

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL**

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

**Date: Friday, 2 October 2009**

**Time: 9.30 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. Questions from the press and public
6. Matters Referred from the Youth Cabinet
7. Communications

### **PRESENTATION**

8. Children and Young People's Services - Revenue Budget 2009/2010 (report attached) (Pages 1 - 7)

### **FOR DISCUSSION**

9. 14 to 19 Strategy, including Learning and Skills Council Developments (report attached) (Pages 8 - 10)
10. Special Educational Needs Provision and Funding (report attached) (Pages 11 - 18)

11. Transforming Rotherham Learning / Building Schools for the Future - Update (report attached) (Pages 19 - 22)

### **FOR MONITORING**

12. Children and Young People's Services - Performance Indicators First Quarter Report 2009/2010 (copy attached) (Pages 23 - 34)
13. Scrutiny Review - Future Challenges for the Youth Service (report attached) (Pages 35 - 43)

### **MINUTES**

14. Minutes of the previous meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 4th September, 2009 (copy attached) (Pages 44 - 51)
15. Minutes of a meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 9th September, 2009 (copy attached) (Pages 52 - 58)
16. Minutes of a meeting of the Children's Board held on 16th September, 2009 (copy attached) (Pages 59 - 67)
17. Minutes of a meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 11th September, 2009 (copy attached) (Pages 68 - 73)

**Date of Next Meeting:-  
Friday, 30 October 2009**

#### **Membership:-**

Chairman – Councillor G. A. Russell  
Vice-Chairman – Councillor License  
Councillors:- The Mayor (Councillor Ali), Burton, Dodson, Donaldson, Fenoughty, Hughes, Kaye, Rushforth, Sharp and Sims

#### **Co-optees:-**

Mrs. J. Blanch-Nicholson, Ms. T. Guest,  
Mr. M. Hall, Father A. Hayne, Mrs. L. Pitchley,  
Mr. C. A. Marvin and Parish Councillor Mrs. P. Wade.

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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1	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel</b>
2	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009</b>
3	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Revenue Budget 2009/10</b>
4	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### 5 **Summary**

This report provides an analysis of the main areas of pressure on the CYPs revenue budget for 09/10, indicating where investment should be considered for this and future years.

### 6 **Recommendations**

**It is recommended that members of the Scrutiny Panel consider this report**

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

#### Revenue Outturn Position 2008/09

The 2008/09 cash limit was £38,259,363. The Net Outturn for the Service was £38,148,108 a Net overspend of £111,254 or 0.03%. The Summary Revenue Outturn position is at Appendix A.

The main variations from budget were as follows:

- Strategic Management – underspend on supplies and services and staff slippage.
- Special Education Provision, Specific Grant Support and Student Support/Pensions – underspends due to non-recurrent grant income received and additional income generated from course fees
- Delegated Services – approved requests for carry forward of balances of the Schools Insurance Scheme and School Catering Service
- Commissioning and Social Work – overspend on agency costs and staffing offset by a reduction in direct payments
- Children Looked After – overspend due to increased numbers of children in out of authority residential and fostering placements
- Other Children and Families Services – overspend on inter-agency adoption fees
- Support Services and Management Costs – overspend due to additional costs of maintaining child contact houses and an increase in legal fees relating to the placement of looked after children

## Forecast Outturn Position for 2009/10

The budget monitoring report of 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, showing the net budget position for CYPS until 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2009, reporting a £4.134m overspend. £3.8m of this is directly attributable to an increase in demand for social care services for children, young people and their families.

## Looked after Children

Over the last eighteen months the number of looked after children has increased by 20%. At the same time, the number of children designated as children in need has increased by a smaller number, 8%, which reflects the success of our integrated working.

This can be attributed to a number of reasons:

- The effects of the Baby Peter case.
- The consequences of the 2008 Fostering Inspection which led to more children being fostered Out of Authority in independent fostering agencies.
- The result of serious case reviews filtering down to frontline staff who are implementing the subsequent recommendations to improve our services.
- The consequences of the 2009 Contact, Referral and Assessment inspection with the subsequent agreement for additional resources for the Social Care part of CYPS.

The number of Looked After Children at March 2008 was 345. This had risen to 406 by March 2009 and now stands at 414, an increase of 20% over eighteen months.

The number of children in need has risen from 1576 in March 2008 to 1703 in August 2009, an increase of 8%. This number has not increased by as much because of the preventative strategies adopted by the Council, directing resources through its integrated Locality Teams, schools and supporting services. By working in this way children and their families are supported so that they do not become part of the Children in Need category.

The most significant financial challenge relates to the cost of Out of Authority residential places, independent fostering services and coping with the number of Looked after Children and their contact entitlement.

- Out of Authority residential overspend £824K  
An average placement per annum costs £234K  
The number has risen from the budget figure of 14 to 18
- Independent Fostering Agency overspend £2.1m  
An average placement per annum costs £60,000  
The number has risen from the budget figure of 77 to 102
- Overspend for maintaining contact hours £882K  
An average cost per annum of each looked after placement £11,150

- Additional investment after the Contact, Referral and Assessment Inspection £234K  
This has supported 7 Family Support Workers, 7 Administrative staff and retention payments for existing social workers

### Review and Inspection

All of this is set against the background of one of the main conclusions of the Children's First Review on CYPS – that Rotherham's Children's Social Care is poorly resourced by comparison with statistical neighbours and nationally. Indeed they indicated that there should be additional investment of between £3.4m and £6.2m for Children Looked After.

If you look at expenditure **outside** the total schools budget (which is below the England average, about the same as for other Met authorities and above our statistical neighbours), then Rotherham's expenditure is significantly lower – we spent an average of £827 per child or young person compared to £1,177 for Mets, £1,110 for statistical neighbours and £1,124 for England.

The Review and the recent inspection found a Social Care Service with

- A significantly higher vacancy rate for Social Workers compared to comparator Authorities (running at over one third at that time);
- Rotherham paying less for Social Workers than our neighbouring Authorities.
- A very high caseload of 30 per worker compared to an average 15 in comparator Authorities.

Consequently, there could be a need for additional investment (possibly £2m- £3m) to recruit additional Social Workers, pay a comparable salary and provide the Family Support Workers to support them. This would be over and above current investment to meet the current £4m overspend.

Additionally, another major area of under funding was around School Improvement, which is crucial to supporting improved school attainment for our children and young people. Rotherham fund this area at an average of £39 per child or young person compared to an average of £62 for Metropolitan Authorities, £59 for England and £72 for our Statistical Neighbours. This will be the subject of a paper to the Schools Forum in October.

### Mitigating Actions

Children and Young People's Services are looking to several actions to both reduce the budget overspend and also improve outcomes for our children and young people;

- Each team strictly monitoring expenditure relating to administrative support costs.
- All recruitment to be approved by the Strategic Director.

- Increase the recruitment of in house foster carers. It is expected that a minimum of 14 placements will be finalised in October, of which 7 are expected to foster children currently in independent foster care.
- Continuing focus on recruitment of social workers.
- Achieving savings in costs with 'Out of Authority' providers.
- Continuing negotiations with Rotherham NHS to achieve a fair and increased share of the costs for those children in both residential and foster care with therapeutic needs.
- Longer term, if the Service can reduce 4 'Out of Authority' residential places, along with 2 placements with independent fostering agencies, this results in a saving of £1m. It is at least this level of saving we aspire to but there are risks (see below).

### 8. Finance

This is described in Section 7 and a summary spreadsheet of the different areas of the budget is at Appendix B. This shows other areas of overspend. The most significant is Strategic Management, which is insufficient to meet costs relating to central support charges. There is pressure because of vacancy factor costs, less grant than expected is being received and there are additional staffing costs relating to the need to maintain performance in critical areas of the service.

### 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainty relate to the increasing number of looked after children and the consequences of the Baby Peter Case and review/inspections as described in Section 7. This has put overwhelming pressure on the Children and Young People's budget, thus causing an overspend in excess of £4m. The Directorate has adopted a number of strategies to relieve the pressure and control the budget. Significant budget savings could be made relating to out of authority places but this is very dependent on these pressures relaxing gradually.

### 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The budget is resourced to meet the priorities of the Children and Young People's Single Plan, the Council's Corporate Plan and Community Strategy.

### 11. Background Papers and Consultation

Budget Monitoring Report of 9 Sept 2009 to Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services

Children First Review - Children and Young People's Services

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ROTHERHAM MBC  
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

**CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES**

EXPENDITURE/INCOME TO DATE (As at 31 July 2009)											NET PROJECTED OUT-TURN							
Last Reported Projected Variance £000	Service Division	Expenditure			Income			Net			Annual Budget £000	Projected Out-turn £000	Current projected year end Variance Over (+)/ Under (-) £000	Current Financial RAG Status	Financial Impact of Management Action £000	Revised Projected Year end Variance Over(+)/Under(-) spend £000	Revised Financial RAG Status	* Note
		Profiled Budget £000	Actual Spending £000	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Spend) £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual Income £000	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Recovered) £000	Profiled Budget £000	Actual Spend £000	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Spend) £000								
0	Individual Schools Budget - Dedicated Sch	63,648	63,648	0	(35,751)	(35,751)	0	27,897	27,897	0	0	0	0	Green				
0	Non-Schools - Dedicated Schools Grant	5,650	5,689	39	(2,745)	(2,639)	106	2,905	3,050	145	286	334	48	Green		48	Green	1
385	Strategic Management	1,112	1,086	(26)	(122)	(91)	31	990	995	5	5,404	5,886	482	Amber		482	Amber	2
0	School Effectiveness	608	616	8	(181)	(157)	24	427	459	32	1,126	1,126	0	Green		0		
0	Access to Education	1,164	1,079	(85)	(58)	(27)	31	1,106	1,052	(54)	3,587	3,610	23	Green		23		
0	Special Education Provision	2,245	2,339	94	(1,045)	(1,163)	(118)	1,200	1,176	(24)	1,577	1,201	(376)	Green	376	0	Green	3
0	Specific Grant Support	3,667	3,609	(58)	(2,378)	(2,245)	133	1,289	1,364	75	25	60	35	Green		35		
69	Youth & Community	2,995	2,895	(100)	(459)	(338)	121	2,536	2,557	21	2,750	2,819	69	Amber		69	Amber	4
0	Student Support / Pensions	1,945	1,807	(138)	(592)	(589)	3	1,353	1,218	(135)	1,671	1,669	(2)	Green	2	0	Green	5
0	Delegated Services	3,231	3,388	157	(3,796)	(3,852)	(56)	(565)	(464)	101	(170)	(170)	0	Green		0		
128	Commissioning & Social Work	2,839	2,892	53	(169)	(92)	77	2,670	2,800	130	7,802	8,861	1,059	Amber		1,059	Amber	6
1,862	Children Looked After	3,597	4,526	929	(25)	8	33	3,572	4,534	962	10,105	12,947	2,842	Red	(476)	2,366	Red	7
0	Family Support Services	2	0	(2)	(1)	(1)	0	1	(1)	(2)	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Youth Justice	307	316	9	(28)	(47)	(19)	279	269	(10)	597	597	0	Green		0		
0	Other Children & Families Services	785	438	(347)	(4)	(4)	0	781	434	(347)	2,637	2,539	(98)	Green	98	0	Green	8
0	Support Services & Management Costs	223	275	52	(25)	0	25	198	275	77	571	623	52	Green		52	Green	9
0	Asylum Seekers	0	2	2	0	(5)	(5)	0	(3)	(3)	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Children & Families Grant	505	492	(13)	(69)	(53)	16	436	439	3	0	0	0	Green		0		
<b>2,444</b>	<b>Total for Service</b>	<b>94,523</b>	<b>95,097</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>(47,448)</b>	<b>(47,046)</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>47,075</b>	<b>48,051</b>	<b>976</b>	<b>37,968</b>	<b>42,102</b>	<b>4,134</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>4,134</b>		

**Reason for Variance(s), Actions Proposed and Intended Impact on Performance**

**NOTES** **Reasons for Variance(s) and Proposed Actions**

**Reasons for Variance**

- 1 Reduced requirement for Dedicated Schools Grant offset by not being able to meet the Vacancy Factor
- 2 Overspend on central support charges & not being able to meet the Vacancy Factor
- 3 Reduced requirement for Complex Needs placements
- 4 Under recovery of income on Outdoor Education venues
- 5 Underspend on Pensions
- 6 Overspend on staffing & agency costs & Section 17 & 23 spend - needs led
- 7 Overspend on Out of Authority Fostering and Residential placements - needs led
- 8 Supporting People reduced contribution confirmed
- 9 Increased accommodation costs & not being able to meet the vacancy factor

**Proposed Actions to Address Variance**

- 1 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend
- 2 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend
- 3 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere
- 4 Additional sources of income to be investigated
- 5 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere
- 6 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend
- 7 Forecast overspend to be partially covered by underspend elsewhere & plans are in place to review all placements and increase foster care recruitment
- 8 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere
- 9 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend

**Performance**

There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast underspend on these grants.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast underspend on these grants.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast underspend in this area.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast overspend in this area.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast overspend in this area.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast overspend in this area.  
 The related Performance Indicator is NI 62 - Stability of Placements of looked after children. The Directorate will continue to support the aim to meet this performance indicator.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast underspend in this area.  
 There is no adverse impact on Performance Indicators as a result of the forecast overspend in this area.



Children and Young People's Service	Net Outturn Position 2008/09			
Division of Service Budget	Approved Budget	Actual Outturn	Under (-) / Over (+) Spending	Under / Over Spending as a % of Approved Budget
	£000	£000	£000	
Non School Funding	322	322	0.00	0.0%
Strategic Management	4,736	4,617	-118.54	-2.5%
School Effectiveness	1,381	1,381	0.00	0.0%
Access to Education	3,331	3,322	-8.85	-0.3%
Special Education Provision	1,198	1,164	-34.36	-2.9%
Specific Grant Support	25	-3	-28.01	-113.5%
Youth & Community	2,767	2,767	-0.02	0.0%
Student Support/Pensions	1,665	1,599	-66.54	-4.0%
Delegated Services	-237	-384	-146.67	-61.9%
Commissioning and Social Work	7,018	7,117	99.66	1.4%
Children Looked After	11,587	11,650	62.91	0.5%
Family Support Services	0	0	0.00	0.0%
Youth Justice	578	578	0.00	0.0%
Other Children and Families Services	2,277	2,298	21.19	0.9%
Support Services and Management Costs	1,612	1,720	107.97	6.7%
Asylum Seekers	0	0	0.00	0.0%
Grants	0	0	0.00	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,259</b>	<b>38,148</b>	<b>-111</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>14-19 Strategy, including Learning and Skills Council Developments</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

The Leitch Review of Skills identified an urgent need for higher-level skills in order for the UK to remain competitive; the Every Child Matters Agenda demands that every young person gets a good start in life and is equipped with the skills that they need in order to thrive in the global economy; the Government demands that all those working with children and young people should work together in partnership to improve the lives of those children and young people.

Over the next five years Local Authorities (LA) are charged with meeting new and significant responsibilities and challenges in relation to the 14-19 agenda. These challenges include the re-commissioning of Connexions, the re-commissioning of Business Education links, commissioning 16-19 education provision, ensuring the 14-19 Curriculum Entitlement (including Diplomas and Apprenticeships) and managing the demands that will inevitably stem from the raising of the participation age.

### **6. Recommendations**

**That the report be received.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

There are three key objectives, set out in the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) Children's Plan, that relate directly to the Machinery of Government Changes and Delivering 14-19 Reform: next steps. These are:

- ensure that all young people participate in education or training that stretches and challenges them until at least their 18th birthday
- give young people the knowledge and skills that employers and the economy need to prosper in the 21st century
- close the achievement gap by the age of 19 so that all have an equal opportunity to succeed, irrespective of gender, race, disability or background

The Local Authority (LA) accepts the new responsibilities placed upon it:

- to deliver the raising of the participation age (RPA)
- to deliver the national entitlement to the three learning pathways
  - general (GCSEs and A levels)
  - applied (the 17 lines of Diploma)
  - vocational (apprenticeships) and
  - the Foundation Learning Tier
- to secure sufficient, motivating, accessible high quality provision in support of this
  - at every level
  - for every line of learning
  - for all learners, including the most vulnerable.
- to undertake strategic commissioning for the 14-19 phase in relation to:
  - the capacity of school sixth forms, colleges sixth form colleges, other providers
  - integrated youth services and support

### Action Taken

- In order to respond to these changes Rotherham has established a Rotherham 14-19 Learning Plan 2008-2013 which sets out the proposals for transforming education for 14-19 year olds within the borough and takes full account of the current and proposed legislation.
- The statutory 14-19 Strategy and Resources Board is in place to ensure the implementation of the reform programme. The Board is supported by a number of sub groups. These include both Curriculum and Information Advice and Guidance groups.
- The Board is currently developing a strategic commissioning plan for provision to secure sufficient high quality and motivating provision:
  - at every level
  - for every line of learning
  - for all learners, including the most vulnerable.

The plan will be based on an indicative regional Young Peoples Learning Agency (YPLA) funding allocation. The plan is essential to ensure that provision is in place to secure the raising of the age of participation.

- Following the announcement of the transfer of responsibilities for 16-19 education from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) to the Local Authority Rotherham has become part of the South Yorkshire Cluster (the four South Yorkshire Local Authorities [LAs]). The cluster was established, following the

successful Phase 1 submission in February 2009. An Action Plan for the 16-19 Transfer and Sub-Regional Developments has been drawn up to support the transfer of 16-19 responsibilities from the LSC and to develop an effective, sub-regional model for the strategic commissioning of 16-19 provision. The establishment of the South Yorkshire Group has the formal approval and active commitment of the Chief Executives, the Directors of Children's Services (DCSs) and the Leaders, or Mayor in each LA.

**8. Finance:**

Currently there is no additional funding to support the Machinery of Government changes work.

Implementation of the diplomas and other curriculum changes are support by additional funding from the DCSF

**9. Risks and Uncertainties:**

Failure to respond to key objectives set out in the DCSF Children's Plan and 14-19 reform programme could result in:

- Provision in Rotherham will not meet the needs of individual learners.
- Level 2 and Level 3 performance by 19 will fail to improve
- The skills base in Rotherham will fail to meet the employment demands

**10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Development are consistent with:

- The Community Strategy (Local Strategic Partnership)
- The Corporate Plan (RMBC)
- The 14-19 Learning Plan (14-19 Strategy and Resources Board) - following extensive consultation with all partners and key stakeholders within Rotherham and taking account of the sub-regional partnership work already in place.
- The Economic Master Plan (RMBC) which takes into account the City regions developments and the economic relationship between Rotherham and Sheffield.
- Rotherham Productivity Plan (Work and Skills Board)

**11. Background Papers and Consultation:**

- White Paper Raising Expectations: enabling the system to deliver' DCSF
- The Apprenticeships, Children, Skills and Learning Bill (introduced into the House of Commons in February 2009 [Royal Assent is due autumn 2009])

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<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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1.	Meeting:	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel</b>
2.	Date:	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2009
3.	Title:	<b>Special Educational Needs Funding</b>
4.	Directorate:	Children & Young People’s Services

#### 5. Summary

**This report is an update on the report submitted to members on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2008.**

#### Mainstream SEN funding

Funding for high incidence SEN continues to be driven through formula factors for each school in addition to the mainstream school budget. Schools who have pupils with low incidence exceptional needs continue to receive a top-up allocation based upon Descriptors discussed and recommended via SEN Panel.

Some funding is retained centrally for:

- support services,
- children with exceptional needs, who, with additional central funding can continue to have their needs met within Rotherham schools under ‘The Closer the Better’ agenda
- extra district SEN placements through single, joint or tripartite funding arrangements

Special Schools continue to achieve their specialisms, thus supporting all of our children and young people more effectively.

#### 6. **Recommendations**

**That the updated SEN Funding report is received**

## 7. Proposals and Details

### 7.1 The developing role of special schools

Funding for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) is set within the defining principles that have informed the Local Authority's work since 2006:

- We are all responsible for all Rotherham's children and young people.
- All Rotherham learners will achieve; no one will be left behind.
- Learning is the core business: investment, policy and strategy must be driven by opportunities for learners.
- Learning communities will be rooted in and responsive to the needs of local people.

Rotherham's approach to secure excellent outcomes and increased opportunities for children, young people and families is based upon development of a network of Learning Communities (LCs) incorporating integrated service provision built around local needs and aspirations. Widespread consultation has established a strategic vision that aims to transform the relationship between special schools and their partner primary and secondary schools. This ambition to transform the life chances of our vulnerable learners is founded on key principles:

The special schools should be re-designated as a specialist resource for the wider schools system that will add to the broader personalisation transformation;

- There should be capacity in each of the four specialist areas; cognition and learning; communication and interaction; physical and sensory needs; and behavioural, emotional and social needs.
- A lead secondary school and a lead primary school will be identified for the SEN specialisms within each of 3 collaborative partnerships established across the Borough. The lead schools will work in partnership with the SEN specialist schools and specialist services to provide a resource for other schools and organisations within the collaborative.
- The work to devolve leadership and management responsibility for pupil referral arrangements to mainstream Headteachers will be incorporated into this work;
- Schools and LA specialist services will be re-aligned to create a coherent specialist resource for all schools that will be based within and across schools.

The SEN Specialist Schools programme and Building Schools of the Future (BSF) will be used to drive forward this change. New partnerships between primary, secondary and special schools will be created and BSF will be used to build both capacity and co-located learning environments. This approach would provide a continuum of provision extending from a child and family's local primary or secondary school, to an enhanced provision within the local area, and to a specialist facility within the Local Authority (see Table 1). It would provide blended and personalised pathways with choice and flexibility for pupils, parents and carers. The outcomes will include improved parental preference, a more cohesive and tolerant community, improved student outcomes and post 16 progression rates and permanent exclusions reduced to zero.

Governance and leadership models within and across Learning Communities will be redefined to ensure the most effective delivery for our vulnerable learners. The Authority will create a senior post that will take up the challenge as a 'Champion for Vulnerable Learners' using the cross phase pupil progress data to personally track the progress of each child and young person within this vital cohort.

Table 1

School	Specialism	Ofsted Grade
Abbey	Cognition and Learning; Communications and Interaction; Sports	Outstanding
Hilltop	Communications and Interaction	Outstanding
Kelford	Sensory and Physical	Good
Milton	Communications and Interaction	Outstanding
Newman	Cognition and Learning	Outstanding
Willows	Cognition and Learning	Satisfactory

One of the first co-located learning environments will be that at the Maltby campus. The Authority is currently involved in extensive consultation regarding this and other proposals under the Building Schools of the Future (BSF) programme. At Maltby, the existing secondary school would be rebuilt and be redesignated as an Academy and would be co-located on the existing site with an amalgamated primary school (Maltby Hall Infants and Lily Hall Junior) and Hilltop Special School.

**Update: 3 Special Schools have achieved their specialism. The Willows and Newman gained specialist status in Cognition and Learning with Hilltop achieving Communication and Interaction. The Strategy for Change Part 2 of Transforming Learning has developed this further and has been submitted to Partnerships for Schools.**

## 7.2 Mainstream SEN funding

- Funding for children with special educational needs was delegated with effect from 1st April 2006.
- The schools who 'lost' more than 0.5% of the delegated budget under the new system were in receipt of transitional protection through a phased reduction of funding over 3 years.

**Update: Transitional protection ceased from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. The impact on individual school budgets will continue to be monitored over this financial year.**

### 7.3 Total SEN Budget

Mainstream schools should continue to use their whole school budget to meet the needs of all their children and part of this should be used to give extra support for children with SEN. The total SEN budget, clearly notified within the school's annual budget letter, is one element of the school's whole budget.

**Update: The current delegation formula factors, which reflect DCSF guidance and research on the strong correlation between high incidence SEN and social deprivation factors, will remain in place and be revisited in 2011/2012.**

- It remains the case that exceptional SEN has a random occurrence that is pupil and needs led and not always linked to general formula factors. Schools who have pupils with low incidence exceptional needs receive a top-up allocation, in addition to the funding generated through the formula for high incidence SEN. Exceptional Needs are currently assessed against the full range of Descriptors set out in the Exceptional Needs Allocation Chart (not just the primary need as previously under the Matrix system) and are recommended for approval via the SEN Panel. The Descriptors were developed by a working group of schools and LA officers.

**Update: It is considered that the current descriptors do not accurately reflect the low incidence needs of children with SEN in Rotherham and should, therefore, be revisited. Similarly, it is considered that the funding attached to each descriptor should be reviewed to ensure that a school is able to deliver the provision required to meet the needs of an individual child as set out in the statement of SEN.**

### 7.4 Impact of funding changes

- It remains the Authority's aim that children and young people with special educational needs should have their needs met without the need of a statement and within mainstream settings wherever possible.

**Update:**

- **The total number of SEN statements as a percentage of the 0-19 population continues to reduce: 2005-2008 (reported in November 2008 at -24% is updated for 2005-2009 to -27.8%). There has been a 13% reduction from 2006-present day and over the last 3 years the reduction has been sustained at approximately 4-5% year on year.**
- **In January 2009, 49.6% of children with a statement of SEN in Rotherham are on roll in mainstream schools, including units attached to a mainstream school (562 children, a reduction from 632 in 2008 in the context of an overall decrease in total number of statements). This is a decrease from 52% reported in January 2008.**
- **There remain low numbers of children with a statement of SEN placed out of the borough, in non-maintained or independent special schools, following recommendations at SEN Panel. Education-led placements outside the borough reduced from 61 in 2006/07 to 39 in November 2008, a reduction of 36%. On January 09 census date 40 children with a statement of SEN were placed by**



Education outside the borough in non-maintained or independent special schools.

- The majority of recent placements have been for children with behaviour, emotional and social difficulties (besd) and/or autistic spectrum difficulties (asd) where provision within the Borough has been unable to meet the child's needs.

Table 2: Number of new statements issued in previous calendar year (January data from SEN2)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
LA	303	46	60	70	98	92

Table 3: New statements issued for children aged under five years in calendar year (January data from SEN2)

	2005		2006		2007		2008		2009	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Eng	5,777	25.4%	5,920	24.6%	5,777	25.4%	6,170	26.2%	n/a	n/a
LA	25	41.7%	18	25.7%	42	42.9%	42	42%	25	27%

#### Tables 2 and 3 Update Commentary

Updates given for 2008 and 2009.

- The number of new statements has reduced from the previous year and is in line with our expectations of the number of new statements likely to be issued in any one year.
- There has been a 69.6% reduction in the issue of new statements since 2004.
- Apart from fluctuations at the time of previous funding changes in 2004 and 2006, the increase in 2008 was largely due to an increase in new statements for children in early years with severe learning difficulties and physical/medical difficulties who required a statement of SEN to access special school provision in Rotherham. This has not been sustained this year.
- Data from January 2008 (2007 calendar year) confirms that 94% of all statutory assessments undertaken resulted in a statement of SEN (Rotherham was 5 /11 when compared to its statistical neighbours). Data for 2009 (2008 calendar year is not yet available)
- Refusals to assess have reduced since 2005/06 from 31% to 27% in 2008/09.
- 2008 Calendar year type of need analysis for new statements issued:
  - Autistic Spectrum Difficulties up 21 to 31%
  - Behaviour ESD down 26% to 13%
  - MLD up 16% to 21%
  - sld down from 10% to 8 %

Table 4

Total number of statements maintained by the LA (January data from SEN2)

2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
1600	1810	1860	2000	1600	1329	1263	1214	1154

*Table 5*

Percentage of the 0-19 population with statements (January data from SEN2)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Eng	2.16%	2.14%	2.13%	2.05%	1.98%	1.91%	1.87%	n/a
LA	2.81%	2.89%	3.11%	2.50%	2.08%	1.98%	1.90%	<b>1.82%</b>

**Tables 4 and 5 Update Commentary:**

**The January 2009 percentage based upon 1154 statements from a total population of 63,495 shows a reduction from the previous year to 1.82% The reduction in the number of statements will be a combination of school leavers, movement out of the LA and a reduction in the request for new statements of SEN over time.**

**The breakdown of total number of statements in 2009 is as follows:**

- **3.8% aged under 5**
- **31.5% aged 5-10**
- **57% aged 11-15**
- **7.62% aged 16-19**
- 

**The current total 0-19 population has reduced slightly to 63,159.**

Training linked to SEN delegation

Schools have a duty to be accountable for expenditure on SEN and to ensure best value. LAs have a duty to provide guidance and support to schools but also to monitor and evaluate the deployment and impact of expenditure on SEN.

**Update on Training delivered:**

2008: Leading Teachers on Intervention pilot project

2008: Training for New SENCOs: SEN funding / provision management together with the Annual Review process and SEN Panel

2009: Primary SENCOs: SEN funding and Provision Management including a session on the Audit Commission's Value for Money Tool

2009 Training for new sencos: as in 2008

To date, in addition to the training sessions delivered 78 schools (5 secondary) have requested and received their copy of the provision management tool. This service continues to be provided free of charge as part of the Service Portfolio of Services.

**Update on developments projected in November 2008**

- Review of the impact of delegation on schools: matching /mapping key factors including falling rolls, proportion and complexity of SEN children, size and age range of schools: by January 2009 prior to 09/10 financial year

**Update: the focus for 2009 has been on clarifying special school budgets and provision and conducting a review of specialist unit provision. Mapping of factors relating to mainstream SEN funding has begun and will continue during the 09/10 financial year.**

- Revision of Exceptional needs descriptors to be more specific and representative of the levels of additional support required for a child with low incidence needs: by January 2009 prior to 09/10 financial year

**Update:** a review of Exceptional needs descriptors has been undertaken jointly by the Managers of SEN Assessment Service and the Educational Psychology Service. It is proposed to locate this work within ISSG and a draft proposal can be submitted to this group for discussion at its scheduled meeting in November 2009.

This activity is linked to developments locally and nationally with improving the specificity of Statements of

- Rotherham's bespoke Provision Management Database tool used with a group of schools under the Leading Teachers on Intervention pilot project to be rolled out and training planned: Spring 09

**Update: achieved**

- Audit Commission's web based Value for Money Tool to be investigated and support offered to schools:
- **Update: Spring 2009 achieved via Primary SENCo training. A briefing is to be circulated to secondary SENCOs and all head teachers in the Autumn term 2009**

## 8. Finance

Notional SEN delegated to mainstream schools (S52 Schools Statements and including unit allocations)					
2003-2004	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
£5,874,247	£8,908,332	£9,363,111	£9,870,587	£10,324,623	<b>£10, 614,110</b>

The Notional amount includes the following:

- 5% of the Age-Weighted Pupil Unit funding allocation included within the Individual School Budget allocation for the current year
- 50% of the Social Deprivation allocation included within the Individual School Budget allocation for the current year
- Delegated Funding Formula for high incidence needs
- Exceptional needs top-up funding
- Learning Support Service allocation (Primary only)

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The funding formula changes have been operational now for 3 years and so the associated risks arising from those changes reduces over time. The protection factors that were implemented to support schools appear to have been effective

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The proposals support the Council's Corporate Priorities and the Community Strategy. In particular they support those of Rotherham Learning, equity and sustainability. The overall principle of the proposals is to promote a more equitable and sustainable distribution of resources, which should more accurately reflect the needs and cohort of individual schools.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Schools Forum, 25th January 2006

Cabinet Member Lifelong Learning, Culture and Leisure Services, 07 February 2006

Cabinet Member Children and Young People's Services, 07 February 2006

Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel, 02 November 2007

Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel, 28 November 2008

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<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Transforming Rotherham Learning / Building Schools for the Future Update</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

**5. Summary:**

The report summarises the excellent progress with the Transforming Rotherham Learning Strategy through Building Schools for the Future.

**6. Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that members of the Scrutiny Committee note and consider this report.**

**7. Proposals and Details:**

The Appendix is the executive summary of our BSF Strategy for Change Part 2. The latter sets out how we intend to deliver the transformation identified in the Strategy for Change Part 1. The Strategy was submitted on 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 and we have had very positive initial feedback from Partnerships for School, the agency which delivers BSF on behalf of the DCSF. Members may wish to comment further on the proposed policy implications, described in the summary.

We are now working on the Outline Business Case, which is due to be submitted on the 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 with the intention of going out to the market to procure a Local Education Partnership in April 2010.

Members are reminded that the first phase of BSF will produce £80m of investment as well as a further £8m of investment for ICT. It involves significant new build at Maltby, Swinton, St. Pius, Oakwood and Aston Secondary Schools. Additionally Hilltop Special and a new Maltby Hall/ Lilly Hall primary school (funded through the Primary Capital Programme) will be co-located with the secondary school (to be Maltby Academy from January 2010).

There will be considerable ICT investment for all of the latter schools and Abbey and Milton Schools along with additional investment for our central services, where all schools in their Learning Communities should benefit.

Consultation with young people has been a particular strength in the project with their contributions continuing to help shape the Learning Community Strategy for Change.

After the project goes out to the market, there will be an interim period of negotiation with at least 2/3 bidders until financial close is signed with the preferred bidder, targeted at August 2011. Schools will then start construction along with planning for a Managed ICT Service with a target of completion for December 2013.

#### **8. Finance:**

The latest estimated cost of the first phase is approximately £105.5m with funding coming from BSF, Primary Capital Programme, the Council, already approved borrowing power from the DCSF and Schools. Another £12m will be invested in ICT.

#### **9. Risks and Uncertainties:**

The principal risk relates to delay in achieving the milestones for the project, as described in section 7. However, efficient and effective project planning and excellent collaboration from the schools has meant that we have adhered to all deadlines so far.

A second risk/uncertainty relates to the achievement of BSF funding for future phases of the project. Partnerships for Schools have informed the Authority that a decision may not be made on this until Financial Close in August 2011.

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

Transforming Rotherham Learning through Building Schools for the Future contributes to all of the main priorities in the Children and Young People Single Plan, Corporate Plan and Community Strategy. It is key to raising standards of achievement for all of our young people throughout the borough.

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

Cabinet Member Children and Young People's Services, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2008 – "Building Schools for the Future".

Cabinet, 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2008 – "Building Schools for the Future – Readiness to Deliver".

Building Schools for the Future Project Boards, September '08 to July '09

Cabinet (Transforming Rotherham Learning / Building Schools for the Future), 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009

Strategies for Change Part 1 and Part 2

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**Transforming Rotherham Learning (TRL)  
An Executive Summary of Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Strategy for Change Part 2**

Rotherham's Strategy for Change Part 1 was very strongly endorsed by both DCSF and Partnership for Schools (PFS) in April 2009. They were very positive and complimentary about the TRL vision and the progress we have made to date. Our own research findings, stakeholder comments and the outcomes from a broad range of meetings with Heads from all phases have subsequently informed *The Strategy for Change Part 2 (SfC2)*, a copy of which is available by visiting the RMBC BSF website. The document sets out 'how' we intend to deliver the transformation identified in SfC 1.

**A Summary of Rotherham's Strategy for Change Part 2**

The defining principles that have informed the Local Authority's work since 2006 will continue to drive BSF:

- We are all responsible for all Rotherham's children and young people.
- All Rotherham learners will achieve; no one will be left behind.
- Learning is the core business: investment, policy and strategy must be driven by opportunities for learners.
- Learning communities will be rooted in and responsive to the needs of local people.

The consultation feedback identified 4 main determinants for the underperformance of children and young people over time;

- The failure to acquire language early
- Underdeveloped literacy skills
- Inadequate provision for vulnerable learners
- 'Stuck' families

The collective response to these principles and findings centre upon developing **16 Learning Communities** across the Borough that will provide coherent and progressive pathways for each and every learner. Building upon our best practice from innovative Integrated Services Pathfinder Projects, our ambition is for each LC to fully embrace our strategy for children, young people and families, extended, life-long learning and the development of integrated and co-located services. They will utilise new and emerging learner friendly technologies to transform the way in which learning is delivered. We will integrate the primary capital programme and developments such as 'Inspire Rotherham' to provide added impetus to this critical endeavour.

In accordance with our stated principles, all of the learning communities will be challenged to build a partnership that better connects primary, secondary and special schools with children's centres, colleges, other providers and users to ensure our broad outcomes are delivered in a local context. Life chances will be transformed by determining partnerships designed to enable early intervention, improve literacy and numeracy and forge integrated approaches to moving 'stuck' children and families.

The SEN Specialist Schools programme and BSF will be vital elements in these partnerships, building both capacity and co-located learning environments. This approach will provide a continuum of provision extending from a child and family's local primary or secondary school, to an enhanced provision within the local area, and to a specialist facility within the Local Authority. The outcomes of this element of TRL will include improved parental preference, a more cohesive and tolerant community, improved student outcomes and post 16 progression rates and reduced permanent exclusions. Through these and allied developments we are determined to:

- Ensure our Learning Communities are places where people want to work and learn, providing greater personalisation, choice and personalised learning spaces designed to raise levels of attainment and engagement at all ages
- Create a seamless 0-19 learning pathway with more effective and engaging transition programmes, including those to Higher Education. Our aspiration is to enable 100% positive progression.
- Support parents, schools and communities to raise aspirations, particularly in areas of deeply embedded disadvantage
- Provide for comprehensive, integrated childcare and education with local delivery points for inter-agency family support ensuring success for all of our learners including the most vulnerable
- Encourage more local people to become involved in learning, reducing numbers of working age adults lacking essential skills and improving employability.
- Develop comprehensive sport, leisure and community learning provision
- Reflect and develop the use of cutting edge technologies in all of this provision.



## Proposed Policy Implications

The effective delivery of these ambitions will necessitate changes to strategy and practice at all levels of our operations. Our key ambitions will need to be reflected in the Children and Young People's Single Plan, the 'Learning Without Limits' Plan, in each Learning Community Strategy for Change, in our School Improvement Plans and more importantly, in everyday custom and practice. In the coming months we will use existing and new channels to communicate, share and re-shape the proposals. We intend to involve all stakeholders in this process.

As an indication of the strategic intent, we have set out below some examples of proposed, interdependent changes to strategy across a series of levels:

### LA Level

- A recognition of the fundamental barriers impeding effective learning for children, young people and families
- The Learning Community as the main conduit for CYPS policy and practice
- Strengthened Integrated Locality Teams building upon existing co-location. These will work with, and through Learning Community partnerships.
- Promotion of The Rotherham Guarantee in each LC
- The North, South and Central collaboratives seen as organisational vehicles for significant secondary delivery
- 2 co-located special schools with SEN specialisms more closely linked to 'mainstream' delivery.
- Enhance Learning without Limits (LwL) Leadership Development programmes and further develop the role of practitioners leading LA developments

### Learning Community Level

- Increased internal challenge to improve performance
  - 0 – 19 (25) evaluation of progress through improved data sharing
  - LCs monitor and analyse data for cohorts across each LC
  - Each LC to have a '**Strategic Performance Group**' made up of Early Years / Primary School Improvement Partners (SIP) Special School SIP, Secondary SIP and one HT from each of the phases, preferably from strong performing schools
  - Use of 'Lead Heads' in each LC connecting to schools and Locality Team Leaders
- Early Years and Foundation Stage focus on Language acquisition and Literacy development connecting to Locality Teams for early intervention with 'stuck families'
- All other initiatives e.g. Inspire, to have key performance measures aligned to LCs
- All LCs to produce a brief Strategy for Change that addresses personalisation, performance, Teaching & Learning, ICT, 14-19, Sport, Community Use / Extended Services and leadership arrangements
- Learning without Limits to have an increased performance focus

### School level

- The sharing and development of very best practice to improve data use to map and promote attainment
- Re-align role of SIPs/ Advisors/Consultants to ensure adequate challenge and support
- Each school connected to an outstanding school or nationally recognised outstanding practice
- Harness potential of ICT and new technologies to develop 'Anytime, Anywhere' Learning
- 'Fit for Purpose' Learning Environments with resources, leadership and expertise better shared across and within phases
- Managed Service providing a common ICT platform across all phases

### Staff and students

- Promotion of a Learning Guarantee in each LC for adults, children and young people
- A more continuous and progressive learning experience
- Teaching & Learning Research & Development projects in each LC
- 'Virtual Learning Environment' to share resources, courses and progress. Creation of a 'digitally literate' workforce
- 14 – 19 delivery in 11-16 schools when appropriate
- New Pupil Referral Unit arrangements reflecting developing best practice
- More personalised and integrated support for the most vulnerable learners



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	Friday 2nd October, 2009
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Performance Indicators</b> <b>Children and Young People’s Services Performance Indicator Report - 2009/10 Quarter 1</b> Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome Appendix B – ‘CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – Quarter 1 2009/10’  [Wards affected – All]
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	Children and Young People’s Services

**5. Summary**

This report and accompanying appendices outline performance at the end of the first quarter 2009/10 (June 2009). It provides analysis against targets, direction of travel against previous performance and where possible comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

The format of the report has changed to provide more analysis and assessment of comparison and direction of travel, which will be valuable to managers, Directors and Members under the Comprehensive Area Assessment regime.

**6. Recommendations**

- **That the Performance Report and accompanying Assessment and table (Appendix A & B) be received and performance noted**
- **That the recommendations regarding performance clinics (within Appendix A) be approved.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

As presented at outturn 2008/09 the format performance reports has been developed to reflect these new CAA arrangements and it is proposed that future quarterly reports will continue to develop alongside the publication and contents of the Ofsted quarterly Performance Profile.

Member's attention is drawn to 'Appendix A - Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome' which provides details of performance by each Every Child Matters theme including;

- Performance against targets (Comparing outturn performance against set targets)
- Direction of travel analysis (Comparing 2008/09 performance to 2007/08)
- Year to Date Performance (Judged by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus)
- Areas of Success
- Areas of Under-performance
- Recommendations for performance clinics

Full details of performance and commentary at indicator level is provided in the table within Appendix B which is referenced throughout the Performance Assessment (Appendix A).

## **8. Finance**

There are no financial implications to this report. The relevant Service Leader and Budget Holder will address financial implications of the Action Plans. Members will be consulted where appropriate.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

A category of risk is applied to each quarterly reported Performance Indicator using the PI managers' projection of year-end performance and takes into account any known internal or external influences with comparison against targets.

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

As detailed within the report the National Indicator Set will form one of the blocks of evidence (Block C) for the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). Ofsted will use it to support its process for arriving at the annual rating for Children and Young People's Services (CYPS). They will also use the available NI data to ensure the rating takes account of councils' broad responsibility for children's well-being, including those aspects not inspected directly by Ofsted. (Some NIS indicators may not be available in time for the 2009 rating.)

Poor performance compared to statistical neighbours and national can have a significant impact on the overall rating of CYPS. Ofsted will form a provisional view/rating of CYPS by reviewing "Block A: inspected and regulated services and settings" and "Block B: inspections of safeguarding and services for looked after

children; annual unannounced inspections; findings from any triggered inspection; and serious case review evaluation findings”. “Block C: National Indicator Set” will then be used to support this rating however the provisional view rating is likely to be confirmed as ‘performs poorly’ if performance against a large majority of indicators in the NIS, including those for staying safe and enjoying and achieving, is lower than in similar areas.

#### 11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Children and Young People’s Services 2008/09 Performance Indicator Outturn Report (with appendices)
- Comprehensive Area Assessment: Annual rating of Children’s services – arrangements and guidance
- 2008/09 Children and Young People’s Service Performance Indicator Consolidated monitoring forms and previous quarterly reports
- Children & Young People’s Plan 2007- 2010
- Local Area Agreement 2006-09 – CYPS Block Revised Action Plan 2007
- Local Area Agreement 2008-11 (including 2009 refresh)

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## Rotherham Children and Young People's Services

# Assessment of Performance by Every Child Matters Outcome

### 2009/10 Quarter One Report

This report outlines performance at the end of 2009/10 Quarter One against targets, with comparisons against previous performance and where possible statistical neighbour and national data.

It should be read in conjunction with the 'CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – Quarter One 2009/10' (Appendix B) as it includes references throughout the text to the numbering structure within the table.

Please note the following data health warnings;

- The number of indicators which can be reported quarterly is very small for each outcome. This needs to be considered when reviewing any analysis by percentages.
- Comparative data relates to the latest available data and therefore date periods for some indicators may vary. It has been sourced via the DCSF Local Area Interactive Tool (downloaded 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009).

[Data date: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009]

## Performance Summary – All themes

Number of Indicators:

27

Number of Components:

32

### Performance against Targets

(Comparing this quarter's performance against set targets)

On Target	Interpretation	Being Healthy		Staying Safe		Enjoying & Achieving		Making a Positive Contribution		Achieving Economic Wellbeing		All Themes	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
✓	Has met target	4	66.7%	4	40%	5	83.3%	2	28.6%	2	66.7%	17	53.1%
✗	Has not met target	2	33.3%	6	60%	1	16.7%	3	42.9%	1	33.3%	13	40.6%
- / n/a	No targets set (ie new and/or baseline yr)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	2	28.6%	0	0%	2	6.3%
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	

### Direction of Travel (DOT)

(Comparing this quarter performance to previous)

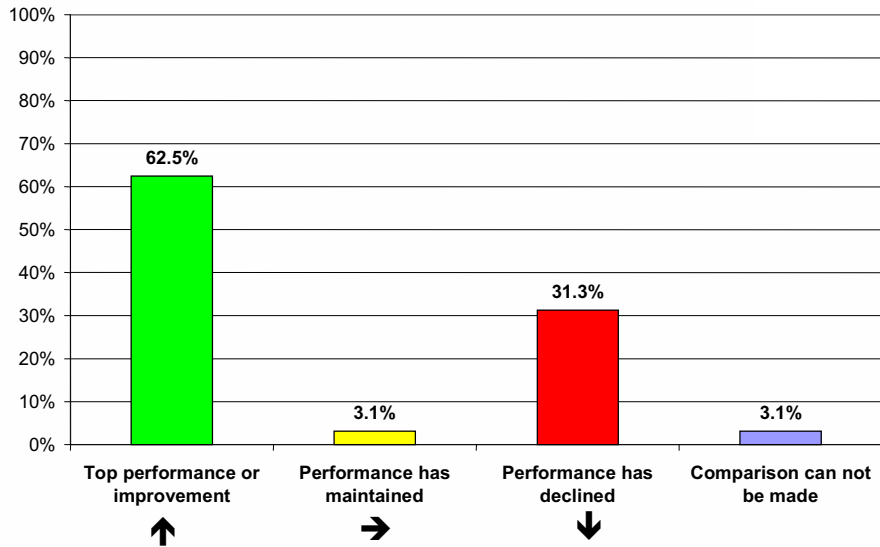
Outturn DOT	Interpretation	Being Healthy		Staying Safe		Enjoying & Achieving		Making a Positive Contribution		Achieving Economic Wellbeing		All Themes	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
↑	Top performance or improvement	5	83.3%	5	50%	6	100%	2	28.6%	2	66.7%	20	62.5%
→	Performance has maintained	0	0%	1	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3.1%
↓	Performance has declined	1	16.7%	4	40%	0	0%	4	66.7%	1	33.3%	10	31.3%
- / n/a	Comparison can not be made (ie new)	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	14.3%	0	0%	1	3.1%
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	

### Year to Date Performance

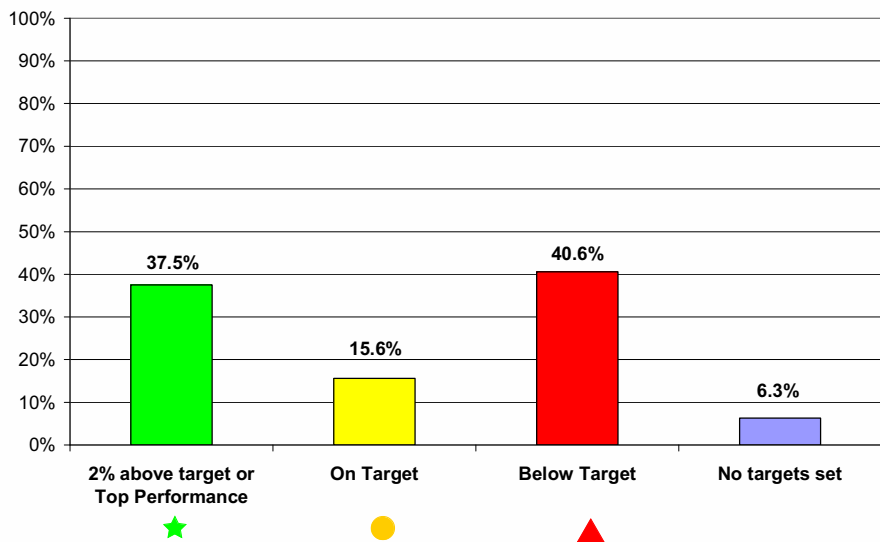
(Judged by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus)

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	Being Healthy		Staying Safe		Enjoying & Achieving		Making a Positive Contribution		Achieving Economic Wellbeing		All Themes	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above target or Top Performance	0	0%	3	30%	5	83.3%	2	28.6%	2	66.7%	12	37.5%
●	On Target	4	66.7%	1	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	5	15.6%
▲	Below Target	2	33.3%	6	60%	1	16.7%	3	57.1%	1	33.3%	13	40.6%
- / n/a	No targets set (ie new and/or baseline year)	0	66.7%	0	0%	0	0%	2	28.6%	0	0%	2	6.3%
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>3</b>		<b>32</b>	

Quarter 1 - 2009/10  
**Direction of Travel - All Themes**



Quarter 1 - 2009/10  
**Performance Year to Date - All Themes**



## Notes on overall performance

- Across all themes there is a positive direction of travel with 62.5% of indicators improving or maintaining top performance since 2008/09 Outturn.
- There are still too many indicators not meeting targets (40.6%). Almost half of these are within the Staying Safe theme.
- Although there are significant gaps in benchmarking data. Where comparative data is available over half of the measures are above Statistical Neighbour current published data.
- Please note the number of indicators which can currently be quarterly reported are low therefore percentage analysis by theme could be skewed.

## Areas of Success

### ▪ **Being Healthy**

The majority of indicator components in Being Healthy outcome have improved since the 2008/09 outturn (83.3%) and are currently on target.

### ▪ **Staying Safe**

All Child Protection indicators (No. 10 – NI65, No. 11 – NI 66 and No 12 – NI67) are improving and performing above target. In addition the latest available comparative data shows that we are above Statistical Neighbour and National Averages for all three measures.

Looked After Children cases reviewed in timescales (no. 11 – NI66) has improved significantly on the 2008/09 position from 85.4% to 93.3% and is now on target. This indicator however remains vulnerable if the number of Looked After Children continues to rise.

### ▪ **Enjoying and Achieving**

Four of the six quarterly reported indicator components are at top performance. These are; 'Number of Schools in Special measures' (No 17 – NI 89a), 'Time taken for school to come out of an Ofsted Category of concern' (No 17 – NI89b), Statements of SEN issued within timescales Excluding and Including Exceptions (No 18 – NI 103 a & b).

### ▪ **Making a Positive Contribution**

All our young people in the young offenders cohort are currently deemed as accessing suitable accommodation (No 20 – NI 46) and local data demonstrates that the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System is continuing to fall and better than its LAA milestone target, (No 22 – NI 111).

### ▪ **Achieving Economic Wellbeing**

All Care Leavers are currently living in suitable accommodation (No 26 – NI 147) and 75% are accessing in employment, education or training, (please note this is a very small cohort at this quarter we have only 4 young people eligible for these indicators.)

## Areas of Under-performance

### ▪ **Being Healthy**

Due to seasonal issues Secondary School take up of school meals has fallen by 4% taking our comparative position even further below statistical neighbour and national averages.

### ▪ **Staying Safe**

There have been some significant declines in performance in a number of children's social care national indicators since the 2008/09 year end position. Including a 6.8% decrease in initial assessments within timescales to 71% (No 5 – NI 59) and a 24.9% decrease in core assessments with timescales to 60% (No 6 – NI 60) and a 6.5% decrease for referrals progressing to initial assessment (No 13 – NI 68).

### ▪ **Enjoying and Achieving**

Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour, although recently improving, is currently at risk of not meeting it's year end target. This indicator relies on the school inspection cycle which is determined by Ofsted not the authority. Therefore if none of the four remaining schools outside this standard receive an inspection there will be no further improvement this year.

### ▪ **Making a Positive Contribution**

To ensure alignment to Ofsted's Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) arrangements for Children and Young People Services indicators relating to sexual health and conceptions have now moved from Being Healthy to Making a Positive Contribution. Unfortunately both related

measures, Under 18 Conceptions (No 23 – NI112) and Chlamydia Screening (No 24 – NI113) are both off target and have a downward direction of travel.

Similarly all Youth Offending Measures are now also within this outcome theme including the proportion in suitable education, employment or training (No 21 – NI 45) which has dropped by almost 6% on the 2008/09 outturn position to 66.7%. This is in part due to a change in calculation definition but also the fall in first time entrants is having a perverse affect on this measures as the young people within the cohort are those who are more entrenched in the system and therefore are harder to engage. Convictions, (No 19 – NI 43), have increased to 16.1% of the Youth Offending population which is significantly above the outturn position of 9.7% and the statistical neighbour and national averages of 5.9%. A full performance report and action plan is in production by the Youth Offending Service for completion in September 09.

#### ▪ **Achieving Economic Wellbeing**

The proportion of young people not in education, employment or training, (No 25 – NI 117), has increased since the excellent 2008/09 outturn position from 6.9% to 8.1%. This is in part due to usual seasonal fluctuations but it is also linked to the national economic downturn meeting. It will be a challenge to meet the 2010/11 LAA Stretch target of 7.1%.

## Performance Clinics

At every quarter all indicators which are both 'off target' and have a 'downward Direction of Travel' are considered for clinics. Performance Management Officers review the data, comments and any discussions with PI managers to make informed recommendations. These are then approved or otherwise by CYPS Cabinet Member & Advisers. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services can also call clinics on particular issues of interest which are not monitored by National Indicators ie Foster Carers. Adhoc Performance Clinics and Turning the Curve workshops have also been held on JLT request.

#### ▪ **Previous Clinics**

At 2008/09 outturn the following indicators were chosen for a clinic

Ref.	Indicator	Notes
NI 55	Obesity at Reception Year.	Turning the Curve workshop to be arranged Autumn 2009 to look at both indicators.
NI 56	Obesity at Year 6.	
NI 148	Care Leavers – EET	To be held 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2009. Issues arising to be reported within 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter report.

#### ▪ **Future Clinics**

Of the ten indicators with a downward direction of travel nine are also underperforming against targets. The following table summarises these and gives performance officer recommendations for future clinics with rationale.

No.	Ref.	Indicator	Clinic Recommended	Rationale
1 b	NI 52 b	Take up of School Meals - Secondary	No	Downturn due to seasonal fluctuations. Progress to be assessed in new term.
5	NI 59	Initial Assessments within timescales	No	Issues are being addressed following the Ofsted inspection of Contact Referral and Assessment in August. Review in Quarter 2.
6	NI 60	Core Assessments within timescales	No	Issues are being addressed following the Ofsted inspection of Contact Referral and Assessment in August. Review in Quarter 2.



No.	Ref.	Indicator	Clinic Recommended	Rationale
7	NI 61	Timeliness of LAC placements following decision to Adopt	No	The calculation for this indicator is currently being queried with central office. A clinic was held for adoptions in March 2009. It is recommended that a performance clinic update is held after 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter report once definition is clarified and progress can accurately be assessed.
13	NI 68	% referrals to progressing to initial assessments	No	Issues are being addressed following the Ofsted inspection of Contact Referral and Assessment in August. Review in Quarter 2.
21	NI 45	Young Offenders EET	No	Change in calculation definition but also the fall in first time entrants is having a perverse affect on this measures. If performance does not improve in Quarter 2 a clinic will be recommended.
23	NI 112	Under 18 Conceptions	No	Subject to a Be Healthy themed performance management group in September. Review in Quarter 2.
24 a	NI 113 a	Prevalence of Chlamydia - coverage	No	Subject to a Be Healthy themed performance management group in September. Review in Quarter 2.
25	NI 117	% NEET	No	Only missed target by 0.1% but performance to be closely monitored to assess impact of economic downturn. This may be called for a clinic alongside the Young Offenders EET measure at Quarter 2.

**CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – Quarter One 2009/10**

**GLOSSARY**

Detailed below is explanation regarding the different items within the following outturn performance table

<b>No</b>	Number on indicator as shown in this table. Added to aid discussion and referencing.	
<b>Definition</b>	The name of the indicator.	
<b>Ref</b>	the official reference number. 'NI' = National Indicator, 'BV' = Best Value performance indicator, LAA and LPI = Local stretch indicators within the 2006-09 Local Area Agreement	
<b>Good Perf</b>	The direction the performance needs to travel to improve	
<b>08/09 Actual</b>	Previous year's performance	
<b>Q1 Target</b>	Level of achievement the service wished to reach within this quarter (can be the same or an increment towards the year end target)	
<b>Q1 Perf</b>	Level of achievement the service wished to reach in this quarter	
<b>Q1 On Target</b>	Has the target been achieved? ✓ = Yes, ✗ = No, n/a / - = no targets set so unable to assess	
<b>Q1 DOT</b>	Direction of travel of performance compared to previous quarter ↑ = better than last year or top performance, ↓ = worse than last year, → = same as last year, - / n/a = comparison can't be made	
<b>Year To Date</b>	Year To Date. Performance assessment by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus as at December 2008 ★ Green Star - Above Target or top performance, ● Amber Circle -On Target, ▲ Red triangle - Below target	
<b>Latest Comparative Data (Q1 comparative position)</b>	<b>Stat. Neigh.</b>	The latest average for our Statistical Neighbour group. Used by Ofsted to assess performance to be a good authority we need to have the majority inline or better than this average. The information in brackets assesses our performance against this average.
	<b>National</b>	The latest National average. Used by Ofsted to assess performance to be a good authority we need to have the majority inline or better than this average. The information in brackets assesses our performance against this average.
<b>Comments</b>	If necessary further explanation of performance is summarised here. Examples include details of external influences, seasonal trends or impact of action. This is supplied by indicator managers and approved by directors, additional notes from Performance and Data team may be added to the comments column to aid explanation.	
<b>09/10 Target</b>	The current year end targets set by indicator managers.	
<b>10/11 Target</b>		
<b>11/12 Target</b>		

Abbreviations within the table					
NI	National Indicator	LPI	Local Performance Indicator	<b>Comparative Data Position</b>	
PI	Performance Indicator	LAC	Looked after Children	(Above)	Our current performance is better
BV	Best Value Performance Indicator	SEN	Special Educational Needs	(Inline)	Our current performance is broadly the
LAA	Local Area Agreement	PAF	Performance Assessment Framework	(Below)	Our current performance is worse

CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – Quarter One 2009/10

No	Definition	Ref	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	Q1 Target	Q1 Perf	Q1 On Target	Q1 DOT	Year to Date	Latest Comparative Data (Q1 comparative position)		Comments	09/10 Target	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
										Stat. Neigh.	National				
<b>BEING HEALTHY</b>															
1	Take up of school lunches	NI 52	HIGH	40.5%	40.5%	41.07%	✓	↑	●	48.07% (Below)	-	Primary sector has increased meals per day against 12 months previous. Secondary School Take up traditionally low at this time of year but increased due to Easter closure when last day of term is very low take up.	40.5%	41.9%	42.7%
	Primary														
	Secondary [Ron Parry - RMBC]	b	HIGH	34.2%	34.2%	30.20%	✗	↓	▲	44.75% (Below)	-		34.2%	34.8%	35.5%
2	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6 – 8 weeks from birth	NI 53	HIGH	24%	28%	28.0%	✓	↑	●	29.03% (Below)	50.0% (Below)	Last year's target not achieved. A number of NHS performance clinics, events, letters, audits and high level meetings have taken place to address issues. At quarter one on track to meet year end targets.	28%	28%	30%
	Prevalence														
	Coverage [Gill Harrison - NHS Rotherham]	b	HIGH	77%	90%	89.0%	✗	↑	▲	-	-		90%	95%	95%
3	Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children [Sue May - RMBC]	NI 58	LOW	14.5	14.0	13.8	✓	↑	●	-	-	The LAAC Support Team is continuing to monitor the emotional health and wellbeing of Looked After Children. The program comprises of sending out annual SDQ's. The business support officer within the team is notified at the beginning of each month when a child has: a. been in care for a period of six months, b. When a child's birthday falls within that month, c. There is also a process to activate when SDQ's have not been returned with two months  The LAAC Support team is continuing to provide support to foster carers and children within the care system in supporting Looked After children. This includes liaising with other CAMHS services. There are also plans to deliver training across locality teams to raise aware of the SDQ and its use in practice There are discussion regarding ways to link SDQ with LAC Statutory health assessments in the future	14.0	13.5	13.0
4	% schools achieving Healthy School Status in accordance with the 2005 NHSS criteria. LAA 2006-09 [Liz Galliver - RMBC]	LAA BH5	HIGH	84.5%	90.0%	90.7%	✓	↑	●	-	-	There are two more schools which have self assessed as achieving Healthy Schools status. We are just awaiting confirmation from the Quality Assurance Group before this can be confirmed and transferred to the national data base. We are still on target to get another four schools to achieve accreditation and so meet the 95% target	95.0%	-	-
<b>STAYING SAFE</b>															
5	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral [Pam Allen - RMBC]	NI 59	HIGH	77.8%	80.0%	71.0%	✗	↓	▲	68.2% (Above)	71% (Inline)	Due to staffing vacancy factor this target is difficult to achieve in this period	80.0%	81.0%	82.0%
6	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement [Pam Allen - RMBC]	NI 60	HIGH	84.9%	86.0%	60.0%	✗	↓	▲	79.2% (Below)	80.0% (Below)	Due to staffing vacancy factor this target is difficult to achieve in this period	86.5%	87.0%	87.5%
7	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption [Sue May - RMBC]	NI 61	HIGH	87.5%	83.0%	25% (see comments)	✗	↓	▲	77.88% (Below)	76.30% (Below)	< Performance & Data Team > This indicator is having it's guidance queried and the quarterly figure may not be accurate.	83.0%	85.0%	86.0%
8	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements [Sue May - RMBC]	NI 62	LOW	13.3%	11.0%	12.2%	✗	↑	▲	11.53% (Below)	11.40% (Below)	Improvement plan in place to: increase placement availability; improve the quality of placements; and enhance support to placements.	11.0%	10.5%	10.0%
9	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more [Annie Redmond - RMBC]	NI 64	LOW	4.8%	4.5%	3.8%	✓	↑	★	4.56% (Above)	5.00 (Above)	Performance in this area continues to improve in line with projected targets.	4.5%	4.0%	3.5%
10	Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time [Annie Redmond - RMBC]	NI 65	LOW	10.6%	11.0%	10.5%	✓	↑	★	14.4% (Above)	14.0% (Above)	Performance in the area continues to be monitored to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements and Performance Indicator	11.0%	11.0%	10.5%
11	Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales [Annie Redmond - RMBC]	NI 66	HIGH	85.4%	92.0%	93.3%	✓	↑	●	87.3% (Above)	85.3% (Above)	Performance during the first quarter of the reporting period has improved. Performance in this area will continue to be monitored but remains vulnerable if the numbers of Looked After young people continues to increase.	92.0%	93.0%	94.0%
12	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales [Annie Redmond - RMBC]	NI 67	HIGH	100%	100%	100%	✓	↑	★	98.6% (Above)	99.0% (Above)	Performance in this area continues to be maintained	100%	100%	100%
13	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment [Pam Allen - RMBC]	NI 68	HIGH	57.60%	55.0%	51.1%	✗	↓	▲	61.6% (Below)	59% (Below)	Thresholds are inconsistent . An audit is being undertaken to examine activity	55.0%	57.0%	60.0%
14	Children who have run away from home/care overnight [Morri McDermott - RMBC]	NI 71	HIGH	14	15	14	✗	→	▲	-	-	To achieve the target it is important that all partners are working together, to the same protocols and at the same pace. The driving protocol is a regional one and there are some issues to resolve region wise.	15	15	-
<b>ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING</b>															
15	Number of Extended Schools [Helen Shaw - RMBC]	NI 88	HIGH	60%	75%	85%	✓	↑	★	-	-	As part of the support and challenge function of the TDA the target has been increased at each of the last 3 face to face meetings. The target for September 09 has been increased to 85% from 80%. It is expected that the target will be further increased at our next meeting scheduled for November 25th.	85%	100%	100%
16	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour [Katy Edmondson - RMBC]	NI 86	HIGH	69%	80%	75%	✗	↑	▲	67.67% (Above)	76.10% (Below)	One school re-inspected after the 3 year cycle has improved behaviour from satisfactory to good, increasing the performance for this indicator. However, achieving the target does depend on the number of schools inspected. This is determined by Ofsted rather than the LA.	85%	90%	100%

										Latest Comparative Data (Q1 comparative position)					
No	Definition	Ref	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	Q1 Target	Q1 Perf	Q1 On Target	Q1 DOT	Year to Date	Stat. Neigh.	National	Comments	09/10 Target	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
17	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category	NI 89													
	Number	a	LOW	0	0	0	✓	↑	★	-	-	There has been no school in Special measures since December 2006. This is a major area of success for the LA and schools	0	0	0
	Time [David Light - RMBC]	b	LOW	0	0	0	✓	↑	★	-	-		0	0	0
18	Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks	NI 103													
	Excluding exceptions	a	HIGH	100%	95.0%	100.00%	✓	↑	★	-	-	103a) Of the 25 total number of statements issued this quarter, if we exclude exceptions, 1 was issued within 26 weeks	95.0%	95%	95%
	Including exceptions [Helen Barre - RMBC]	b	HIGH	95.90%	90.0%	100%	✓	↑	★	-	-	103b) Of the 25 final statements issued this quarter, all were issued within 26 weeks. Whilst BVPI targets have been met appropriately, the number of exceptions is very high and we would seek to reduce this during the coming quarters.	90.0%	92%	94%
<b>MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION</b>															
19	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody [Paul Grimwood]	NI 43	LOW	9.7%	-	16.1%	-	↓	-	5.91% (Below)	5.9% (Below)	Measure affected by an increase in custody cases (including an increase in serious cases). Also a significant reduction in the number of court disposals. Full performance report with action plan to be completed for September 09	-	5%	-
20	Young offenders access to suitable accommodation [Paul Grimwood]	NI 46	HIGH	97.6%	97.9%	100%	✓	↑	★	69.49% (Above)	69.3% (Above)	All relevant young people deemed to be living in suitable accommodation			
21	Young offenders engagement in suitable education, employment or training [Paul Grimwood]	NI 45	HIGH	72.6%	75.6%	66.7%	✘	↓	▲	69.49% (Below)	69.3% (Below)	There are a number of factors accounting for the reduction in performance during this period. Rotherham's sole provider for Training and Employment stopped taking on new places, due to funding problems. The guidance from the Youth Justice Board for counting ETE has changed and we no longer benefit from counting 50% of those in 16-24 hrs band. (We were previously able to record reduced hours, but are now only allowed to return those with 0hrs or 25 hours or more). The new Connexions PA whilst established in post was unable to pick up on some custody leavers. Finally, as a result of a reduction in the numbers of first time entrants, those young people receiving final warnings, who are less entrenched in offending and who are more likely to be in some form of ETE, continue to decrease, with a perverse effect on this target. The introduction of a new government initiative (triage) is likely to reduce this final warning population further in the coming quarters.	75.6%	78.0%	
22	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 LAA [Paul Grimwood]	NI 111	LOW	374	133	82	✓	↑	★	-	-	FTE figure for the first quarter of 2009/10 shows a reduction against the Qtr 1 figure for 2008/09 of 15 or 15.46%. Quarter 1 is also less than the expected target figure for the quarter. Local data used to calculate therefore may ultimately differ from that published by DCSF/PNC due to issues with quality of PNC data	535	514	
23	Reduction in the number of under 18 conceptions per 1000 females aged 15-17 compared with 1998 baseline LAA 2008-11 [Melanie Simmons - NHS Rotherham]	NI 112	LOW	-10.5% (rate 50.7)	-38%	-9.9%	✘	↓	▲	rate 53.94 (Above)	rate 41.68 (Below)	Latest forecast under 18 conception data made available in July 2009 for 2008 period. Rotherham is not meeting the targets required to achieve the 2010 target of a 50% reduction in under 18 conceptions according to current trajectories, 2006 was a difficult year seeing an increase in rates and numbers. Official under 18 conception rates are provided by the DCSF with a time delay.	-39%	-	-
24	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 24 year olds	NI 113													
	Coverage	a	HIGH	19.7%	6.3%	4.3%	✘	↓	▲	-	-	Central guidance continues to measure the screening rate in 2009/10 as a proxy for Chlamydia prevalence. The target for screening is 25% in 2009/10 and 35% in 2010/11. For quarter 1 we have used ¼ of the annual screening rate of 25% as the target. This may be adjusted in future quarters to reflect a building up of screening throughout the year.	17.0%	17%	-
	Prevalence [Mike Brown - NHS Rotherham]	b	LOW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-
<b>ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING</b>															
25	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) [Karen Borthwick - RMBC]	NI 117	LOW	6.9%	8.0%	8.1%	✘	↓	▲	8.56% (Above)	6.70% (Below)	Current position of NEET is in line with cyclical fluctuations caused by reducing cohort number but there has been an increased rise in number of NEET young people due to the economic downturn. May 2009 NEET stood at 8.6% representing a reduction on the position last year May 2008 NEET of 8.9%. Not Known as of May 2009 stood at 4.8%	8.0%	7.10%	-
26	Care leavers in suitable accommodation [Sue May - RMBC]	NI 147	HIGH	94.7%	95.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	87.88% (Above)	88.4% (Above)	All Care Leavers are currently in suitable accommodation	95.0%	92%	-
27	Care leavers in employment, education or training [Sue May - RMBC]	NI 148	HIGH	55.3%	65.0%	75.0%	✓	↑	★	53.70% (Above)	64.70% (Above)	The cohort of 19 year old care leavers is closely monitored and targeted support is given. A background of rising unemployment will impact negatively; a performance clinic has been arranged.	65.0%	70%	-

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel.</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday 2nd October 2009</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>“Future challenges for the Youth Service”.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Community Services – C&amp;YPS</b>

**5. Summary:**

A C&YPS Scrutiny Panel Review “Future Challenges for the Youth Service” was completed and considered by the Panel in the summer of 2008 and presented to cabinet in July 2008. Cabinet Response was considered in November 2008 when it was resolved –

- That a further report about the commissioning of a strategy to modernise the youth service facilities be submitted to a future meeting of this Scrutiny Panel.
- That a progress report on the implementation of the recommendations of the Youth Service Scrutiny Review be submitted to a meeting of this Scrutiny Panel in six months’ time.

This Report gives information on both of these resolutions.

**6. Recommendations:**

**That the content of this report is noted.**

## 7. Proposals and Details:

The Scrutiny Review of Youth Services was triggered by the Government publication of 'Youth Matters' and 'Aiming high for young people: a ten year strategy for positive activities', and the legal duty placed on Local Authorities to secure youth provision, particularly in the context of the Council's long standing commitment to its Youth Services. Youth Matters and associated guidance and publications are part of the Government drive to improve the lives of our children laid out within *Every Child Matters* and the subsequent Children Act 2004. What is beyond doubt in the ensuing period since the scrutiny review is that there has been no let up in new requirements, guidance, innovation and demands on Local Authorities and Youth Services. This genuinely is a constantly evolving area of public service, and it is hoped that the comments below in respect of the recommendations from the scrutiny review reflect the year of challenges and achievement that Rotherham has experienced, the development of a range of new initiatives and how Youth Services are working towards an appropriate and effective integration within C&YPS whilst ensuring the best balance of universal and targeted services.

The Review made a number of specific recommendations:

***That Children and Young People's Services develops a vision for Young People's Services as part of integrated teams, reflecting the importance of retaining a balance of non-formal education and generic working as well as providing targeted services to those most in need.***

C&YPS were determined from the outset that Youth Services would continue to play the vital role they had always done in the integration of services, including the multi-agency teams. It is always the case that any changes or developments to service should enhance the quality and capacity of that service, and in many ways Youth Services led the way in this approach of working together. Although there have been many difficulties across the broader C&YPS' associated with the integration of services and the move to Localities, particularly around the shift to a more preventative way of working, the Youth Service is one of the areas that has been able to establish improved relationships and make a considerable contribution to positive ECM outcomes. We have further extended the provision of non-formal education and maintained a commitment to our generic area based youth centre working. At the same time Rotherham's approach to the provision of Targeted Youth Support, in which the Youth Service is a central component, has received very positive assessment from young people and regulatory bodies. Fundamental to this is the clear recognition that universal and targeted services need to be integrated at a local level in order to enable young people to have community based access to the range of services they require, and to enable them to move through the range of services according to need.

***That the current level of support given to Young People's Services is maintained.***

As with all areas of C&YPS statutory work and general provision, we have a responsibility to ensure best value and effective / efficient use of resources. As reported in the Review previously, the area of Youth Work has been able to gain significant external funding in recent years, which in the main has been used to fund innovative projects and new requirements, thus guaranteeing a commitment to the more traditional and universal areas of provision. That funding is becoming scarcer and is likely to be an even greater challenge in the future. In anticipation of this C&YPS has undertaken an in-house review of the structures of Youth Services and has made some relatively minor but very important amendments and budget realignments which ensure the retention and delivery of both universal and targeted provision.

In addition to ensuring the appropriate and sufficient degree of resources, the independent review of C&YPS that followed the 2008 APA results and the subsequent Action Plan which reinforces our determination to make the effective shift to early intervention and prevention

by utilising multi-agency teams aligned to learning community clusters, is very clear that Youth Services will continue to play an integral role in all C&YPS service delivery. This Action Plan is supported at the most senior level within the Borough.

***The commissioning of a strategy to modernise youth service facilities in the borough, reflecting the need to provide facilities across each locality.***

As indicated within *Aiming high for young people* and Rotherham's Children Plan, it is important that all young people have exciting and safe places to go in their leisure time where they can be involved in a wide range of high quality positive activities as well as get advice and support as and when they need it. This is critical for all young people, but particularly for improving the life chances of those facing disadvantage and those from less well off backgrounds. Key to these developments is a commitment to:

- Develop young people's Voice and Influence around current positive activities and the need for further provision and the accessibility of provision.
- The effective and appropriate marketing of provision
- The continuation of work to remove barriers to provision.

Much practical work has taken place to progress some of these issues, in particular the securing of £3.6m capital funding for a 21<sup>st</sup> century youth facility in the town centre under the Government's My Place initiative, which is due to be completed in 2011. Additionally, at the Maltings Youth Centre there is a new roof and significant improvement on the internal quality of the building, including to the upper floor which has undergone refurbishment to accommodate Know the Score [Substance Misuse service]. Other Youth Centres have received some structural and cosmetic improvements, including Maltby which is a now a very high quality facility, and Bramley, also greatly improved. Rawmarsh provision is currently situated in the Rosehill Park Cellars as part of a partnership with Rawmarsh Community Partnership.

However there is still a way to go in order to create a good quality consistent and sustainable range of facilities for young people in Rotherham, facilities compatible with the delivery of 21<sup>st</sup> Century youth work. To facilitate this, the Youth Service has been able to engage with the DCFS and gain the services of a consultant, at no cost to the authority, who will facilitate the development of a strategy relating to the spaces and facilities that we offer to young people across the borough. This will include colleagues responsible for the BSF provision and will result in a plan to provide youth provision within Schools and communities, specialist provision, satellite centres and mobile and detached provision. The consultant will spend 10 days between November and Christmas 2009 supporting this work. All sectors, including relevant RMBC and other statutory sector colleagues and also representatives from the voluntary and private sector will be involved in this piece of work. This will be particularly relevant in the development of opportunities for an integrated capital strategy in relation to building development and use. The work will also look at transport issues relating to young people when accessing provision. Young people will be fully involved at all stages.

***Balance of Universal and Targeted at current resource levels.***

The reorganisation of the service, including the development of the Universal and EIT teams, has led to a more considered and manageable vision, enabling more effective, focused delivery. However there are still clearly significant issues to address, notably around staff capacity, short term initiatives and the continuation of funding.

***To meet the Governments proposals around developing an Integrated Capital Strategy and potential partnerships with the voluntary or private sector.***

See above. Some examples so far include the completion of the new Sexual Health Clinic and Recording studio at Herringthorpe Youth Centre, created in partnership with Rotherham Titans.

***Whether access to facilities can be widened to ensure that there is provision at peak times and holiday periods.***

Determined efforts have been made to refocus resources towards peak and holiday times and external resources have been pursued in order to provide additionality at these times. The Youth Service offered a significant programme for Open weekend in 2009 and there have been increases in Friday, Saturday and Sunday working.

All areas have offered summer and other School holiday opening. Responding to the expressed needs of young people, the service has delivered some innovative provision including positive activities, accredited courses, residential and international work.

The service also developed and delivered a number of initiatives funded via *Aiming High for Disabled Young People* during the summer holidays.

Although some external funding has been available in regard to this provision it has often been late in arriving, for example various pieces of the Government Youth Crime Action Plan funding and Aiming High for Disabled Young People. Despite this the Service has delivered on these pieces of work effectively.

***To consider the feasibility of maintaining the current number of buildings and whether services can be provided in localities in other ways.***

Information above is pertinent, and in addition the service has taken delivery of two buses which will deliver mobile provision.

***Audit at Area Assembly and Parish council level to identify gaps or duplication of services. Each locality team should develop relationships with the Parish Councils in their area to establish joint working.***

An audit is still required. Youth Services will fit into the Action Plan around the review of C&YPS, which is focussing on a more robust local provision, able to respond to communities and school clusters. Parish Councils are clearly important players in this change process, and in some localities, such as Dalton (residential and Saturday morning sessions) and Treeton (creation of cyber café), good partnership work is in place.

***Agreement sought with partners and Directorates to address how youth work interventions to respond to issues of anti social behaviour are funded.***

The recent Place Survey continued the findings of the majority of similar surveys about areas of concern for communities, by highlighting the issue of 'nuisance youths' and the more positive 'things for young people to do'. Area Assemblies have some devolved budgets in order to deliver work such as addressing anti-social behaviour/youth nuisance and activities for young people. Youth Work Managers are represented on Neighbourhood Action Groups and in some cases on AA coordinating groups.

Additionally this has been an area of work for which central funding has been possible, and Rotherham has a good and innovative approach to the application for such funding to provide successful interventions with young people which are recognised and proven to be effective. For example:

- We have implemented an innovative strategy leading to the creation of 7 locality based Early Intervention Teams [EIT's], consisting of a Senior Youth Worker, a Police Officer [PYPPPO], Early Intervention worker, Connexions PA, Drugs and Substance misuse worker and Teenage Pregnancy young women's project workers. A key strength of these teams is that they are able to deliver needs led one to one work within a multi-disciplinary setting – which means that the often complex range of needs that a young person may have can be addressed by the one team.



The EIT's have a clear and robust referral and allocation system. Anyone can refer including parents, young people, Schools, social care and all other agencies including NAGS and SNTs. In some areas groups of young people have been referred in, including peer groups from Thrybergh School and young people who were deemed as being at risk of anti social behaviour in Wath and Brampton. The EIT s assess each referral and, if accepted, a "*team around the young person*" is put in place. Usually included in young people's plans are involvement in positive activities provided by the local universal team. Universal team workers can also identify young people who are in need of some form of early intervention and ensure that they gain support from the Early Intervention Team.

Since the instigation of the EITs there have been significant reductions of young people's engagement in the criminal justice system. There has been a 37% decrease in the number of Reprimands given to young people and a 48% drop in the number of Final Warnings. This reduction in 'first time entrants' to the criminal justice system stands comparison with any achievement in any part of the country.

- Working closely with the YOS and South Yorkshire Police we have set up a triage system available to young people who are first time low level offenders who have been arrested and held at the Central Police Station Custody suite. This commenced at the beginning of September 2001. Suitable young people are offered an alternative disposal to formal criminal justice processing enabling them to engage with an Early Intervention Worker. The aim of this is to offer support to YP and prevent their continued involvement in inappropriate behaviour.

- Again in partnership with YOS and South Yorkshire Police we have also delivered a significant range of work around the various YCAP initiatives including Operation Staysafe, Operation Coverage, summer and school holiday initiatives and street work and street patrols. EIT workers will undergo training in September 2009 to enable them to intervene in early cases of vulnerability to Sexual Exploitation and Drugs and Substance misuse.

### **8. Finance:**

Youth Services budget has been augmented by additional funding from a variety of sources such as schools [the use of outdoor activity provision], NHS Rotherham [teenage pregnancy projects] and central Government grants - Positive Activities Fund, Youth Capital Fund, Youth Opportunities Fund, Children's Fund, YCAP and Aiming High for Disabled YP.

### **9. Risks and Uncertainties:**

Key risks and uncertainties lie with the possible and indeed likely discontinuation of various funding streams. Some of the Service's most innovative and impactful work has historically been driven via external funded provision. There is a need to further realign mainstream budgets in order to ensure that we make the very best use of resources.

There are also implications in the availability and capacity of an experienced workforce, currently being addressed by a workforce development programme which includes the creation of "Centres of Excellence", high achieving Youth Centres where trainee youth workers are placed for the duration of their training. (Commencing November 2009) and by the creation of a casual pool of workers to enable the backfilling of workers where required.

**10 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:**

As stated within the body of the report, ensuring the continued and improved provision of quality universal and targeted youth services is essential to Rotherham realising its ambition of fully integrating C&YPS and ensuring that our children and young people achieve their maximum positive outcomes in life. Youth Services particularly play a leading role in all ECM outcome measures and lead for the Authority in relation to a number of key LAA indicators such as reducing teenage pregnancy, participation in positive activities, reducing first time entrants to the criminal justice system, reducing the numbers that are NEET.

**11. Background Papers and Consultation:**

- Future Challenges for the Youth Service - Scrutiny Review - May 2008
- Youth Matters - Government Strategy Document
- Aiming High for Young People - Government Strategy Document

**Contact Name :**

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**Simon Perry – Director of C&YPS Community Services**

## ***Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review of Youth Services***

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Cabinet Decision</b> <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	<b>Cabinet Response</b> <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	<b>Officer Responsible</b>	<b>Action by (Date)</b>
<b>1. That Children &amp; Young People's Services develops a vision for Young People's Services as part of integrated teams, reflecting the importance of retaining a balance of non-formal education and generic working as well as providing targeted services to those most in need.</b>	Accepted	Young People's Services are an integral part of Children and Young People's Services and as such are part of the broader vision as endorsed within Rotherham's Children Plan and Young People's Services Plan	Simon Perry	April 2009
<b>2. That the current level of support given to Young People's Services is maintained.</b>	Deferred	Whilst we welcome the recommendation, the issue of resource allocation is subject to the annual budget setting process.	Simon Perry	March 2009
<b>3. That the Cabinet member for Children &amp; Young People's Services commissions a strategy to modernise youth service facilities in the Borough reflecting the need to provide facilities across each locality. The strategy should address:</b> <i>3.1) how we maintain the balance of generic and targeted services at current resource level</i> <i>3.2) how we will meet the Government's proposals around developing an Integrated Capital Strategy and potential partnerships with voluntary or private</i>	Accepted	Strategy to be produced. Where appropriate, incorporate the strategy into the BSF initiative, and Children & Young People's Services Locality Plans.	George Simpson	June 2009

<p><b>sector.</b>  <b>3.3) whether access to facilities can be widened to ensure that there is provision at peak times and during holiday periods.</b>  <b>3.4) the feasibility of maintaining the current number of buildings or whether services can be provided in localities in other ways.</b>  <b>3.5) the accessibility of facilities via public transport.</b></p>				
<p><b>4. As part of the Youth Offer Young People's Services conduct an audit at Area Assembly and Parish Council level to identify gaps or duplication of services.</b></p> <p><b>Each locality team should develop relationships with the Parish Councils in their area to establish whether services are being provided, the level of need and if there is scope for greater partnership working.</b></p>	Accepted	<p>Audit in conjunction with Area Assembly Managers, Extended Services Partnership Officers, Parish Councils and the Voluntary Youth Work Sector with regard to the identification of positive activities within each of the 7 localities.</p> <p>Young people will present the findings to schools, Locality Managers, Area Assembly Officers, Elected Members, Parish Councils, NHS Rotherham and Local Strategic Partnership.</p>	George Simpson	March 2009
<p><b>5. That further work is undertaken to integrate the Area Planning Process in Area Assemblies with the work of the Locality Teams to identify needs, circumstances and the aspirations of children and young people in their area. On the basis of their views, agree priorities, plan provision and identify the resources available across the partner agencies and the contributions they will make.</b></p>	Accepted	<p>Children &amp; Young People's Services' Joint Leadership Team will request Locality Managers, Area Assembly Officers, Parish Council Representatives and Youth Officers organise an annual conference(s) in the first quarter of each year and use the information from the audit as a platform for young people in their respective areas to identify their needs and aspirations.</p> <p>The young people's feedback from the conferences and other supporting events such as the work of the Youth Cabinet, Rotherham's National Youth Parliament representatives, school councils and other fora responding to the needs of young people ie BME Youth Forum and Looked After Young People's Council, can then be used to agree priorities, plan provision, identify resources and the roles within partnership working.</p> <p>The results would be documented in Locality and Area Assembly plans for the forthcoming year.</p>	George Simpson	June 2009

<p><b>6. Agreement sought with partners and Directorates to address how youth work interventions to respond to issues of anti-social behaviour are funded.</b></p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The establishment of Targeted Early Intervention Teams in each locality – whose role is to address the issues of socially excluded young people – signifies a partnership approach which includes staff from Police, Youth Offending Services, Connexions, Substance Misuse Services and NHS Rotherham as well as Youth Services. The work of these teams is informed By Youth Work principles. Joint ownership of anti-social behaviour agenda between SRP and CYPS, ensures that funding streams from a variety of sources are consistently applied, with C&amp;YPS [Targeted Services] taking the lead.</p>	<p>Simon Perry</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p><b>7. The focus of the service should remain on the 13-19 age group. Recognising that there is a need and desire for work with younger children, that Children and Young People’s Services assess the feasibility of working in partnership with voluntary sector and Parish Councils to provide services for children and young people.</b></p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Youth Services work with target age range of 13-19 year olds.  Targeted Services are currently leading on a review of services to 8-13 year olds in partnership with the VCS, the police and schools, particularly those children at risk of various aspects of social exclusion. This is on behalf of the Proud Theme Board and will inform the commissioning of services from NRF Transitional funding.</p>	<p>Simon Perry</p>	<p>March 2009</p>
<p><b>8. That work is undertaken to develop a Youth Work ‘Quality Charter’ to benchmark provision in the voluntary and community sectors. Local groups would be awarded the Charter after being assessed as meeting minimum standards in terms of curriculum, health and safety and safeguarding. The Charter could be advertised in the Directory of Services.</b></p>	<p>Accept in principle.</p>	<p>Children &amp; Young People’s Services and VCS reviewing the resource implications in the context of added value.</p>	<p>George Simpson</p>	<p>September 2009</p>
<p><b>9. That resources are identified to support the further development and maintenance of the Directory of Services.</b></p>	<p>Accept in principle.</p>	<p>Review resource implications with partners including any potential contributions and sources of funding. There is a need for the Local Strategic Partnership, Local Authority, PCT, Voluntary and Community Sector and Children and Young People’s Services to identify the capacity to maintain, update and develop the directory of services.</p>	<p>George Simpson</p>	<p>March 2009</p>

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES SCRUTINY PANEL****Friday, 4th September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor G. A. Russell (in the Chair); Councillors The Mayor (Councillor Ali), Fenoughty, Kaye and Sims.

Also in attendance were:- Mr. C. A. Marvin and Mrs. K. Muscroft Parish Councillor Mrs. P. Wade

Apologies were received from:- Councillors Burton, Donaldson, Hughes, Rushforth, Sharp, Mrs. J. Blanch-Nicholson and Hayne

**36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**37. QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

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

**38. MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE YOUTH CABINET**

There were no issues to report.

**39. COMMUNICATIONS****Review of Youth Service**

The key points reported in respect of the review of youth services so far were:-

- The creation and implementation of 7 locality based Early Intervention Teams – 848 young people had been referred in
- Of those 848 young people, 280 had been referred by SNT's and South Yorkshire Police in relation to anti social behaviour
- There had been a 37% drop in reprimands between 2007/08 and 2008/09
- The Voice and Influence activity was to be co-located
- Progress was being made in relation to the buildings for youth work in Maltby, Bramley and Maltings
- Work was being undertaken to extend provision at weekends and during schools holidays

A further report would be presented to the next scrutiny panel.

**Visit to Chatham House**

It was reported that the recent visit to Chatham House had been successful, and as a result a further visit to STEPS (Support Therapy Education Prevention Service) had been arranged on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 9.30 am. There were 6 places available, and any member

wishing to attend should contact Caroline Webb.

### GCSE Results

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services circulated the GCSE results for the Borough for 2009. There had been a marked improvement on A\* - C results which had been as a result of targeted work throughout the year. A press release had been issued and Members asked that congratulations be sent to all pupils and schools for their success.

#### **40. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT**

The Scrutiny Panel received a presentation from the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services concerning the Comprehensive Area Assessment of the Council and its implications for Children and Young People's Services. The presentation drew specific attention to:-

- The Area Assessment
- CAA Timescales
- Whose Perspective
- Organisational Assessment
- Inspections
- Safeguarding and Looked after Children
- Safeguarding inspections and judgements
- Looked After Children inspections and judgements
- Contact and Referral Unannounced Inspections
- Surveys
- Judgement Options
- Triggers
- Performance Profile
- Performance
- Schools
- Laming – Highlights Impact on CAA

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

- Concerns were raised about the cost involved to both the Authority and the people in the Borough.
- Members asked whether the inspection had shown up any "red flag" areas within Rotherham's performance. It was confirmed that there were no inadequacies currently. However, some National Indicators were calculated separately and their outcomes may impact negatively on overall performance.

Sue Wilson then took members through the latest Ofsted data in respect of Every Child Matters indicators and Inspected Services. Members

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queried how the Authority was meaningfully addressing with partners. This was done via the Corporate Improvement Plan. It was confirmed that a task and finish group had been set up to ensure that all actions within the plan were undertaken. The group involved all partners and members of the panel were drawn from across the Council. Members felt that the Safeguarding Children's Board could do more as safeguarding was a major issue.

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

(2) That the outcomes of the CAA be fed back to this Scrutiny Panel.

**41. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Workforce Strategy, Planning and Development Manager, stating that in line with Department for Children, Schools and Families requirements and guidance from the Children's Workforce Development Council, the Workforce Development Strategy had been produced to represent the strategic aims of the One Children's Workforce in Rotherham and with regard to workforce development over the next three years, 2009 to 2012. A copy of the Workforce Development Strategy, 2009 to 2012, was appended to the report submitted.

The report stated that the key local driver is the Children and Young People's Plan, supported by individual Service plans. The overall direction is determined through Every Child Matters and the Change for Children agenda. In order to deliver against the Council's vision, high impact priorities and core values, the workforce needed to be transformed to ensure the needs of today are met and fitness for the future. The Children and Young People's Plan brings together the Council's shared vision, identity and purpose, through the use of common values and language.

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

- Members asked for feedback in relation to the recent recruitment event which had taken place. It was confirmed that the event had been extremely successful with a lot of positive feedback. Post qualifying training was the main area to be concentrated upon and with effect from September 18 qualified social workers would be enrolled on courses.
- Concerns were raised about the retention of social workers within the borough. Members asked what was being done to stop them from being "head hunted". It was confirmed that social workers who were offered the opportunity to undertake the post qualifying training were being asked to commit to stay for at least 2 years following their training.
- It was suggested that salary rates and size of caseload may be significant factors in social work recruitment and retention.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.



(2) That a further update on recruitment and retention of staff be submitted to the Scrutiny Panel.

**42. PRIMARY SCHOOL LIFESTYLE SURVEY 2008**

Further to Minute No. 23 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by Ruth Bastin, Policy and Planning Team Manager, concerning the Lifestyle Survey, an annual survey, undertaken with both Primary and Secondary school pupils.

The survey questions cover a range of issues, such as health, how pupils feel about school, how safe they feel, how pupils feel about the area in which they live, bullying, and how often they may smoke, drink or take drugs. The submitted report concerned the Primary Survey 2008 and the attached summary (appendix to the report) provided a brief analysis of the results of this survey.

The Borough-wide report, which includes the findings from the 2008 Primary School Lifestyle Survey and the relevant data tables are available on the Council's intranet. A summary version of the report is available on the Council's web site.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the results of the next survey be presented to the Panel.

**43. PERSISTENT ABSENCE IN SCHOOLS**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Leader, Attendance and Parenting, describing the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) designation of 'Persistent Absence', first introduced in 2006/07.

The report stated that, in determining the criteria for designation as "Persistent Absence," the DCSF used data from the previous (2005/06) Autumn and Spring Terms. A Persistent Absentee is any pupil with 20% or more absence and includes all absences whether authorised, unauthorised or medical.

During 2006/07:-

: any secondary school with 10% or more of the school population in the persistent absentee category was designated as a Persistent Absence School; and;

: any local authority with five or more schools in the Persistent Absence category was designated as a Persistent Absence local authority.

During 2007/08, the criteria for designating a Persistent Absence school reduced to 9% of Persistent Absence pupils and in 2008/09 the criteria reduced further to 7%. The Government has a target that all secondary schools shall reduce their persistent absentee pupils to 5% by the year 2010/11.

Persistent Absence was introduced to the primary sector in 2008/09. The criteria for primary schools was any school with above 2.4% (national average) of its cohort as persistent absentee pupils.

A school placed in Persistent Absentee category has to complete an Attendance Self Assessment Form and produce an action plan. Every student designated as a persistent absentee pupil must have an individual action plan. In Rotherham, Self Assessment and Attendance Action Planning support was offered to all schools. Similarly, the Borough Council has to complete an assessment and action plan to address Persistent Absence in its schools.

The report referred to the Children's First review of Children and Young People's Services, which had made two recommendations relating to attendance. These recommendations are:-

(i) the present dislocation between the strategic activities of the Central Attendance Team and the day to day work of locality team based Education Welfare Officers with pupils, schools and families must be resolved by December 2009; and

(ii) the new Attendance Strategy should be used to re-launch and reintroduce the concerted and seamless action on pupil absence so valued by schools in the past. A 'lead professional' approach could be adopted to ensure that the seven locality teams, and their designated Education Welfare Officers in particular, benefit from regular information exchange with the Central Team and participation in relevant development opportunities by December 2009.

The Scrutiny Panel noted that actions were already in place to address both of these recommendations (reference; Children's First Review Action Plan).

Members queried whether newly arrived children affected figures for schools and it was confirmed that this was recognised as an issue across the borough.

One of the main issues affecting the figures was parents taking children out of school in term time for holidays. This was a particular problem during the Autumn term.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That this Scrutiny Panel supports:-

(a) the focus on Persistent Absence from the Central Attendance Team being maintained; and

(b) the implementation of the recommendations from the review of Children and Young People's Services, relating to attendance.

**44. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF NEWLY ARRIVED CHILDREN - ACTION PLAN**

Further to Minute No. 121 of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2009 and to Minute No. C54 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services setting out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review into support for newly arrived children in schools. A copy the full response document was included as an appendix.

The report stated that the level of activity to support newly arrived children was determined by the current amount of funding. Additional funding was identified by schools to finance the recruitment of three Slovakian speaking young people who supported the Welcome Offer and worked with families.

The Scrutiny Review contained some recommendations (numbered 4 and 5) relating to financial resources. Actions to address these recommendations were detailed in the submitted action plan.

Significant numbers of European migrant children were registering for education within Rotherham. The majority of these children and their families did not speak any English. The families exercised a preference for their children to attend one of five secondary schools and the primary schools within these clusters.

The numbers of non-English speaking children arriving in Rotherham were putting pressure on a small, but significant, number of schools. This pressure created risks for both the schools and the children in that:-

- current resources were very stretched, both within central services and schools, to meet the needs of these newly arrived children without compromising the education of the current pupil cohort;
- attendance of the newly arrived children was often poor, particularly in the secondary sector, placing the schools at risk of being designated a "Persistent Absence" school;
- families often moved quite quickly without giving a forwarding address; the children remained on a school's roll for a period of time and were then moved to the "Missing from Education" list until they have been located; this circumstance created both a safeguarding risk for the child and again

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- put schools at risk of being designated a Persistent Absence school;
- the combination of limited English and spasmodic attendance could result in low levels of attainment for these children, which had the potential to impact significantly on the test and examination results of schools.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That an update be provided to the Scrutiny Panel in six months time.

**45. SCRUTINY REVIEW OF ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOLS - ACTION PLAN**

Further to Minute No. 7 of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2009 and to Minute No. C70 of the Cabinet meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services containing the response of the Cabinet to the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review into concerns about road traffic safety outside schools in the Rotherham Borough area. A copy of the full response document was included as an appendix.

The report stated that this scrutiny review had made twelve recommendations, all of which have been supported by the Cabinet, although some are subject to the necessary resources being made available.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That an update be provided to the Scrutiny Panel in six months time.

**46. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 24TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel held on 24th July, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

**47. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN SCRUTINY SUB-PANEL HELD ON 8TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Looked After Children Scrutiny Sub-Panel held on 8th July, 2009 be noted.

**48. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CABINET MEMBER AND ADVISERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES HELD ON 15TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services, held on 15th July, 2009, be noted.

**49. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 14TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Board held on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 be noted.

**50. MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH JULY, 2009 AND 24TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meetings of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee, held on 10th July and on 24th July, 2009, be noted.

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES  
Wednesday, 9th September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor S. Wright (in the Chair); Councillors Currie and Havenhand.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Tweed.

**39. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**40. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON  
14TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Board held on 14th July, 2009, be noted.

**41. SCHOOLS ACCESS FUND POLICY 2009/2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Officer, Student Support, stating that the Learning and Skills Council makes an annual funding allocation to local authorities of Access funds, aimed at providing financial assistance to students aged 16 and over studying in school sixth forms. The local authority must have a written policy for distribution of the Access funds. The amount available for allocation during the 2009/10 academic year is £27,020 (compared to £26,520 in 2008/09).

The report stated that the Access Fund (also called Learner Support Fund) is an additional means of financial support for sixth form students, the purpose of which is to provide support for a specific financial need, normally course- or study-related costs.

During the 2008/09 academic year, the Rotherham Access Fund assisted 142 students at school sixth forms in Rotherham and one student who was attending a school sixth form outside the Borough area.

Attached to the report were (i) the Schools Access Fund Awards Policy Document for the 2009/2010 academic year and (ii) the Equality Impact Assessment document.

Members discussed ways in which the Authority might minimise the costs of administering this Access Fund.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the Schools Access Fund Awards Policy Document for the

2009/2010 academic year, as now submitted, be approved for implementation.

**42. LOCAL AUTHORITY BUSINESS GROWTH INCENTIVES (LABGI) PROPOSAL - ENTERPRISE CHALLENGE FUND**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Development Manager, Children and Young People's Services, stating that an amount of £100,000 had been allocated from LABGI (Local Authority Business Growth Incentives) for a Theme 3 project around Business/School Enterprise and educational activity. The submitted report outlined the joint proposal of Rotherham Ready Young People's Enterprise Project and the Chamber of Commerce to develop further the role of Young Chamber in Rotherham Secondary schools and Further Education (FE) Colleges by developing a sustainable Enterprise Challenge Fund.

It was proposed that the Enterprise Challenge Fund will award an allocation of funds to support enterprise activities identified by the students in each secondary school and FE College in Rotherham. This initiative is modelled on the 'Dragon's Den' concept and each organisation will establish an investment panel whose role it will be, in partnership with a local employer, to determine the feasibility of students proposals.

Rotherham Ready has worked with the Chamber of Commerce to establish a Young Chamber in every school and college in the Borough. The level of development and activity varies, from institution to institution. The Young Chamber is a way of bringing schools/colleges and businesses closer together by giving young people a 'voice' in the development of enterprise and business education in their school or college.

Utilising the LABGI, Theme 3 allocation for Business/School Enterprise and Educational Activity allocation, this proposal seeks to develop further the role of the Young Chamber in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, by developing an Enterprise Challenge Fund.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the proposal for the development of an Enterprise Challenge Fund in Rotherham secondary schools, as described in the report now submitted, be approved.

**43. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES REVIEW - IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN**

Further to Minute No. C50 of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Director of Commissioning, Policy and Performance, containing the updated Action Plan prepared in response to the recommendations of the 2008 Annual

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Performance Assessment of Children and Young People's Services.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the contents of the updated Action Plan be noted.

(3) That the Action Plan be reported to the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services on a monthly basis.

**44. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Further to Minute No. 9 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 3rd June, 2009, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Director of Commissioning, Policy and Performance, concerning the findings of an internal risk assessment undertaken as part of the Comprehensive Area Assessment of Children and Young People's Services.

The report stated that the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) had undertaken an unannounced inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009 and a number of priority actions had been identified.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the report be submitted to the meeting of the Children's Board to be held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2009.

**45. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - QUARTER 1 PROGRESS REPORT 2009/2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Performance Manager which detailed the Children and Young People's Services performance at the end of the first quarter 2009/10 (June 2009). The report provided analysis against targets, direction of travel against previous performance and where possible comparisons with this Council's statistical neighbours and national data.

Members noted that the format of the report had changed to provide more analysis and assessment of comparison and direction of travel, which will be valuable to managers, Directors and Elected Members under the Comprehensive Area Assessment regime.

Members noted the arrangements concerning performance clinics and also that this report would be submitted the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel and to the Children's Board.

Resolved:- That the report be received and its contents noted.



**46. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - REVENUE BUDGET  
PROGRESS REPORT 2009/2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Director of Resources and Access detailing the expenditure, income and the net budget position for the Children and Young People's Service compared to the profiled budgets for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2009 and the projected year end outturn position for 2009/2010. The report stated that, currently, the Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £4,134,000.

Members noted that, since the last budget monitoring report, an unannounced Comprehensive Area Assessment inspection of contact, referral and inspection had taken place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009, the costs from which are included in the overspend detailed in the submitted report.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the current 2009/2010 forecast outturn position for the Children and Young People's Services Directorate, based on actual costs and income to 31st July, 2009 and forecast costs and income to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 be noted.

**47. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - ANNUAL  
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2008 - IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Further to Minute No. 7 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Director of Commissioning, Policy and Performance containing the most recent update of the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) 2008 Improvement Plan for Children and Young People's Services. Members noted that the action plan is monitored on a regular basis.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the contents of the latest updated improvement action plan are noted.

(3) That a progress update against the areas for improvement be reported to the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services every month, in order to track indicative outcomes from inspection activity and the APA recommendations be incorporated into the overall Children and Young People's Services' improvement plan.

**48. ATTENDANCE AT SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD AND YEAR  
END REPORT 2008/2009**

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Interim Safeguarding Children's Board Manager, containing the attendance

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statistics for members of the Safeguarding Children Board for the year 2008 to 2009.

Members noted that attendance statistics were not available for all the Safeguarding Children Board Sub-Groups and this issue would be addressed in the near future. Rotherham continued to develop a proactive and responsive Safeguarding Children Board, requiring a review of the Safeguarding Board Constitution and including a review of all Sub-Groups. The appointment of a new Safeguarding Children Board Chair provided an opportunity to consider the current position, taking stock of the current situation and actions required in light of the recommendations of the Lord Laming Report.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the revised statutory guidance, referred to in the report now submitted, relating to membership of Safeguarding Children Boards, be awaited.

(3) That agency participation in the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board shall continue to be a priority.

(4) That the report be submitted to the Children's Board.

**49. H.M. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE LORD LAMING REPORT**

Further to Minute No. 32 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Interim Safeguarding Children's Board Manager on the implications of the findings of the Lord Laming report about the protection of children from harm. The multi-agency action plan, which was appended to the submitted report, had been given a 'RAG Status' (Red, Amber, Green) based on a further assessment of Rotherham's continuing position.

Resolved:- (1) That the report and action plan be received and their contents noted.

(2) That the Safeguarding Board partners undertake a self assessment of their agency's compliance with the recommendations of the Lord Laming Report.

(3) That reports of progress from the agencies throughout the Rotherham Borough area be submitted to the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services at quarterly intervals.

**50. YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION ACTIVITY, YOUTH RESTORATIVE DISPOSAL AND TRIAGE ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE POLICE**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Director of Targeted

Services, which:-

(i) summarised the actions and progress taken in Rotherham to reduce and prevent children and young people's involvement in crime and disorder; and

(ii) made clear the data recording issues at the Department for Children Schools and Families, which could impact upon an accurate picture of this issue.

The report also described the details of a new option available for young people, the Youth Restorative Disposal [YRD], who become involved in low level criminal offending and the arrangements in place between Targeted Children and Young People's Services and the South Yorkshire Police locally, to ensure that all relevant young people are identified and receive the YRD.

Members noted the impact of this issue upon one of Rotherham's key Local Area Agreement indicators: NI111 'Reducing the Number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System'.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the initiatives delivered and planned to reduce first time entrants to the youth criminal justice system be welcomed.

(3) That the issue of published data be monitored and, if necessary, further consideration be given to the making of formal representations.

(4) That the report be submitted to a future meeting of the Children's Board.

## **51. CARE MATTERS**

Further to Minute No. 127 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 11th February, 2009, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Looked After Children Service Manager, concerning the developments within the Department for Children, Schools and Families' agenda, the results of an initial gap analysis of Rotherham provision in respect of the Care Matters agenda and progress made to improve provision for Rotherham's looked after children.

The report stated that the Care Matters agenda contains a range of required actions for local authorities and timescales for implementation.

The submitted report provided details of progress made after the full review of the Care Matters agenda and the gap analysis of service provision within Rotherham. This agenda has implications for the whole of Children's and Young People's Services Directorate. Service provision is

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considered to be good and many aspects of the proposed legislation are incorporated within existing practice. Where gaps have been identified, action plans have been developed to ensure compliance. Details of the actions being taken were included in the report.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the various actions, as described in the report now submitted, to ensure compliance with the Government's Care Matters agenda, be endorsed.

**52. UPDATED CRITERIA FOR THE STRATEGY FOR THE ALLOCATION OF DCSF QUALITY AND ACCESS CAPITAL GRANT 2009 TO 2011**

Further to Minute No. 34 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Capital Projects Officer (Early Years and Childcare Service) containing the updated criteria for the strategy and distribution of the Department for Children, Schools and Families Quality and Access Capital Grant funding to private, voluntary and independent (PVI) early years and childcare providers. The report stated that the grant is time limited and all purchases must be made by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2011.

The Quality and Access Capital Grant is provided to local authorities to improve the quality of the environment in private, voluntary and independent (PVI) early years and childcare settings, both to support higher quality experiences for young children and to ensure that all children can access services and benefit fully from them.

Resolved:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That Sheree Henschley (Capital Projects Officer) be thanked for her services to this Council and wished every success in her new appointment with another local authority.

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

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended (information relating to financial or business affairs).

**54. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES BUSINESS CASE FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT IN SOCIAL CARE**

Consideration of this item was deferred.

**CHILDREN'S BOARD  
16TH SEPTEMBER, 2009**

Present:- Councillor S. Wright (in the Chair); Ann Lawrence, Joyce Thacker, Richard Tweed, Sarah Whittle and Janet Wheatley.

Martin Kimber and Alan Hazell attended as Observers.

An apology for absence was submitted from Andy Buck.

**19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 14TH JULY, 2009**

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Children's Board, held on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, were approved as a correct record.

**20. MATTERS ARISING**

An update was given on various matters arising.

**21. CURRENT ISSUES/CONCERNS**

An update was provided on Swine Flu and various activities.

**22. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDICATOR REPORT - 2009/10 QUARTER 1**

Consideration was given to a report and accompanying appendices by Deborah Johnson which outlined performance at the end of the first quarter 2009/10 (June 2009). The report provided analysis against targets, direction of travel against previous performance and, where possible, comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

The format of the report has changed to provide more analysis and assessment of comparison and direction of travel, which will be valuable to managers, Directors and Members under the Comprehensive Area Assessment regime.

As presented at outturn 2008/09, the format performance reports have been developed to reflect these new CAA arrangements and it is proposed that future quarterly reports will continue to develop alongside the publication and contents of the Ofsted quarterly Performance Profile.

Attention was drawn to 'Appendix A - Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome' which provides details of performance by each Every Child Matters theme including:-

- Performance against targets (Comparing outturn performance against set targets)
- Direction of travel analysis (Comparing 2008/09 performance to 2007/08)
- Year to Date Performance (Judged by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus)

- Areas of Success
- Areas of Under-performance
- Recommendations for performance clinics

Full details of performance and commentary at indicator level is provided in the table within Appendix B which is referenced throughout the Performance Assessment (Appendix A).

A category of risk is applied to each quarterly reported Performance Indicator using the PI managers' projection of year-end performance and takes into account any known internal or external influences with comparison against targets.

Agreed:- (1) That the Performance Report and accompanying Assessment and table (Appendix A & B) be received and performance noted.

(2) That the recommendations regarding performance clinics (within Appendix A) be approved.

### **23. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES REVIEW IMPROVEMENT ACTION PLAN**

Consideration was given to a report presented by Joyce Thacker on the Children and Young People's Services Review Improvement Action Plan.

Following the outcomes of the Children First review of CYPS an action plan was developed to implement improvements against the recommendations in the report. The action plan and covering report was submitted to Cabinet on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

Whilst the original action plan addressed many of the recommendations, it is being regularly updated to reflect progress against the target dates and milestones. The Improvement Action Plan reflects the position as at 18<sup>th</sup> August 2009.

In 2008, the Audit Commission conducted a review of Rotherham CYPS Integration, using key lines of enquiry they had formulated for a Nationwide study earlier in 2008. The recommendations and actions arising from this have been incorporated into the Improvement Action Plan, as there was a significant degree of overlap.

Furthermore, following the unannounced Inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment in CYPS, that took place on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August 2009, a number of recommendations were made. Given the relationship between these and the recommendations referred to in the aforementioned reports, these have also been incorporated.

It is possible to track the origins and progress through a prefix code, which is detailed in the Improvement Action Plan.

There are a number of risks associated with the Improvement Action Plan. Where these are significant, they will be incorporated into the CYPS risk register. Mitigating actions include developing and monitoring a Programme Plan which includes a series of Projects associated with the change

management process. The actions identified in the improvement plan will be incorporated into the relevant project.

An update was also given on the following:-

- The unannounced Ofsted Inspection (Contact, Referral and Assessment Inspection (CAA) (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2009)
- The establishment of a Corporate Improvement Panel to provide a Council-wide input into CYPS matters
- Appointments to CYPS Senior Management posts
- An Interim Safeguarding Director, a Safeguarding Manager and a Chairman of the Safeguarding Children's Board

A range of questions were asked on the Plan and its implementation and evaluation, including the number and grades of Social Worker posts, that were answered by Joyce.

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

(2) That the progress being made in the Improvement Action Plan be noted.

(3) That regular updates be submitted to the Board.

#### **24. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2008 IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Consideration was given to the most recent update report presented by Joyce Thacker concerning the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) 2008 Improvement Plan.

The action plan is monitored on a regular basis and the latest update is contained in the appendix to the report.

In January 2009 the results of the 2008 Annual Performance Assessment were formally reported to Members. This is the latest update of the improvement plan.

The risks associated with delivery are managed through the Council's risk management system. Specifically they are increased pressures due to rising numbers of looked after children, and continued emphasis on local government to deliver more with diminishing resources.

Agreed:- (1) That the action plan, as submitted, be noted.

(2) That a progress update against the areas for improvement be made in three months in order to track indicative outcomes from inspection activity.

(3) That the APA 2008 Improvement Plan be merged with the overall CYPS Review Improvement Action Plan.

#### **25. ATTENDANCE AT SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD YEAR END REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report presented by Joyce Thacker which outlined attendance issues at the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board.

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board (RSCB) was established by Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council in accordance with the provisions of The Children Act, 2004. RSCB was set up to work closely with statutory and voluntary agencies to:-

- (a) Co-ordinate the work undertaken individually or by agencies on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the borough of Rotherham; and;
- (b) Ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each person or body for that purpose.

These objectives can only be met if agencies in Rotherham both attend and actively contribute to RSCB business. Regular attendance, by members of sufficient seniority, at Board meetings is therefore essential to good governance.

The Interim Safeguarding Children Board Manager has provided attendance statistics for the year 2008 to 2009. However, attendance statistics are not available for all the Safeguarding Children Board Sub-Groups. This issue needs to be addressed. Rotherham continues to develop a proactive and responsive Safeguarding Children Board; this requires a review of the Safeguarding Board Constitution including a review of all Sub-Groups. The appointment of a new Safeguarding Children Board Chair will provide an opportunity to consider the current position, taking stock of where we are and where we need to be in light of Laming Recommendations to LSCB's.

Lord Laming set out 58 recommendations for reform all of which the Government has accepted (2009). These include:-

- Strengthening independence and quality of serious case reviews - The proposed national Safeguarding Unit will monitor implementation to ensure that lessons are learned and that public executive summaries are full and comprehensive. This has a cost and capacity issue for LSCB.
- Legislation to ensure that every LA has a statutory Children Trust Board to improve the outcomes for children and young people.
- Strengthening Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) role to make it the local watchdog for protection of children and hold Children Trust and local agencies to account. This requires a review of the RSCB Constitution and agreement from member agencies as to the way forward for safeguarding children and young people in Rotherham.
- Revised statutory guidance will set out:-
  - A presumption that all LSCBs will have an Independent Chair.
  - Directors of Children Services and Lead Member to be members of the Children Trust Board and the LSCB.
  - The Chief Executive and Council Leader will be required to confirm annually that local arrangements comply with the law.



- 2 members of the general public to be appointed to every LSCB in the country.

These recommendations have a cost and capacity issue for LSCB.

Members are asked to consider the capacity and cost implications and agree the proposed way forward and review progress regularly.

Safeguarding Children Boards need to engage with agencies to develop their expertise and increase their understanding of Government expectation of them with regard to safeguarding and promoting the health and welfare of children. Capacity in a small team is an issue, in particular, administrative time to ensure that agendas, minutes and attendance are recorded effectively and efficiently. Limited administrative services can act as a barrier to effective working relationships and ultimately how the Board is functioning.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be endorsed.

(2) That the Children's Board continue to support RSCB in ensuring that agency participation is seen as a priority.

(3) That the recommendations from Laming 2009, with reference to Safeguarding Children Boards, be implemented.

## **26. GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO LORD LAMING REPORT**

Consideration was given to a report presented by Joyce Thacker regarding the Government's Response to Lord Laming report.

On 12th March, 2009, Lord Laming's report, 'The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report', was published. The Government published an immediate response in which it accepted all of Lord Laming's recommendations.

Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council's Children and Young People's Services has completed an initial assessment of the borough's position with regard to the recommendations and a report outlining the findings was presented to Rotherham Borough Council members on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2009. Lead members requested regular updates to track progress across the borough.

The attached Action Plan has been given a 'RAG Status' (Red, Amber, Green) based on a further assessment of Rotherham's ongoing position.

The Safeguarding Children Board needs to assess each agency's current provision and quality of services against the Action Plan. The risks associated with the action plan are significant as failure to address the issues identified as requiring action are likely to render agency practice unsafe.

The Safeguarding Children Board Manager will co-ordinate and review progress against each of the actions identified within the Action Plan and report this to LSCB.

Agreed:- (1) That the plan be endorsed.

(2) That the Safeguarding Board Partners undertake a self assessment of their agency's compliance with Laming's recommendations.

(3) That the Children's Board receives progress updates from across agencies in the borough.

## **27. CARE MATTERS**

Consideration was given to a report submitted by Sue May regarding Care Matters.

A briefing on the Care Matters agenda was presented to Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's services in June 2008 and subsequent reports to Cabinet Member and the Children's Board have provided updates on developments within the DCSF agenda, the results of an initial gap analysis of Rotherham provision in respect of the Care Matters agenda and progress made to improve provision for the children of Rotherham.

The Care Matters agenda contains a range of required actions for Local Authorities, together with timescales for implementation.

The report provides a progress report following the full review of the Care Matters agenda and gap analysis of service provision within Rotherham. This agenda has implications for Directorates across Children and Young People's Services. On the whole, service provision is good and many aspects of the proposed legislation are incorporated within existing practice. Where gaps have been identified, action plans have been developed to ensure compliance.

The new integrated inspections of Looked after Children's services and National Occupational standards for Foster Carers and Residential staff will require close scrutiny as these will set the benchmark for judgements on service provision in Rotherham.

Some funding is available from the Government to implement this agenda, however, early indications are that this will not be sufficient.

Agreed:- That the contents of the report be noted, and the proposals contained within the report be endorsed.

## **28. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

Consideration was given to a joint report by Warren Carratt and Julie Westwood on the Children and Young People's Services Workforce Development Strategy.

In line with DCSF requirements and guidance from the Children's Workforce Development Council, this Workforce Development Strategy represented the strategic aims of the One Children's Workforce in Rotherham in regards to workforce development over the next three years, 2009 - 2012. The Strategy was attached at Appendix A.

This Organisational Development and Workforce Planning Strategy, together with its supporting action plan, form part of the delivery vehicle which Rotherham is using to realise their vision and improve outcomes for children and young people in Rotherham.

The key local driver is the Children and Young People's Plan and this is supported by individual service plans. The overall direction is determined through Every Child Matters, Change for Children. In order to deliver against the vision, high impact priorities and core values, there is a need to transform the workforce to ensure the needs of today are met, and that the workforce is fit for the future.

The Children and Young People's Plan pulls together this shared vision, identity and purpose, through the use of common values and language.

There is a need to focus activity under three broad headings; organisational development, workforce planning and workforce development. This strategy deals with the first two issues, and the detailed action plan contains the workforce development activity to support the delivery of the strategy. This strategy will also reflect how Rotherham will meet the requirements of the CWDC's One Children's Workforce Framework, as well as integrating the wider Corporate Strategies of RMBC and partners.

The risks associated with the workforce strategy are those which threaten its implementation. Financial resources are increasingly grant related rather than mainstream funding, in order to fulfil specific purpose. As there is now a great deal of this funding in Area Based Grants there is a risk of this being utilised for other things. This puts the whole strategy at risk but also has policy and performance implications which are detailed in the report.

Agreed:- That the Workforce Development Strategy, as submitted, be approved.

## **29. COMPREHENSIVE AREA ASSESSMENT FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES - QUARTERLY UPDATE**

Further to previous reports on the CYPS Comprehensive Area Assessment, consideration was given to an update report by Julie Westwood which provided details of the findings from an internal risk assessment and an update on Ofsted activity.

The first Quarterly Performance Profile was produced by Ofsted at the end of May 2009 and was circulated for Members' attention. Whilst the profile is updated throughout the year, the second Quarterly Profile is not due until the end of September 2009. It is this 2<sup>nd</sup> Profile that feeds into the CAA Scores which are due in November 2009.

Following receipt of the first profile, CYPS undertook a risk assessment of the service using:

- Inspection results
- Performance against National Indicators
- Performance related to Serious Case Reviews

- Ofsted criteria related to judgement limiters

A summary of the risk assessment was set out in the report, and the conclusion was that the service judgement of "Adequate" was accurate based upon Ofsted criteria and there was no increased risk from the profile. However, this was notwithstanding the risk from an unannounced inspection, a short notice inspection or a potential for decline in service performance against National Indicators.

Risks are mitigated as far as possible, but they have increased significantly as part of this new regime for inspection. Short notice and unannounced inspections can cause major disruption.

The issues that are raised in the report pose significant budget pressures, details of which are set out in separate reports.

Agreed:- That the report be received.

**30. SMOKING IN PREGNANCY STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION GROUP 17TH JULY, 2009/SMOKING IN PREGNANCY JOINT STAKEHOLDER ACTION PLAN (MINUTES/REPORT HEREWITH)**

Consideration was given to the minutes of a meeting of the Smoking in Pregnancy Strategy and Implementation Group held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009, chaired by John Radford, NHS, Rotherham.

The meeting had discussed:-

- Local Incentive Scheme to help pregnant women stop smoking
- Smoking in Pregnancy Health Equity Audit
- Evaluation of Pregnancy Incentive Scheme
- Smoking in Pregnancy Prevalence 2008/09
- Emerging Themes for National Tobacco Control Strategy
- Review of Joint Stakeholder Action Grid
- Feedback of role play sessions with midwives on use of DH toolkit and information re. the Pregnancy Campaign

The Action Plan explained the context and background to the initiative, current work being undertaken, future work required and a number of actions to address smoking in pregnancy.

Agreed:- (1) That the minutes of the meeting of the Smoking in Pregnancy Strategy and Implementation Group held on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 be received and noted.

(2) That the contents of the Smoking in Pregnancy Joint Stakeholder Action Plan 2008-2010 be received and noted.

**31. INTEGRATED SERVICES DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Joyce Thacker gave an update, for information. Further discussion to be held with the Chair of the Board.

**32. MINUTES OF THE SAFEGUARDING BOARD HELD ON 31ST JULY, 2009**

Key issues and concerns from the minutes of a meeting of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board held on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2009 were discussed.

**33. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Reference was made to the "Time Out" held in July and to the next steps.

Agreed:- That a report be submitted to the next Board meeting for consideration.

**34. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Agreed:- That the next meeting be held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 at 5.00 p.m.

**PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE**  
**Friday, 11th September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor McNeely (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Barron, Boyes, Gilding, Jack, License, G. A. Russell, P. A. Russell and Swift.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J. Hamilton and Whelbourn.

**46.           DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting.

**47.           QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS**

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

**48.           LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE AND REWARD GRANT**

Matt Gladstone, Assistant Chief Executive, presented the submitted report which provided information on performance against the 2006-09 Local Area Agreement (LAA) and the first year of the 2008-11 LAA. It also highlighted that Rotherham would receive in the region of £6.9 million performance reward grant relating to the 2006-09 LAA and outlined a commissioning process for the use of the reward grant.

Attached as Appendices were:-

- (a) Detailed analysis of performance against stretch targets contained within the 2006-09 LAA.
- (b) Detailed analysis of performance against the 2008-11 LAA.

Regarding the reward for achieving targets, the current position was that £6.9 million could be claimed which equated to 89% of the total. This would be paid in two equal instalments in 2009/10 and 2010/11. The grant was 50% revenue and 50% capital.

The current agreement was that this grant would be placed in a joint improvement fund for the Rotherham Partnership to allocate to partners.

Initial discussions with partners were generally supportive of taking a commissioning approach to the reward grant. A commissioning approach had previously been taken to the allocation of funds through Rotherham Partnership. An evaluation of the NRF TF commissioning process revealed some lessons for the design of future commissioning processes. These lessons had been built into the proposals to manage the LAA reward grant.

The report also set out in detail further information relating to:-

- Commissioning process.

- Stage 1: Needs Assessment.
- Stage 2: Commissioning Strategy.
- Stage 3: Purchasing.
- Stage 4: Sign Off.
- Stage 5: Monitoring.
- Other Issues.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy 2008-11 identified the Local Area Agreement reward grant as a potential funding stream that could be used to support the work of the Council. Accordingly, the commissioning process outlined in the paper allowed the Council and partners the ability to secure funding for activities relating to priorities that were currently vulnerable.

The final amount of performance reward grant would not be known until December, 2009 as this was when the Healthy Schools target finished.

There was a risk that the interventions commissioned through the reward grant did not result in the desired outcomes. Running a tightly focused process, with rigorous performance management and evaluation of impact should help to manage this risk.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- New start up businesses and measurement of
- VAT registration
- NI 120(a) and (b) all age all cause mortality rate males and females respectively
- Older people helped to live at home
- Reward grant time lines
- NI 056 obesity in primary school age children in Year 6
- NI 168 principal roads where maintenance should be considered
- Public health agenda and strategy
- Public health role in respect of departure of Steve Turnbull and need for a replacement

Resolved:- (1) That performance relating to the 2006-09 and 2008-11 LAA's be noted.

(2) That the process for commissioning activities/initiatives using LAA Reward Grant be noted.

#### 49. QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT 2009/10

Matt Gladstone, Assistant Chief Executive, presented the submitted report relating to the above which focused on the new national indicator set and key local indicators.

The report addressed the main areas of performance across the Council and examined issues relating to the Corporate Plan and Comprehensive Area Assessment.

The position at the end of Quarter 1 was that 74% of the Corporate Plan indicators that could be rated hit their target and 63% had improved or maintained their best score.

The performance against LAA 2008-11 as at Quarter 1 was that 71% of them were on target and 81% had improved.

The report covered:-

- LAA performance 2008-11
- Corporate Plan performance
- Direction of Travel(DoT)
- Performance Clinics
- Data Quality
- Human Resources
- Awards
- National Indicator Benchmarking
- Performance reporting timetable
- Inspections: planned and unannounced

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- Children's Services unannounced inspection
- Lead officer for disability issues
- Member involvement in performance clinics

Resolved:- That, as far as this Committee is concerned:-

1. the overall position and direction of travel in relation to both overall performance and to the requirements of the Audit Commission's CAA framework be noted.
2. a refresh of the Corporate Plan performance indicators and their targets be completed in line with the changes to the national performance indicator set and the refreshed LAA.
3. Performance clinics, as now reported, be conducted in Quarter 2.
4. a further report be submitted covering the updated ownership of national indicators and three year target setting where this does not exist currently.
  - (a) The proposed performance reporting dates be noted.



**CONSULTATION**

Steve Eling, Principal Policy Officer (Parliamentary Analysis), presented the submitted report indicating that, following the publication of the Government's policy paper "Building Britain's Future" and the draft legislative programme, the Government was now consulting on proposals to strengthen local democracy. The consultation was broad ranging, resulting in twenty six questions for response. The democratic accountability of local government was a common thread throughout the paper, with the future role of scrutiny being a key feature.

The report provided an overview of the consultation paper. The questions raised and proposed responses were appended to the report. The deadline for responses was 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009.

Areas covered included:-

- Local government at the centre of decision making
- Strong local government operating in the local interest
- Local authorities tackling climate change
- Sub-regional working
- Clear relationships with local government
- Scrutiny development

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- scrutiny arrangements
- allocation of resources to scrutiny in local authorities
- concern that powers limited to call to account but not to require action
- concerns regarding power going back to Central Government in reality
- need for a process whereby when inspectors in, key lines of enquiry include recommendations from scrutiny panels previously and how the executive dealt with such

Resolved:- (1) That the information be noted.

(2) That the response should include reference to what inspectors look at ,for example scrutiny panel recommendations.

(3) That it be noted that the final response from the Council would be approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2009.

**51. SCRUTINY REVIEW - VOIDS TURNAROUND TIMES**

Councillor McNeely presented a report which set out the findings and recommendations of the scrutiny review into void turnaround times. The report was endorsed by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel at

its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.

Highlighted were the background to and rationale for the review, membership, scope, terms of reference, summary of findings and key recommendations.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued and the following issues were covered:-

- definition of a 'void'
- very long standing voids not hitting the system until let
- more effort needed to get tenants prior to property becoming empty (notice of leaving tenant is sometimes received)
- consider implementing let with a promise of jobs to be done over coming months
- inspections prior to re-let
- decorating allowance
- need for elected members to monitor situation in their areas
- need to be more proactive
- need for differentiated approach (not all client base vulnerable)
- initiatives to promote let pending work to be done e.g. different category of rent

Resolved:- (1) That the review, together with the findings and recommendations, be supported.

(2) That the review and its recommendations be forwarded to Cabinet for consideration for response within two months.

(3) That consideration be given to a new category of rent in circumstances where a property is let pending works to be done.

## **52. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 24TH JULY, 2009**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

## **53. WORK IN PROGRESS**

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

- (a) Councillor G. A. Russell reported that the latest meeting of the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel had considered:-
- a presentation on Comprehensive Area Assessment
  - Workforce Development Strategy
  - Primary School Lifestyle Survey 2008
  - persistent absence from schools
  - Scrutiny Review of Newly Arrive Children: Action Plan

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- Scrutiny Review of Road Safety Outside Schools: Action Plan
- (b) Councillor Boyes reported that the latest meeting of the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel had considered the Scrutiny Review of Road Safety Outside Schools. Regeneration and Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panels would be kept informed of progress.
- (c) Councillor Jack reported that the latest meeting of the Adult Services and Health Scrutiny Panel had considered:
  - Presentation from the Rotherham Hospital Foundation Trust entitled Right Patient, Right Place, Right Time which included the discharge policy
  - Presentation on the Swine Flu Pandemic

Resolved:- That the presentation on the discharge policy be made available to all members of the Council.

**54. CALL-IN ISSUES**

There were no formal call in requests.