This is slightly higher than the Borough average of 44 per cent.
- In 2006, Free School Meal eligibility (FSM) for Pakistani pupils in primary and secondary education in Rotherham stands at 29.1 per cent. This compares to the total Borough average FSM rate of 19 per cent.¹⁸

¹⁸ PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services

2.6 Economic Characteristics

- Over half (54 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 16-24 living in Rotherham are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average of 31 per cent. This is mainly due to the high numbers of students.
- The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a slightly higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the Borough average.
- Over half (56 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 25 years and over are economically inactive compared to the total Borough average of 36 per cent.
- Economic inactivity amongst Pakistani residents aged 25 and over is mainly due to looking after the home/family (46 per cent)
- Pakistani women in Rotherham have strikingly low economic activity rates at 19 per cent compared to a national economic rate of 72 per cent.
- Pakistani women aged over 25 in Rotherham are much more likely than their male counterparts to be economically inactive; 80 per cent and 31 per cent respectively.
- At the age of 16-24, 20 per cent of Pakistani women in Rotherham were looking after the home/family in the 2001 Census. This is more than twice the proportion of the White British population in Rotherham.
- One in 5 Pakistani men and women aged 25 and over are economically inactive due to permanent sickness and disability.
- Pakistani residents aged 16-24 years are twice as likely to be self-employed when compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 (3.4 per cent and 1.5 per cent respectively). The trend is the same for those aged 25 and over.

2.7 Education Characteristics

- Across all ages the Pakistani population in comparison to the total Borough population are the most likely to have no qualifications (52.3 per cent and 36.8 per cent respectively).
- The gap between the Pakistani population aged 16-24 without any qualifications compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 is much narrower in comparison to other age group differences.
- In the 2001 Census the proportion of Pakistani people with no qualifications aged 16-24 was 31 per cent. This was substantially lower than that of their counterparts aged 25-34 (45 per cent).

- The difference in GCSE English attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils has closed since 2003 and now stands at just over 16 per cent achieving grades A*-C.
- Maths GCSE attainment differences at grade A*-C between Pakistani and White British pupils have seen a slight increase since 2004 but an overall decrease since 2003.
- There has been a significant shift in differences in Science GCSE attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils. In 2003, the difference in attainment between the two groups achieving grade A*-C was over 15 per cent, with Pakistani pupils achieving less than White British. In 2005, the gap had almost closed which shows significant progress in this subject area.

2.8 Crime Characteristics

- In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported.
- One-third (32.4 per cent) of all reported incidents were from Pakistanis (including four Pakistani Asylum Seekers). Additionally, the areas where most of the racial incidents took place were around the central urban core areas of the Borough where high numbers of Pakistani residents reside.

3. Demographic Characteristics

The size of Rotherham's ethnic minority communities (all other than white) is relatively small at 7,712 or 3.1 per cent of the total population. For England & Wales, the figure is 8.7 per cent. The largest ethnic group within Rotherham is Pakistani, 4,704 or 1.9 per cent of the total population.

According to the Census 2001, Rotherham has slightly lower numbers of Pakistani people living in the Borough (1.9 per cent) compared with the regional average of 2.9 per cent. However, Rotherham's Pakistani community is higher than the national average of 1.4 per cent.

Table 3.1 – Pakistani population count, 2001 Census

| | PAKISTANI POPULATION COUNT APRIL 01 | PAKISTANI % OF TOTAL POPULATION APRIL 01 |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| England & Wales | 706,539 | 1.4% |
| Yorkshire & Humber | 146,330 | 2.9% |
| Rotherham | 4,703 | 1.9% |

As a percentage of the total population, the Pakistani Community in Rotherham is significantly higher than the national average, but lower than the regional average.

However, Table 3.2 below compares Rotherham's Pakistani population as a percentage of the total ethnic population with other Local Authorities in the South Yorkshire region.

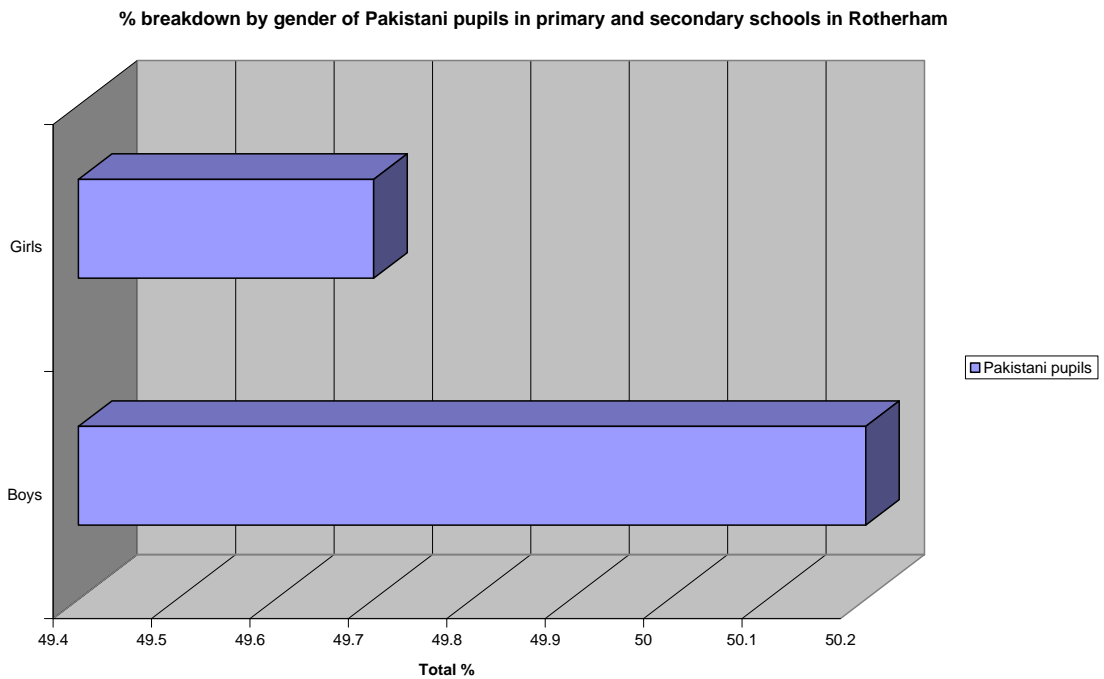
The table below shows that a very high proportion (46.6 per cent) of Rotherham's total ethnic population is Pakistani. This is much higher than neighbouring Boroughs, and regional and national averages.

Table 3.2 – Regional comparison of Pakistani Community as a percentage of the Ethnic Population, 2001 Census

| | PAKISTANI COMMUNITY % OF ETHNIC POPULATION |
|-------------------------------|---|
| England | 11.1% |
| Yorkshire & Humber | 35.4% |
| Rotherham | 46.6% |
| Barnsley | 3.4% |
| Doncaster | 15.0% |
| Sheffield | 28.5% |

The chart below (fig. 3.4) shows the gender breakdown of all Pakistani pupils in primary and secondary schools in Rotherham in 2005.¹⁹

Fig 3.4 Breakdown by gender of Pakistani pupils in Rotherham's schools, 2005 PLASC



The chart shows that there are slightly more male Pakistani pupils in comparison to female Pakistani pupils, 50.2 per cent and 49.7 per cent respectively. According to the Pupil Level Annual School Census 2005, Pakistani pupils account for 3.97 per cent of all pupils in Rotherham schools. In contrast, the Pakistani population in Rotherham as a whole accounts for only 1.9 per cent of the total borough population.

Fig. 3.5 below shows the geographical density of Pakistani people living in Rotherham. These are the only Super Output Areas (SOAs) in Rotherham containing over 10 per cent of Pakistani residents. According to the Census 2001, the Pakistani population of Rotherham tend to be highly concentrated in the following SOAs:

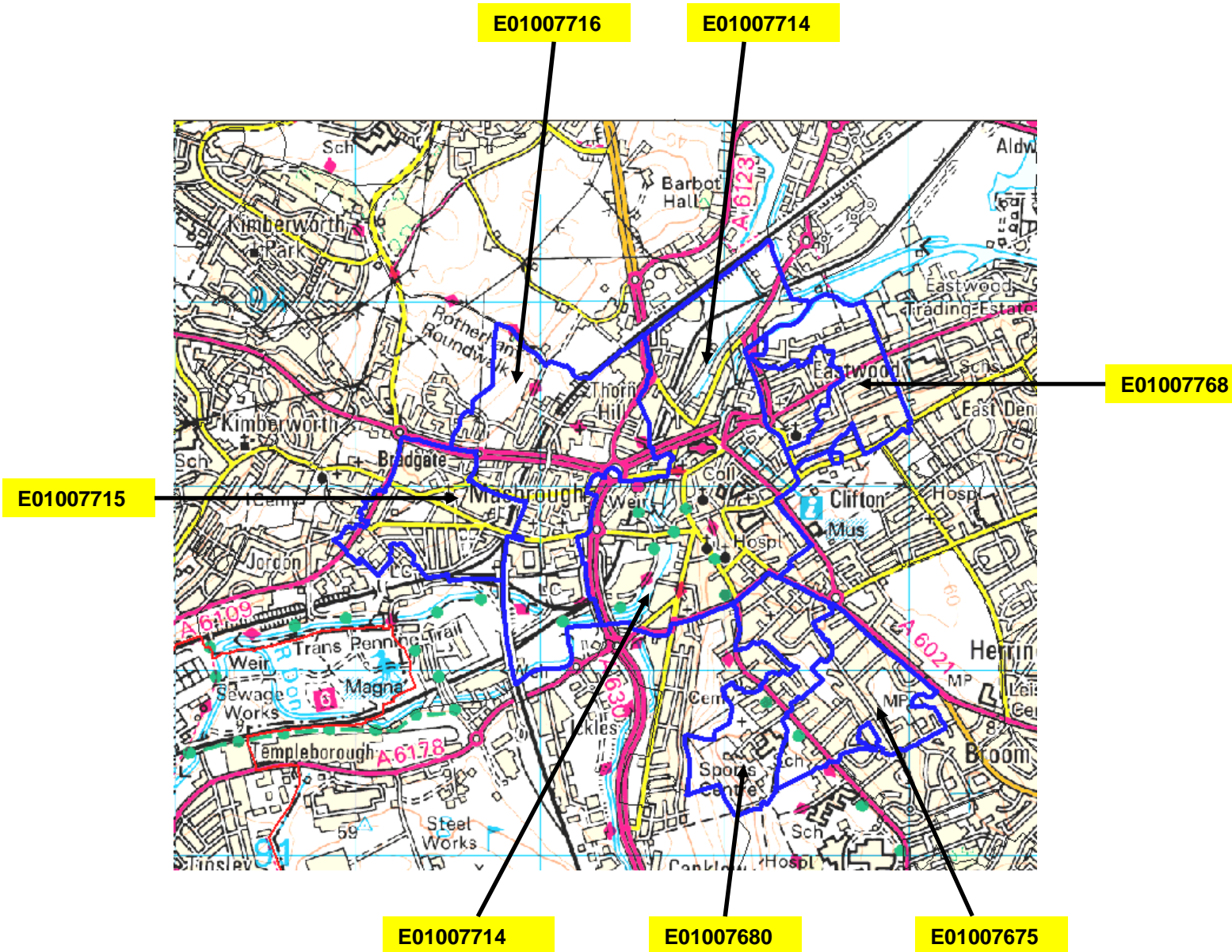
¹⁹ PLASC, 2005 - Pupil Level Annual School Census data, January 2005

Fig 3.5. Geographical location by SOA

| | PAKISTANI POPULATION PERSON COUNT APRIL 01 | PAKISTANI POPULATION % OF PERSONS APRIL 01 |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Rotherham SOA 7675 | 244 | 15 |
| Rotherham SOA 7680 | 493 | 30 |
| Rotherham SOA 7714 | 363 | 23 |
| Rotherham SOA 7715 | 382 | 25 |
| Rotherham SOA 7716 | 421 | 25 |
| Rotherham SOA 7768 | 364 | 20 |
| Rotherham SOA 7769 | 484 | 32 |

The SOAs above account for 58 per cent of the Rotherham Pakistani population showing that the primary concentration of the Pakistani community is located within this area. Individually these SOAs are significantly above the Borough average of 1.8 per cent in each SOA with the highest showing that 32 per cent of its population is from the Pakistani community.

The map below shows where the specified SOAs are located within the Borough. There is a distinct geographical location of the Pakistani community. The Pakistani population is predominantly located around the central urban core of Rotherham and is not dispersed across the rest of the borough.



The information below shows the specific location of the above SOAs in the Borough:

E01007675 – Located to the south of the town centre within the Boston Castle ward. This area is densely populated and contains numerous houses on few streets. Broom Valley County School lies within the SOA boundary.

E01007680 – This SOA lies just to the south of the town centre within the Boston Castle ward. The north of this area is made up of densely populated streets to the west of Broom Valley road while the south is comprises of mixed land use, running either side of Moorgate Road.

E01007714 – Most of this SOA is within the Rotherham town centre within the Boston Castle ward. It contains a large number of buildings, many of which are not residential. There are numerous pockets of dense residential areas throughout the SOA.

E01007715 – This SOA is located in Masbrough to the west of the town centre within the Rotherham West ward. Most of the residences are located in the south of the SOA to the south of Kimberworth Road in an area that is densely populated with terraced housing.

E01007716 – This SOA is large in size but most of the residences are located within the centre of the area immediately to the west of the town centre. A number of residences are located either side of New Wortley Road.

E01007768 – This area is in Eastwood to the northeast of the town centre within the Rotherham East ward. This area is densely populated and is located either side of Fitzwilliam Road, there are a large number of terraced houses in the area.

E01007769 – This area is located immediately to the northeast of the town centre within the Rotherham East ward. Most of the population in this SOA are located to the north of Fitzwilliam Road along a number of streets with terraced housing.

3.1 Age Breakdown

The chart below shows the age breakdown of the Pakistani population in Rotherham in comparison to the total Borough population taken from 2001 Census data. The chart shows a reversal in population trends. Whereas the total population in Rotherham is an ageing population with more people now aged 50 and over (1 in 3) compared to children aged under 16 (1 in 5). The reverse is true for the Pakistani population. The Pakistani population in Rotherham has more people aged under 16 (1 in 3) compared to people aged 50 and over (1 in 10).

Fig. 3.6 Age breakdown of the Pakistani population in Rotherham, 2001 Census

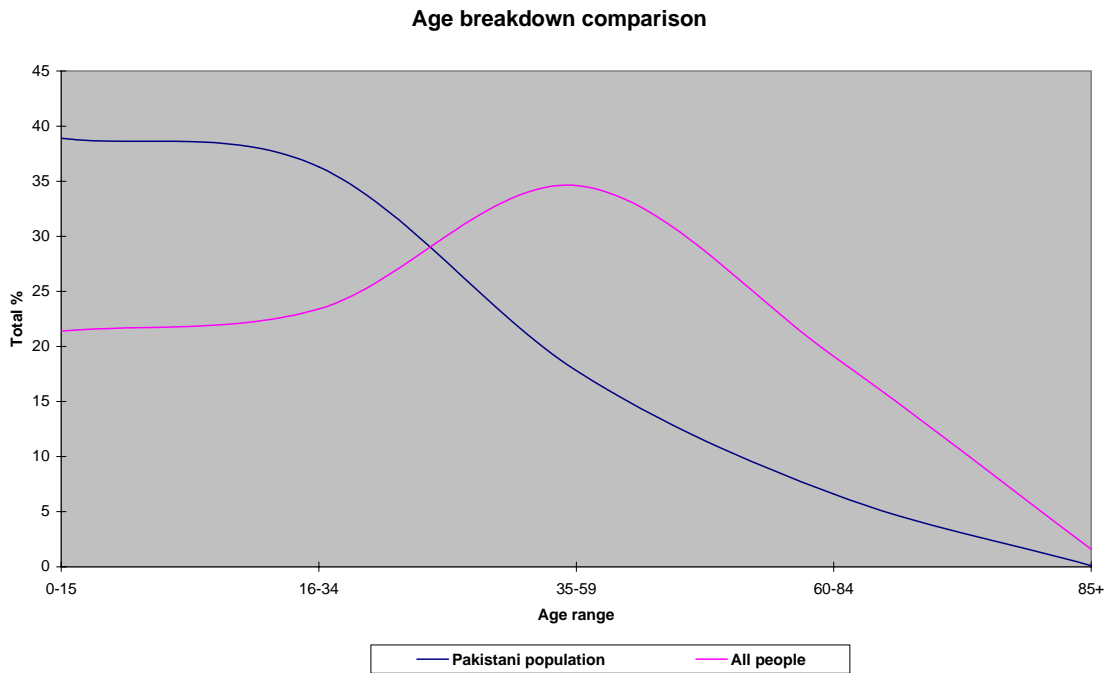


Figure 3.7 below shows that Rotherham’s Pakistani population is very sharply skewed across the age spectrum; hence, whilst it still only contains a relatively small number of elderly people, the number of young people under the age of 15 is disproportionately large.

Fig. 3.7. Distribution of Rotherham’s Pakistani population by age and sex, 2001 Census

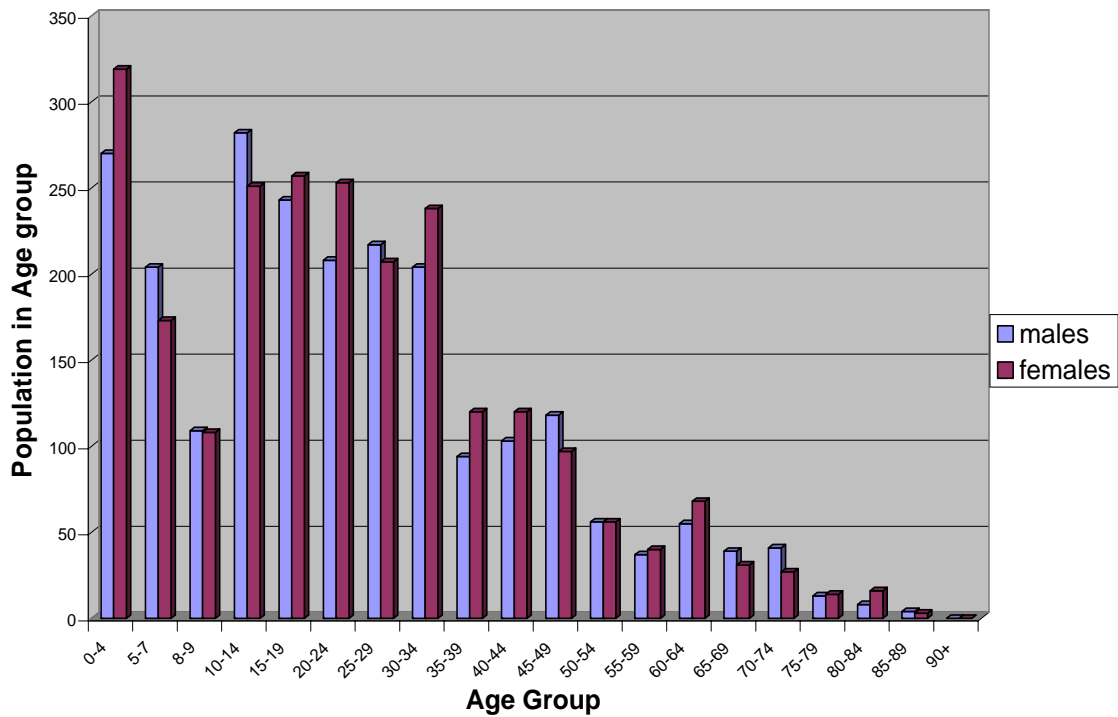
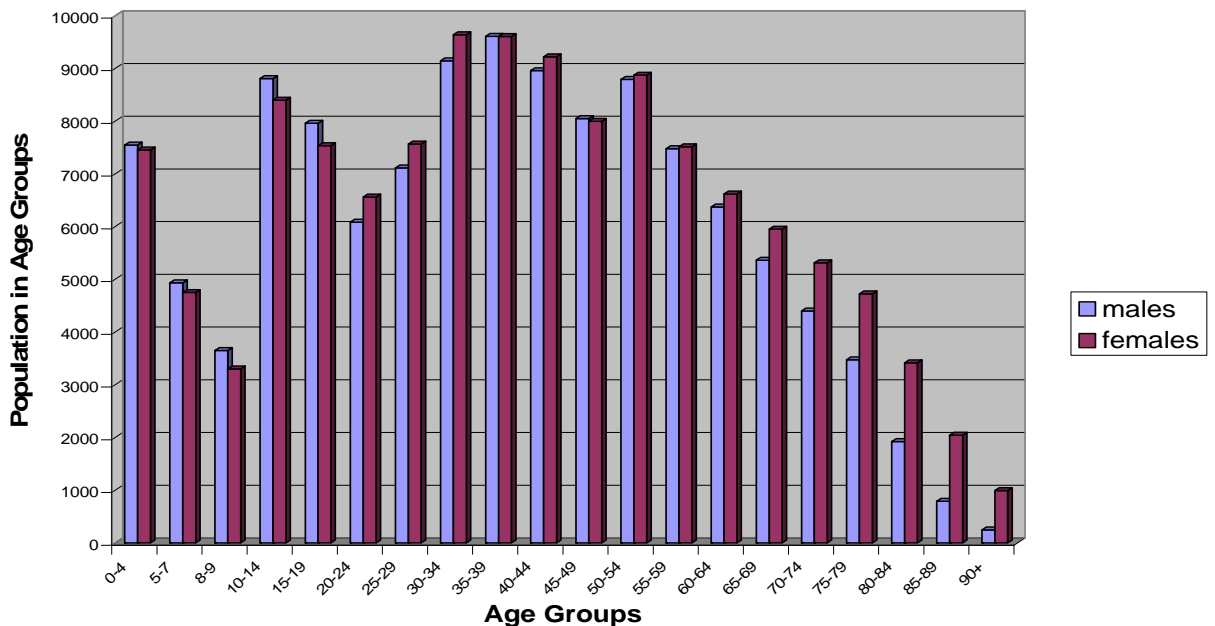


Figure 3.8 below shows the population of all people in Rotherham and highlights that older people aged over 50 account for only 10 per cent of the total Pakistani population in Rotherham compared to 34 per cent overall for the total Rotherham population.

Moreover, young people aged under 15 account for 39 per cent of the total Pakistani population in Rotherham, compared to 21 per cent overall for the total Rotherham population.

Fig. 3.8 Distribution of Rotherham's total population by age and sex, 2001 Census



These reverse patterns of population can be relatively easily explained given the Pakistani population's migratory history. Mass migration took off in the 1960s and most of the men who came to work in Britain in this early period were young adults aged between twenty and thirty; three decades on they were aged between fifty and sixty.

The peak amongst men (and women) aged between thirty and thirty-nine is largely composed of the Pakistani-born offspring of the original wave of migrant workers, but who were brought to Britain in a process family reunion before they reached adulthood. A further point worth noting is that the peak amongst 30-39 year olds is

roughly twice as large as that amongst those aged 50-59. This is readily explicable in terms of high levels of fertility (4+ children per mother) both in Pakistan itself, and amongst Pakistani settlers in Britain.

4. Ethnicity and country of birth

The chart below shows the country of birth for the Pakistani population living in Rotherham according to the 2001 Census.

The majority, 58.3 per cent of the Pakistani population living in Rotherham were born in the United Kingdom (UK). This compares with 97.3 per cent of the total population living in Rotherham.

Fig. 4.1 Ethnicity and country of birth, 2001 Census

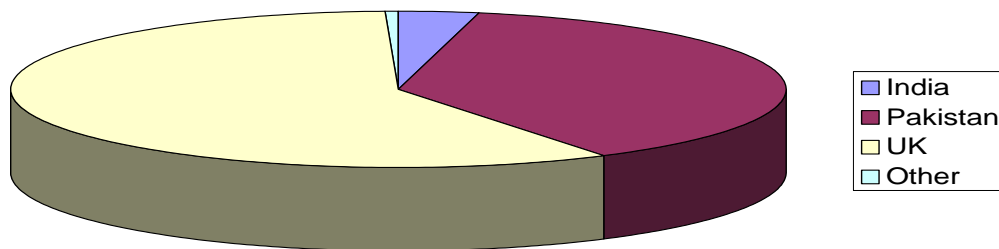


Figure 4.2 below shows that 93 per cent of Rotherham's Pakistani population in the 2001 Census stated that their religion was Muslim. This compares to just 2.1 per cent of the total Rotherham population.

Fig. 4.2 Ethnic Group by Religion, 2001 Census



5. Family and Living Characteristics

The 2001 Census data shows that there are proportionately higher numbers of married couples within the Pakistani community in Rotherham when compared with the total Borough average.

The data also shows that there are proportionately higher numbers of lone parent families within the Pakistani community in Rotherham (14 per cent) compared with the total Borough average (10 per cent). The Spring 2002 Labour Force Survey showed that 15 per cent of Pakistani families nationally were lone parent families.²⁰

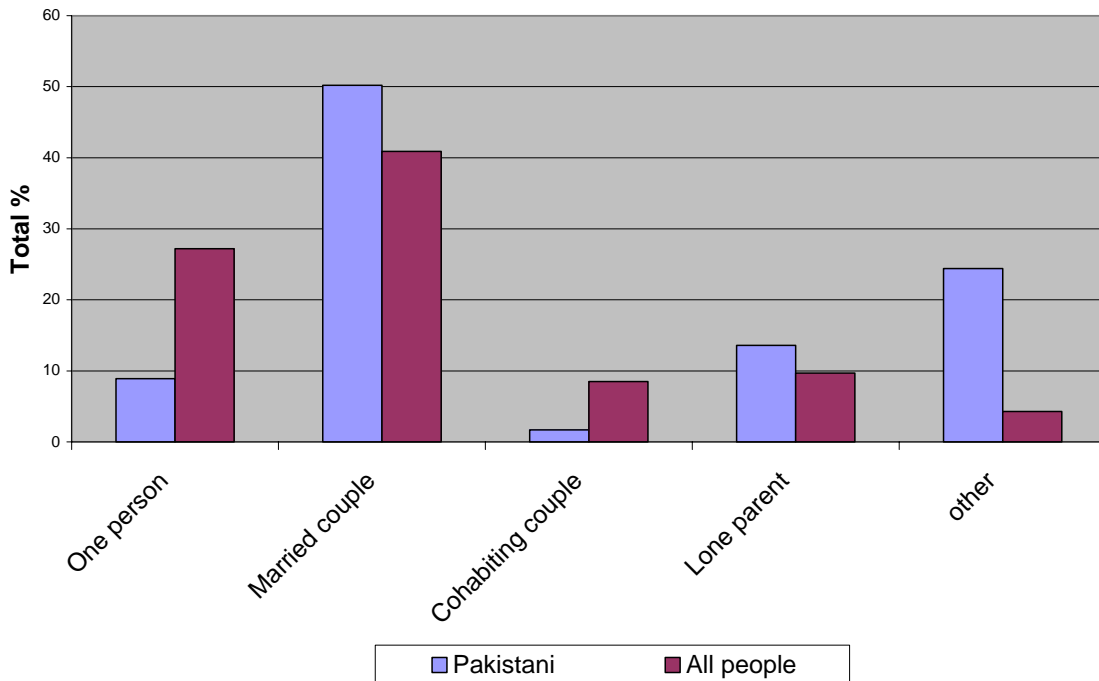
A study of Pakistani housing in 1998 by the University of Stirling found that although Pakistani households tend to be larger than those in the general population there are also smaller households including women living alone and single-parent families.²¹

The research also found that continuing relationships with Pakistan had an impact on households. This research could suggest why there are a high number of lone parent Pakistani families locally and nation

²⁰ Annual Labour Force Survey, Spring 2002, ONS

²¹ Too white, too rough and too many problems - A study of Pakistani housing in Britain. University of Stirling, 1998

Fig. 5.1. Household composition by ethnic group of HRP, 2001 Census



6. Health Characteristics

The 2001 Census asked questions related to ill health. Table 6.1 below shows that across the ages the Pakistani population in Rotherham are proportionately more likely to suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to the total Rotherham population. The health gap widens quite significantly between the total Rotherham population aged 65 and over and the Pakistani population aged 65 and over.

Fig.6.1 Sex and age and Limiting Long-Term Illness by Ethnic Group, 2001 Census

| | % OF ALL PEOPLE IN ROTHERHAM | % OF PAKISTANI POPULATION IN ROTHERHAM |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 0-15 | 5% | 6% |
| 16-49 | 12% | 15% |
| 50-64 | 35% | 47% |
| 65 & Over | 62% | 71% |

However, when looking at the total overall Pakistani population in Rotherham, 1 in 6 described themselves as having a limiting long term illness compared to 1 in 4 of the total Rotherham population.

The 2001 Census shows that just over half (52 per cent) of Pakistani women aged 50 to 64 years of age suffer from a limiting long term illness compared to just over one third (35 per cent) of all women aged 50 to 64 living in Rotherham.

The 2001 Census shows that Pakistani children living in Rotherham are almost twice as likely to be providing care (2.69 per cent) compared to a White British child (1.37 per cent).

Research undertaken in November 2005 by the Disability Rights Commission found that 43 per cent of Pakistani carers in Rotherham feel that their needs would be better met if they had more information and advice.

The research also found that over half (53 per cent) of Pakistani carers in Rotherham rely on their family for support and 27 per cent have no support at all from family, social services or support groups. The research also found that Pakistani carers would particularly appreciate more support with respite care (79 per cent), more information and advice (43 per cent), childcare (21 per cent) and support from social workers (21 per cent).²²

7. Household Characteristics

The table below shows the tenure of the Pakistani community in Rotherham compared with all people living in the Borough. The 2001 Census findings show that just over one third (33.8 per cent) of all Pakistani residents living in the Borough own their home outright compared to 26.3 per cent of the total population. The 2001 Census also shows that 1 in 8 Pakistani residents in the Borough rent from the local authority compared to 1 in 4 of the total Rotherham population.

²² Living with Disability - The experience of the Pakistani Community in Rotherham

Table 7.1: Accommodation Type by ethnic group, 2001 Census

| ACCOMODATION TYPE | TOTAL ROTHERHAM PAKISTANI POPULATION % | TOTAL ROTHERHAM POPULATION % |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Owens outright | 33.8 | 26.3 |
| Owens with a mortgage or loan | 32.5 | 38.6 |
| Shared ownership | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| Rented from local Authority | 11.9 | 23.2 |
| Other social rented | 5.4 | 3.2 |

The 2001 Census also shows that just over half (53 per cent) of Pakistani households in the Borough own at least one car, compared to just 43.9 per cent of the total Rotherham population.

Rotherham Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) data for 2006 shows that the Free School Meal Eligibility rate (FSM) for Pakistani pupils in primary and secondary education stands at 29.1 per cent. This compares to the total Borough average FSM rate is 19 per cent.²³

8. Economic Characteristics

The 2001 Census shows that over half (54 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 16-24 are **economically inactive** compared to 31 per cent of the total Borough population aged 16-24. The table below shows the reasons for economic inactivity:

Fig. 8.1 Economic activity by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

| | PAKISTANI POPULATION AGED 16-24 | TOTAL ROTHERHAM POPULATION AGED 16-24 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Student | 63% | 62% |
| Looking after home/family | 21% | 19% |
| Permanently sick or disabled | 3% | 6% |
| Other | 12% | 13% |

²³ PLASC 2006, Rotherham MBC, Children & Young People Services

The table above shows that **economic inactivity** amongst the Pakistani community aged 16-24 in Rotherham is mainly due to being a student (63 per cent). The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a slightly higher proportion of its young adults in education compared to White Britons (62 per cent) and the total Rotherham population (62 per cent).

Over half (56 per cent) of Pakistani residents aged 25 years and over are **economically inactive** compared to 36 per cent of the total population. The table below shows the reasons for economic inactivity.

Fig. 8.2 Economic activity by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

| | PAKISTANI POPULATION AGED 25 YEARS AND OVER TOTAL % | TOTAL ROTHERHAM POPULATION AGED 25 YEARS AND OVER TOTAL % |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Student | 2% | 1% |
| Retired | 12% | 46% |
| Looking after home/family | 46% | 20% |
| Permanently sick or disabled | 18% | 24% |
| Other | 21% | 8% |

Economic inactivity amongst Pakistani residents aged 25 and over is mainly due to looking after the home and family (46 per cent). Whereas for the total Rotherham population the majority of economic inactivity is due to retirement (46 per cent). This can be explained by the younger age spectrum of the Pakistani community in Rotherham compared to the older age spectrum of the total Borough population.

According to the 2001 Census data, Pakistani women across all ages in Rotherham have strikingly low **economic activity** rates at 19 per cent compared to just under 30 per cent nationally. The national average economic activity rate across all ages and all ethnic groups stands at 72 per cent.

Pakistani women aged over 25 in Rotherham are much more likely than men to be **economically inactive**, 80 per cent and 31 per cent respectively. Women are more likely to be inactive because of looking after the home/family.

According to the 2001 Census, already, at the age of 16-24 years, 20 per cent of Pakistani women in Rotherham were looking after the home/family. This is more than twice the proportion of the White British population in Rotherham.

National Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) data shows that among ethnic minorities, Pakistani men and women aged 25 years and older have the highest rates of **economic inactivity** due to permanent sickness and disability.²⁴

However, in Rotherham the table below shows that there are several ethnic minority groups with high numbers of inactivity due to permanent sickness and disability. Some ethnic groups such as; *Irish; White and Black African; White and Asian; Black Caribbean and White and Black Caribbean* have higher rates of economic inactivity due to permanent sickness and disability than Pakistani men and women in Rotherham.

Fig. 8.3. Economic Inactivity due to permanent sickness or disability in Rotherham by ethnic group, 2001 Census

| ETHNIC GROUPS | ECONOMIC INACTIVITY DUE TO PERMANENT SICKNESS AND DISABILITY % OF MEN AND WOMEN AGED OVER 25 (ROTHERHAM) |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Irish | 22% |
| White and Black Caribbean | 20% |
| White and Asian | 23% |
| White and Black African | 25% |
| Indian | 10% |
| Pakistani | 18% |
| Bangladeshi | 0% |
| Black Caribbean | 19% |
| Black African | 8% |
| Chinese | 18% |

The 2001 Census shows that Pakistani residents aged 16 to 24 years are twice as likely to be self-employed (3.4 per cent) when compared to the total Rotherham population aged 16 to 24 years (1.5 per cent). The trend is the same for Pakistani residents aged 25 and over which shows that they are also twice as likely to be self-employed (13.8 per cent) when compared to the total Rotherham population aged 25 years and over (6.5 per cent).

²⁴ DWP 2006, Ethnic minority populations and the labour market: an analysis of the 1991 and 2001 Census.

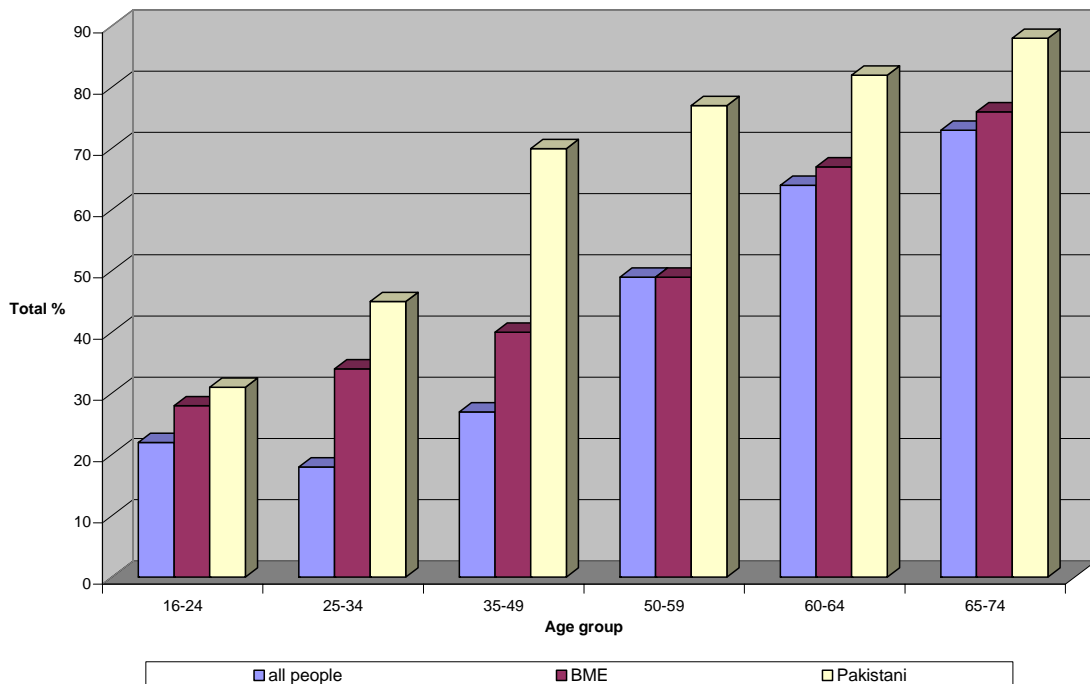
9. Education

Across all ages the Pakistani population in comparison to the total Rotherham population are the most likely to have no qualifications (52.3 per cent and 36.8 per cent respectively).

The Rotherham Deprivation Study, 2005 highlighted that there is evidence of an adult skills generational effect in the BME groups. The study found that older age groups (those aged 50 and over) are not significantly less qualified than the same age white groups. But the difference is striking at the younger age groups, in particular the 25 to 34 year olds and the 35 to 49 year olds, who are significantly less qualified than the same age white age groups – with about 20% more people in each age group having no qualifications. According to the 2005 Deprivation Study *“This points to an increasing disengagement with education and training among the younger BME groups across Rotherham.”*²⁵

This is evidenced in the chart below, however the difference is significantly more striking amongst the Pakistani community compared with all BME groups as.

Fig. 9.1 No qualifications by age and ethnicity, 2001 Census



²⁵ Study of deprivation in Rotherham, 2005, OCSI

However, looking at the data from the 2001 Census, the gap between the Pakistani population aged 16-24 without any qualifications compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 is much narrower in comparison to other age group differences.

For most ethnic groups in Rotherham and indeed nationally, the proportion of those aged 25-34 with no qualifications is less than the proportion of those aged 16-24. This is because some of the younger people have yet to finish their education. However, this is not the case for the Pakistani community. The 2001 Census data below shows that for the Pakistani population in Rotherham, the proportion of people with no qualifications aged 16-24 was 31 per cent. This was substantially lower than that of their counterparts aged 25-34 (45 per cent).

Fig. 9.2 Proportion with no qualifications in Rotherham by age and ethnic group, 2001 Census

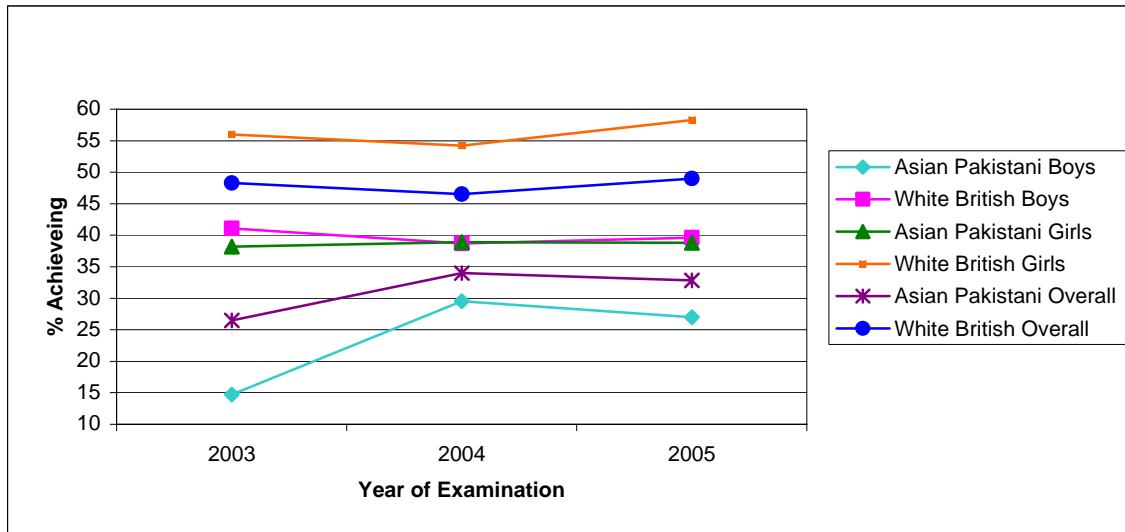
| | 16-74 | AGE RANGES 16-24 | 25-34 |
|----------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| Pakistani | 52% | 31% | 45% |
| White Britain | 36% | 22% | 17% |
| All people | 37% | 22% | 18% |

9.1 GCSE Attainment

The difference in **GCSE English** attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils has closed since 2003 and now stands at just over 16 per cent achieving grades A*-C. Pakistani boys are achieving slightly more than white British boys when looking at grades A*-G. However, the difference between Pakistani boys and white British is currently over 10 per cent meaning Pakistani boys are achieving less than white British boys.

The difference in **GCSE English** attainment between Pakistani girls and White British has increased since 2004 and is now almost 20 per cent for pupils attaining grades A*-C. However, Pakistani girls are achieving slightly more when looking at attainment at levels A*-G.

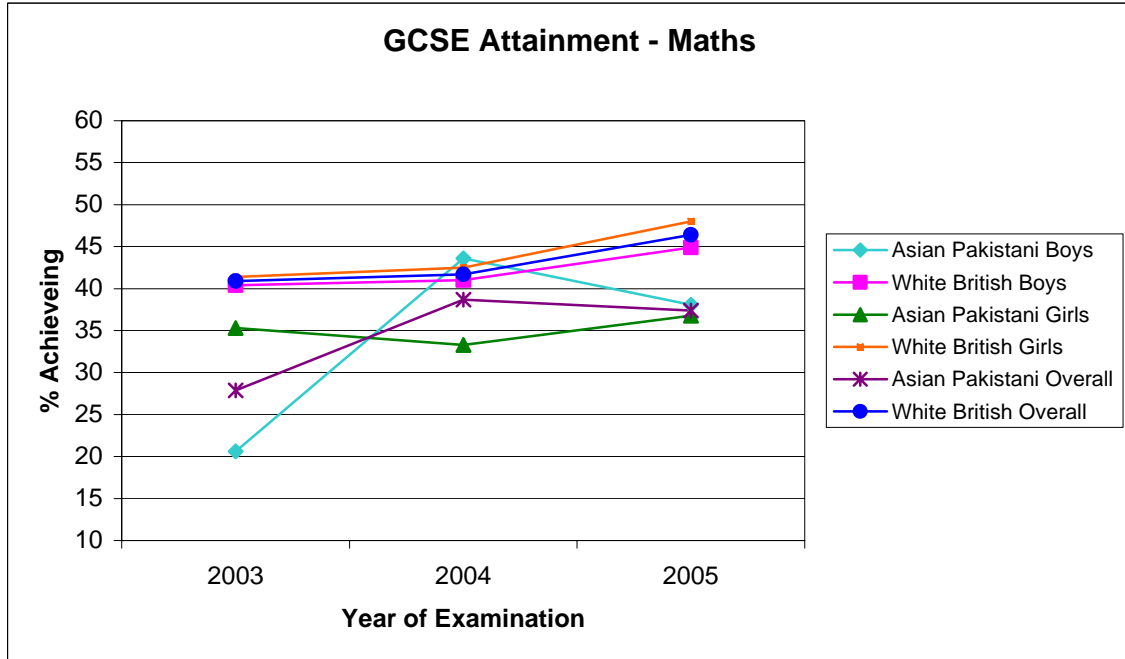
Fig. 9.3 ENGLISH GCSE Attainment A*-C



GCSE Maths attainment differences at grade A*-C between Pakistani and White British pupils have seen a slight increase since 2004 but an overall decrease since 2003. When analysing pupils achieving grades A*-G there is little difference between the two groups. The percentage of Pakistani boys achieving grades A-C* has increased and the gap with White British boys has closed. Only slightly more Pakistani boys do not achieve grades A*-G than White British.

There has been a slight increase in the difference between Pakistani girls compared with White British girls achieving grades A*-C. When analysing the same criteria for those achieving grades A*-G, White British girls are achieving slightly less than Pakistani girls.

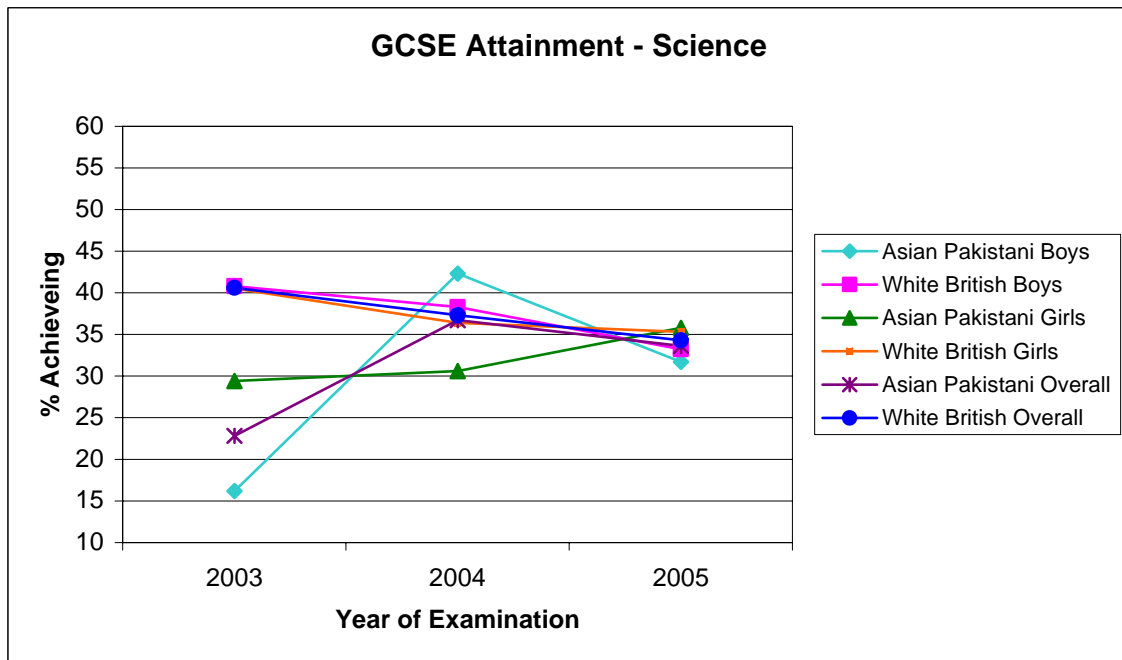
Fig. 9.4 MATHS GCSE Attainment



There has been a significant shift in differences in **Science GCSE** attainment between Pakistani and White British pupils. In 2003, the difference in attainment between the two groups achieving grade A*-C was over 15 per cent, with Pakistani pupils achieving less than White British. In 2005, the gap had almost closed which shows significant progress in this subject area.

Differences in **Science GCSE** attainment between Pakistani and White British boys have seen an increase in 2005 whereby Pakistani pupils are achieving more than White British. In 2003, the opposite was apparent where White British boys were achieving more than Pakistani boys. A similar pattern is apparent with girls as with boys.

Fig. 9.5 SCIENCE GCSE Attainment



10. Crime

National figures show that the risk of being the victim of a racially motivated incident is considerably higher for members of minority ethnic groups than for White people. The highest risk is for the Pakistani community.²⁶

This is evidenced in local crime statistics. In Rotherham, the 2005/6 MAARI report (Multi Agency Approach to Racial Incidents) shows that between April 2005 and March 2006 a total of 376 racially motivated incidents were reported.

One-third (32.4 per cent) of all reported incidents were from Pakistanis (including four Pakistani Asylum Seekers). Additionally, the areas where most of the racial incidents took place were around the central urban core areas of the Borough where high numbers of Pakistani residents reside.

Rotherham MAARI is a multi-agency consisting of the Race Equality Council, South Yorkshire Police, Rotherham MBC, Rotherham Primary Care Trust, and Victim Support amongst others.

²⁶ Clancy, A., Hough, M., Aust, R. and Kershaw, C. (2001). Crime, Policing and Justice: the experience of ethnic minorities: Findings from the 2000 British Crime Survey,

11. Engagement Mechanisms

Currently Pakistani communities are engaged through REMA (Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance) which is an umbrella organisation for BME communities and organisations. REMA has a membership structure, which enables BME organisations and individuals to be signed up as members of REMA. Some of REMA's member organisations serve Pakistani/Kashmiri communities. These organisations are:

- United Multi Cultural Centre
- Tassibee
- Rotherham Ethnic Elderly Group
- Al Muneera
- Unity Centre
- Yorkshire Trust
- Diversity Forum

Rotherham MBC has a Black Strategy Group that aims to bring together BME voluntary/community organisations to inform service priorities for the Council. Some of these organisations serve Pakistani/Kashmiri communities.

The Pakistani/Kashmiri communities have been engaged in council services working in partnership with REMA in major consultation and community involvement activities such as the Community Strategy visioning exercise, Town Centre Social and Environmental Action Plan, Budget consultation and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy.

Focus Groups were undertaken for the Community Strategy, Town Centre Social and Environmental Action Plan and the Budget Consultation. Separate focus groups for men and women were undertaken to allow for cultural sensitivity, as women may not feel comfortable to voice their opinions in a mixed environment. Interpreters were also provided to cater to language needs.

Rotherham MBC and its Black Strategy Group and REMA (Rotherham Ethnic Minority Alliance) held a conference in Spring 2006 to gather views on the needs and priorities of BME communities in Rotherham. The purpose of the conference was to

engage the BME voluntary and community sector in the development of the NRS (Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy), NRF (Neighbourhood Renewal Funding) Commissioning Framework and the LSP (Local Strategic Partnership).

The main issues are that arose from the consultation undertaken with Pakistani communities are:

- Improving job opportunities
- Low Skills
- Poor Health
- Low incomes
- Improving Community Safety
- Need for a Multi Purpose Centre
- Lack of leisure, cultural and recreational facilities.
- Lack of involvement in RMBC and LSP decision making structures

12.Summary

The profile of the Pakistani community in Rotherham has portrayed a picture similar to that of the Pakistani community nationally. However, there are some significant differences between national figures and Borough figures. The findings show that Rotherham has slightly lower numbers of Pakistani people living in the Borough compared with regional averages, but higher than average national numbers.

However, as a percentage of the total ethnic population, a very high proportion (almost half) of Rotherham's total ethnic minority population is Pakistani which is much higher than neighbouring Borough averages, regional and national averages.

The age structure of the Pakistani population in Rotherham differs somewhat significantly in comparison to the total Borough population. Rotherham's Pakistani population is very much sharply skewed across the age spectrum with more people under the age of 16 compared to people aged over 50. Clearly with over forty per cent of the Pakistani population living in Rotherham aged under 16 there is a real need for tailored and targeted services for young Pakistani residents.

The report shows that nearly two thirds of all Pakistani residents in the Borough were born in the UK. However, even though many Pakistani residents are British born, inequalities still exist. Pakistani households in Rotherham are proportionately more likely to have lone parent families in comparison to the total Borough population.

Across the age spectrum, the Pakistani population in Rotherham has proportionately higher than Borough average numbers of people with a limiting long term illness. Pakistani children are almost twice as likely to be providing unpaid care compared to a White British child in Rotherham. Pakistani school pupils also have higher rates of free school meal (FSM) eligibility compared to the Borough average.

National statistics show that the risk of being the victim of a racially motivated incident is highest for the Pakistani community and this is evidenced in local crime statistics. One third of all racially motivated incidents reported in the Borough between April 2005 and March 2006 were from Pakistani residents.

In terms of economic and educational inequalities, there are some striking differences between the Pakistani population in Rotherham and the total Borough population. Over half of Pakistani residents aged over 25 are economically inactive, compared to just over one third of the total Borough population. Nationally, Pakistani women across all ages have an economic activity rate of 30 per cent, this falls to just under 20 per cent for Pakistani women in Rotherham.

At the age of 16-24, one fifth of all Pakistani women in Rotherham are economically inactive due to looking after the home/family, this is more than double the rate of British White 16-24 year olds living in Rotherham. Furthermore, 1 in 5 Pakistani men and women in Rotherham aged over 25 are economically inactive due to permanent sickness and disability.

In terms of educational disparities the Pakistani community in Rotherham has significantly higher rates of individuals with no qualifications (1 in 2). However, the gap between the Pakistani population aged 16-24 without any qualifications compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24 is much narrower in comparison to other age group differences. Furthermore the proportion of Pakistani people with no qualifications aged 16-24 is substantially lower than that of their counterparts aged 25-34.

However, there are also some areas where quality of life is improving for the Pakistani population in Rotherham and where quality of life issues are above Borough averages. For example, GCSE attainment is improving and the attainment gap between Pakistani and White British pupils is narrowing and in some instances has indeed closed. The Pakistani population in Rotherham has a slightly higher proportion of its young adults (16-24) in education compared to the Borough average.

In terms of economic activity, Pakistani people aged 16-24 in Rotherham are twice as likely to be self-employed when compared to the total Borough population aged 16-24. The trend is the same for those aged 25 and over. Pakistani men and women are less likely to be economically inactive due to permanent sickness and disability compared to the total Borough population.

Home ownership is much higher amongst the Pakistani population in Rotherham with 1 in 3 households owning their home outright compared to just 1 in 4 of the total Borough population. There is much less dependence on Local Authority or Social housing amongst the Pakistani population. Additionally, just over half of all Pakistani households in the Borough own at least one car which is slightly higher than the total Borough average. Furthermore, the Pakistani community in Rotherham has a higher number of married couples compared to the total Borough average.

Clearly, there are marked differences and disparities between the Pakistani population in Rotherham in comparison to the total Borough population and other ethnic groups in the Borough.

For the Pakistani community the research suggests that their needs and priorities are focused around the ***Labour market; Crime; Education and Health.***