

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL

Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham.

Date: Thursday, 29 October 2009

Time: 3.30 p.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 and Communications.
4. Declarations of Interest.
5. Questions from members of the public and the press.

For Decision:-

6. Chief Executive Revenue Outturn Report 2008/09, 2009/10 Budget (report herewith) (Approx. 3.35 p.m.) (Pages 1 - 4)

For Monitoring:-

7. Update on the Impact of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (report herewith) (Presentation by PC Perry Mangles, Rotherham Anti-Social Behaviour Unit) (Approx. 3.55 p.m.) (Pages 5 - 7)
8. Neighbourhood Renewal Transitional Funding Update (report herewith) (Approx. 4.15 p.m.) (Pages 8 - 16)
9. Community Leadership Fund (report herewith) (Approx. 4.35 p.m.) (Pages 17 - 32)
10. Effective Participatory Budgeting (report herewith) (Approx.4.50 p.m.) (Pages 33 - 39)

11. CONTEST 2 and Prevent Strategy Progress (report herewith) (Approx. 5.10 p.m.) (Pages 40 - 50)

Minutes - For Information:-

12. Minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel held on 17th September, 2009 (herewith) (Pages 51 - 56)
13. Minutes of a meetings of the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement held on 14th September and 12th October, 2009 (herewith) (Pages 57 - 63)
14. Minutes of the meeting of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 9th October, 2009 (herewith) (Pages 64 - 71)
15. Minutes of a meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 17th September, 2009 (herewith) (Pages 72 - 75)

**Date of Next Meeting:-
Thursday, 10 December 2009**

Membership:-

Chairman – Councillor Austen
Vice-Chairman – Councillor J. Hamilton
Councillors:- Currie, Cutts, Dodson, Johnston, Littleboy, Mannion, Nightingale,
Parker, Pickering, Sims and Tweed

Co-opted Members

Joanna Jones (GROW)
Taiba Yasseen (REMA)
Councillor A. Buckley (Parish Council Representative)
Councillor E. Shaw (Parish Council Representative)

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	Thursday 29th October, 2009
3.	Title:	Chief Executive Revenue Outturn Report 2008/09, 2009/10 Budget
4.	Directorate:	Chief Executives

5. Summary

To provide information to members in respect of the 2008/09 outturn position plus the latest monitoring against the 2009/10 revenue budget as part of the first stage of the budget setting process for 2010/11.

6. Recommendations

The Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel are asked to:

Note the outturn position as at 31st March 2009 and the Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for the period 1st April 2009 to 31st August 2009.

7. Proposals and Details

As part of the Council's budget setting process Members have requested information on the financial performance of the Chief Executives Directorate for both the previous and current financial year.

8. Finance

2008/09 Revenue Outturn Position

8.1 The Revenue Outturn position for the Chief Executives Directorate for 2008/09 is

Head of Account	Budget	Outturn	Surplus (-) /Deficit (+)	% Variation to Budget
	£	£	£	%
Chief Executive	5,354,975	5,322,400	-32,575	-0.61
Human Resources	1,185,023	1,189,332	4,309	0.36
Legal and Democratic Services	2,426,907	2,426,439	-468	-0.02
Total for Chief Executive	8,966,905	8,938,171	-28,734	-0.32

The main variations can be summarised as follows:

Chief Executive's Office (£36k underspend)

Due to a savings on salaries of £31k; a £4k saving on pensions and additional income of £7k for the Capacity Building Programme.

Communications, Policy & Performance (£15k overspend)

The key reasons for variances were:

- Rotherham Partnerships underspend of £28k was due to additional unbudgeted income from NHS Rotherham
- Policy & External Affairs also underspent by £16k due to not backfilling staff secondments.
- The production of the final edition of Rotherham Matters led to the overspend of £23k by the Communication Team, because of a shortfall in advertising revenue
- The Community Engagement Team overspend of £17k was due to a non achievement of vacancy management target (£12k) and a shortfall on income (£5k) .
- An overspend on Rotherham News of £17k was due to a shortfall in anticipated advertising income.

Scrutiny & Member Services (£588 underspend)

The key areas were:

- An underspend of £20k in the Scrutiny budget due to not backfilling a staff secondment.
- Light Transport budget overspend of £19k, due to overtime payments to drivers

Members Training & Development (£9k underspend)

This underspend is due to non recurrent contributions from the South Yorkshire Forum.

Human Resources (£4k overspend)

The key reasons for the variance are:

- An overspend of £57k on the Recruitment Management System, due to a reduction in the number of job adverts being placed.
- Special Projects (£9k) and Directions (£12k) both revised their expenditure programmes in order to contribute £21k savings to the service area.
- The Trade Union Secondment budget underspend of £7k.
- Staff savings and savings on Millside running costs, contributed £25k

Legal and Democratic Services (£468 underspend)

The key variances are:

- An overspend of £41k on Locum cover
- IT charges overspent by £25k.
- Savings on Committee Services (£32k) relating mainly to vacancies
- Elections (£6k) due to not upgrading the computer system
- Management Team (£22k), £7k of which was due to staff savings and £9k was additional income from court costs.

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2009/10

8.2 The table below shows the summary forecast net revenue budget outturn position (as at 31st August 2009) for Chief Executives.

Head Of Account	August 2009			Forecast 2009/10		
	Profiled Budget £'000	Actual Spend To date £'000	Variance Over(+) /Under(-) £'000	Annual Budget £'000	Projected Outturn £'000	Variance Over(+) /Under(-) £'000
Chief Executive	2,545	2,561	16	5,753	5,753	0
Human Resources	461	447	-14	1,111	1,111	0
Legal and Democratic Services	860	860	0	2,059	2,059	0
TOTAL	3,866	3,868	2	8,923	8,923	0

There are several areas to highlight:-

- There are several vacancies and staff secondments across the Directorate which are offsetting other minor overspends and is therefore helping it achieve a break-even position.
- The Rotherham newspaper is partially funded by contributions from the Human Resources Recruitment Management System package. But, due to the current economic climate the number of advertisements being placed has reduced, leading to a probable year end pressure. This is being quantified and will be included in the next Budget Monitoring Report.
- Transport fleet – the drivers currently undertake non contractual, unbudgeted overtime. Working schedules are under review which should enable this budget to breakeven at year end.

Potential Issues Impacting on 2010/11 Budget Setting

The Council currently has an estimated funding gap of £11.5m to set a balanced budget for 2010/11. Within the Directorate a number of potential savings have been identified within the service areas with work currently underway to identify additional savings to contribute to closing this funding gap. These will be brought forward for Member consideration during the budget process.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Failure to identify sufficient savings to address the shortfall identified in the MTFS will impact on the Council's ability to set a balanced Budget for 2010/11.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The CPA Resources Action Plan sets out the requirements to improve the financial monitoring and reporting to members and to maintain and improve budget monitoring and control.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2008-2011
- Chief Executives Revenue Outturn report 2008/09
- Chief Executives Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2009/10

This report has been discussed and agreed with the Assistant Chief Executives and the Strategic Director of Finance.

Contact Name : Joe Johnson, Principal Accountant (Chief Executive and Financial Services), Extension 2074, joe.johnson@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL
2.	Date:	29th October, 2009
3.	Title:	Update on the Impact of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
4.	Directorate:	Neighbourhoods & Adult Services

5. Summary

The Crime & Disorder/ Safer Rotherham Partnership portfolio now sits within the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel.

The Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel Work Programme requested an update on the effectiveness of Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) served in Rotherham at their meeting on 16th July 2009.

An identified challenge for the future performance of the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit is the increasing cost of applying for ASBO's through the Magistrates' Court.

This paper is to inform members of the current performance in obtaining ASBOs, their impact in reducing anti-social behaviour, what the current issues are and examples of success stories.

6. Recommendations

(1) That Members note the information presented in this report.

7. **Proposals and Details**

Since the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU) was formed in 2003, as a joint Rotherham Council and South Yorkshire Police Unit, it has obtained a total of 89 ASBO's, 42 of which relate to young people under 18-years-old.

On average, the ASBU obtains 16 ASBO's per year of which seven will relate to young people. All ASBO's run for a minimum of two years, however, the longest running ASBO in Rotherham has been for five years. The oldest person to receive an ASBO was 63-years-old and the youngest was 12-years-old. Rotherham currently has 31 ASBO's which are valid, 12 of which are young people.

A detailed presentation will be undertaken at the panel meeting to be supported by handouts. This will cover:

- Current number of ASBO's currently active in Rotherham;
- Processes and projects in place to work with young people currently subject to an ASBO;
- How we monitor the impact of an ASBO on young people and across the Borough;
- Examples of Good Practice and success stories within the Borough;
- Evolution of the ASBO process and the increasing cost implications.

8. **Finance**

The Magistrates' Courts Fees (Amendment) Order 2009 increases the cost of obtaining an ASBO to the authority by £700.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties**

The added cost implications of obtaining an ASBO may mean they are less likely to be sought.

Failure to effectively tackle ASB is likely to have a detrimental effect on the reputation of the Council and that of our partners. It is essential that delivery matches expectation of our communities. Without this improvement across the partnership, the local perceptions indicators within the LAA (NI17) and wider CAA framework would continue to be an area of risk.

10. **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The refreshed Community Strategy recognises that *"Maintaining the current overall low crime rate in Rotherham, as well as continuing to reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime remains a top concern for people"* is a strategic issue for Rotherham. In delivering the strategic priorities, the Local Area Agreement has embedded crime reduction targets for serious acquisitive and assault with injury crimes and also given emphasis to NI17 in reducing the perception of anti-social behaviour.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Performance Management framework will contribute to delivery of targets set out in the Neighbourhoods and Adult Services Priority Action Plan and contribute to the outcomes expected to be achieved by the SRP's "Reducing Fear of Crime & ASB Priority Group".

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Magistrates' Courts Fees (Amendment) Order 2009

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003

Contact: PC *Perry Mangles*, Anti Social Behaviour Unit, direct line: (01709) 743121
e-mail: perry.mangles@rotherham.gov.uk

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel (DRSP)
2.	Date:	29th October 2009
3.	Title:	Neighbourhood Renewal Transitional Funding Update
4.	Programme Area:	Chief Executives Office

5. Summary

As requested by the DRSP, this report provides a detailed update of the Neighbourhood Renewal Transitional Funding (NRF T/F) Programme 2008-11 including the current projects with and without approval, within each Theme. It also gives details regarding the project exit strategies and explains the position on this nature of funding both currently and for the future.

6. Recommendations

That the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel notes the report and presentation for information and to inform future discussions.

7. Proposals and Details

Background

The NRF Transitional Funding Commissioning Plan was written to assist with the distribution of the Funds. This plan outlines a commissioning process drawn from the framework and has been guided specifically by the checklist contained within it. It also draws on learning from previous commissioning processes; NRF 2006-08 and Children’s Fund. It has also taken into account the findings from the evaluation and scrutiny review of the NRF Programme 2006-08. Finally it has been developed in consultation with the relevant funding bodies, in this case Yorkshire Forward and GOYH.

This approach has created the following:

- A streamlined light touch process
- Transparency regarding how the funds are allocated and how providers are identified.
- Development of projects which continue the impetus created by the NRF programmes and reduce the requirement for continued funding.
- Identification of delivery that is the most efficient and manageable within the tight timeframe that was available.
- Evaluation of impact was built into the process from the outset.

The Programme Themes

The strategy for commissioning activity was based on partners identification of 6 themes, drawn directly from the Community Strategy and LAA. In addition each of the 6 themes helps to deliver elements of specific strategies or plans within the Rotherham Partnership structure. These have been developed into discrete programmes of activity to operate flexibly over the three year period. A summary of these can be found below.

Theme 1: Employment, Enterprise and Financial Inclusion	
<p>Community Strategy Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote innovation, enterprising behaviour, competitiveness and sustainability • Promote business start ups, growth and inward investment • Maximise employment opportunities for all by supporting disadvantaged people into work 	<p>LAA Indicators:</p> <p>Existing LAA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new start business located in RMBC owned business centres or registered with Business Link South Yorkshire • Number of IB claimants into work for at least 16 hours per week for 13 consecutive weeks as measured by Rotherham Phoenix

		Centre	
		New LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall employment rate • Working age people on out of work benefits • VAT registration rate 	
Proposed 3 year allocation: £1.4m (TF) £8m ERDF (subject to YF bidding process)	Lead Theme Board: Achieving	Supporting Theme Board: Learning Work and Skills Board	Key Strategies or Plans: Working Neighbourhoods Plan Economic Masterplan ERDF Priority 3 Prospectus
Theme 2: VCS Development			
Community Strategy Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the means for citizens, the VCS and business to influence decision making (Proud) • Support a thriving, sustainable and diverse Voluntary and Community sector (Proud) 		LAA Indicators: New LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality • Environment for a thriving third sector 	
Proposed 3 year allocation: £0.46m (TF)	Lead Theme Board: Proud	Supporting Theme Board:	Key Strategies or Plans: Voluntary Sector Strategy
Theme 3: Area Based Budgets			
Community Strategy Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the local environmental quality of our neighbourhoods (Safe) • Provide the means for citizens, the voluntary and community sector and businesses to influence decision making (Proud) • Build and support responsive and cohesive communities through neighbourhood management arrangements (Safe) 		LAA Indicators: Existing LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of residents reporting via survey that various forms of anti-social behaviour are either a 'very big' or 'fairly big' problem • Number of incidents of fly-tipping as recorded on Flycapture database • Number of incidents of graffiti as reported to RBT's CRM database New LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of principal roads 	

		<p>where maintenance should be considered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality • Perceptions of anti social behaviour 																	
<p>Proposed 3 year allocation: £0.10m (TF) development fund £0.36m (TF) Area Assemblies</p>	<p>Lead Theme Board: Safe</p>	<p>Supporting Theme Board: Proud</p>	<p>Key Strategies or Plans: Closing the Gap Area Based Plans</p>																
<p>Area Assembly Devolved Budget Amounts:- The Area Based Activity Budget is spread across the 7 Area Assemblies with the monies allocated to each Area Partnership dependant on the number of residents and the length of highway in each of the areas.</p> <p>The following amounts are awarded each year over the three year programme:-</p> <table> <tr> <td>Rother Valley South</td> <td>£20,025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rother Valley West</td> <td>£17,097</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wentworth Valley</td> <td>£15,931</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotherham South</td> <td>£17,125</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rotherham North</td> <td>£15,480</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wentworth South</td> <td>£17,285</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wentworth North</td> <td>£17,057</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total per year</td> <td>£120,000</td> </tr> </table>				Rother Valley South	£20,025	Rother Valley West	£17,097	Wentworth Valley	£15,931	Rotherham South	£17,125	Rotherham North	£15,480	Wentworth South	£17,285	Wentworth North	£17,057	Total per year	£120,000
Rother Valley South	£20,025																		
Rother Valley West	£17,097																		
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Wentworth South	£17,285																		
Wentworth North	£17,057																		
Total per year	£120,000																		
<p>Theme 4: Community Cohesion</p>																			
<p>Community Strategy Priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and support responsive and cohesive communities through neighbourhood management arrangements (Safe) • Promote understanding, respect and belonging within Communities and the Borough (Proud) 		<p>LAA Indicators:</p> <p>Existing LAA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of residents reporting via survey that various forms of anti-social behaviour are either a 'very big' or 'fairly big' problem <p>New LAA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceptions of anti-social behaviour • % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their area 																	
Proposed 3	Lead Theme	Supporting	Key Strategies																

year allocation: £0.54m (ABG)	Board: Cohesive Communities Partnership (Proud)	Theme Board: Safe	or Plans: Community Cohesion Strategy
Theme 5: Positive Opportunities for Young People			
Community Strategy Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote understanding, respect and belonging within communities and the Borough (Proud) Create specific initiatives to maximise the engagement and participation in learning of people living in the most deprived neighbourhoods 		LAA Indicator: New LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young People's participation in positive activities % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their area 	
Proposed 3 year allocation: £0.38m (TF)	Lead Theme Board: Proud	Supporting Theme Board: Alive Safe Proud CYP Board Learning	Key Strategies or Plans: CYP Plan
Theme 6: Police Community Safety Officers			
Community Strategy Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackle and reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour (Safe) Reduce the fear and perception of crime (Safe) 		LAA Indicators: Existing LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of residents reporting via survey that various forms of anti-social behaviour are either a 'very big' or 'fairly big' problem New LAA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perceptions of anti-social behaviour Adult re-offending rates for those under probation supervision Assault with injury crime rate First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17 	
Proposed 3 year allocation: £0.25 (TF)	Lead Theme Board: Safe	Supporting Theme Board: Safer Rotherham Partnership	Key Strategies or Plans: Community Safety Strategy

Current Position of the Programme

Appendix A illustrates the current position of each of the themes showing the projects currently approved with details of the amount of funding allocated to each. To date 73% of the NRF TF programme is allocated to Projects which are currently delivering throughout the Borough.

As the NRF TF Programme is now half way through delivery a reconciliation exercise has been completed to highlight the current amount of unallocated/unapproved funds which are as follows:-

- 1) The Employment, Enterprise and Financial Inclusion theme currently has £600K unallocated to any specific projects. This is intentional as the funds will be used to match fund future European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) project bids. Without the use of this £600K NRF TF it will be difficult to raise the required match funding which will reduce the potential ERDF which can be drawn down for project funding. A provisional list of projects is currently being constructed and it is expected that by April 2010 these funds will be allocated to projects.
- 2) The Community Cohesion theme has recently had another round of projects identified which will utilise the majority of the unallocated funds within this theme. However, until these projects are approved a total of £255K is currently unallocated.
- 3) The Development Fund/Area Based Accounting System was allocated £100K and spent £3K of this on a feasibility study for an accounting system within the Area Assemblies to effectively manage the resources within each area. £97K is currently unallocated but Neighbourhoods and Adult Services are currently working with Service Finance to identify which projects should be funded. This report will be presented to both the Corporate Management Team and Chief Executive Officers Group for approval.

Exit Strategies and other Funding Sources

Rotherham did not receive WNF as the Borough did not meet the new funding criteria set out by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) based on the Indices of Deprivation 2007 and other worklessness measures. These criteria were more stringent than those used for NRF and reduced the number of qualifying authorities from 88 to 66. In Rotherham, deprivation had reduced as a result of the investment of external funds and strong effective partnership working and the Borough did not meet the criteria for WNF.

All Projects funded through the NRF TF have strong exit strategies which are scrutinised during the appraisal process but which are also detailed within the project contracts to ensure the project continues to work towards achieving them. It was made clear by the DCLG that Local Authorities who are not eligible for the Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF) will receive the NRF TF but that this programme will

be the last of this nature. The exit strategies within the current projects therefore reflect this and alternative strategies have been investigated for each project.

The Local Authority managed external funding programmes have reduced dramatically over the past years. Therefore the future of externally funded projects is currently unknown. There are still some large funding programmes available but these are not distributed via Local Authorities and projects are required to bid into them for the funding. An example of one of these is the ERDF 2007-13 which has a strong emphasis on boosting economic performance in the region through investments aimed at increasing innovation, competitiveness and employment. There are other funding programmes which operate similar systems such as the National Lottery and Coalfield Regeneration Trust amongst many others.

Future funding of this nature is likely to be delivered via the LAA, for example the current allocation of Reward Grant. The commissioning process is currently being developed for this funding but it is being drawn largely from experience from this commissioning process. Therefore any observations made by Scrutiny Panel can be fed into the new process.

8. Finance

The funding streams which are directly linked within the Area Based Grant 2008-2011 are as follows:-

NRF Transitional Funding	£2,950,000
Community Cohesion	£540,000

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Overall the risks and uncertainties have been addressed throughout the individual project appraisal panels as each project is asked to complete a full risk assessment and is then evaluated within the Appraisal Panels. The NRF T/F is programme managed through the Chief Executive's Office and this includes regular monitoring and reporting to ensure Projects are delivering to target for both expenditure and outcomes. The monitoring system also includes a risk assessment based audit of the programme which has been agreed via RMBC Internal Audit.

As the programme is now just over half way through, a risk which is currently being addressed is the amount of unallocated funding within the Themes. All NRF TF must be spent by 31st March 2011. The breakdown of unallocated funds and forward plans for the themes are detailed within section 7 of this report.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The NRF T/F Programme Themes and Projects within this paper have been developed by the Achieving, Proud and Safe Theme Boards as part of Rotherham's Community Strategy (CS). Each of the Projects which are contracted to deliver will therefore directly link to the appropriate element of the CS.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

NRF 2006-08 Evaluation Report
Rotherham Partnership Neighbourhood Renewal Transitional Funding
Commissioning Plan 2008-11.
Project Appraisal Forms and Contracts

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Regeneration Funding Manager
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ian.squires@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix A

NRF Transitional Funding Programme Update - Project Detail October 2009

Theme / Project	Project Description	Total
Theme 1: Employment, Enterprise and Financial Inclusion		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
College Based Enterprise Advisors	Promote entrepreneurship and enterprise in local colleges via classes / workshops / training sessions etc.	39,983
Financial Inclusion	Co-ordinate and increase the capacity the work of over 50 statutory and VCS groups who are active in the area of financial inclusion and who are already in touch with the target groups	165,000
Neighbourhood Learning	Continue to develop the capacity of the VCS to deliver engagement activities and community based learning through neighbourhood learning forums.	90,000
Rotherham Ready	Employ a schools liaison officer to develop "young entrepreneur clubs" and "enterprise champion networks" in local primary schools	120,000
Volunteering Step Up	The project proposal will continue the "Step Up" to work programme that began with the investment from Yorkshire Forward that led to a dedicated volunteer centre in Rotherham and started the initiative to work with the economically inactive by introducing them to volunteering as a potential pathway back into employment	71,320
Business Community Support Officers	The Business Community Support Officers (BCSOs) will work with local neighbourhood based businesses (with a focus on deprived areas) to help them grow and increase employment opportunities	59,461
Business Community Support Manager	The Business Community Support Manager will play a pivotal role in engaging the private sector and supporting this sector's involvement in delivering the Working Neighbourhood Plan	64,339
Employment Programme for Incapacity Benefit Claimants	The project will work with other agencies, including job centre plus, to help move people back into work off invalidity benefit	43,000
The Junction (interim project)	Recruitment support for local employers. Short-term funding prior to start of ERDF project.	75,000
Enterprise Events Coordinator	The Coordinator will be responsible for the detailed planning of a series of events, initiated by Rotherham Enterprise Board, to promote and encourage enterprise in Rotherham.	60,000
Management and Admin	Programme Management	14,000
Projects currently Unapproved		
Enterprise support activity	To be developed as part of ERDF Priority 3 phase 2 programme of activity - ERDF potential match	597,897
Theme Total		1,400,000
Theme Allocation		1,400,000
Variance		0
Theme 2: VCS Development		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
Voluntary and Community Voice Network	To allow effective voluntary sector representation on the partnership boards, to ensure effective consultation with the sector.	233,927
BME Representation	To allow effective voluntary sector representation of BME communities on the partnership boards, to ensure effective consultation with the sector.	134,750
Adult Services Consortium	Project will continue to develop the Adult Services Consortium, to ensure it's members engage in local planning and delivery of services.	96,665
Theme Total		465,342
Theme Allocation		460,000
Variance		5,342
Theme 3: Area Based Activity		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
Devolved Streetscene	Funds to be devolved to the 7 Area Assemblies for spending on a range of locally determined environmental and street scene improvement schemes	360,000
Area Based Accounting System (Dev Fund) Feasibility Study	Feasibility Study to investigate the potential Area Based Accounting System Project (see directly below). Costs and implementation will be examined.	3,200
Projects currently Unapproved		
Area Based Accounting System (Dev Fund) Project	Project will develop the business infrastructure to enable area assembly level measurement and profiling of investment and services incl. the development of a proper accounting system	96,800
Theme Total		460,000
Theme Allocation		460,000
Variance		0
Theme 4: Community Cohesion		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
Interfaith Work	Including establishing Rotherham inter-faith forum/events and open days/directory of active faiths/Islam awareness training/education for faith leaders/Madrasah guide	11,386
EU Migration	Including first stop welcome arrangements and facilities/welcome pack/awareness raising for service providers/Roma link workers	122,340
LGBT Community Engagement	Provide services and activities to support the LGBT communities in Rotherham, this strand of funding is specifically for the LGBT helpline.	36,000
Diversity Festival	The Diversity Festival is an annual event that provides an opportunity for all the different communities and cultures within Rotherham to come together and showcase their respective cultural heritage to the wider community.	24,000
Hate Crime Reporting	To commission an organisation to provide a 24-hr telephone hate crime reporting and referral service.	15,000
Living in your Community Courses	Various community courses for the deprived residents of Rotherham	30,000
'One Town One Community' Campaign	A celebration of the values that unite us here in Rotherham: the values of fairness, tolerance, understanding, mutual respect and a desire to achieve the best for Rotherham, for the communities in which we live, for our friends and families.	26,114
Programme/Finance Costs	Theme management costs	19,726
Projects currently Unapproved		
Children & Young People Youth Work	Raise awareness and develop understanding around the prevent and community cohesion Agendas. To also develop young people in other ways including increasing political awareness, developing positive identities and voice and influence.	90,000
Cohesion Events and Activities	Commissioning and support to a variety of community development and engagement projects (see below for full project breakdown) to promote cohesion, shared values and belonging within Rotherham's diverse community.	135,000
One Town One Community Communications Campaign	Rotherham One Town One Community campaign - commissioning a freelance communications worker to work intensively over the next six months to develop and launch a proactive media and communications campaign. This will be followed by sustained communications, media and publicity, supported by RMBC Communications Unit.	30,000
Theme Total		539,566
Theme Allocation		540,000
Variance		-434
Theme 5: Positive Opportunities for Young People		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
Positive Opps for Young People	Partners including RMBC, the police and Connexions have carried out considerable consultation with young people over the last few years. Activity in this theme will increase young people's participation in positive activities, ensure high quality of education and raise attainment across the Borough, increase numbers of young people who report positive responses with regards to their emotional well-being and encourage more widespread participation in and enjoyment of culture and sport.	380,000
Theme Total		380,000
Theme Allocation		380,000
Variance		0
Theme 6: Police Community Safety Officers		
Approved and Contracted Projects		
Police Community Support Officers	To focus on Safer Neighbourhood Team priorities that will provide community confidence and deter anti-social behaviour	250,000
Theme Total		250,000
Theme Allocation		250,000
Variance		0
Reconciliation		
	All Theme Totals	3,494,908
	Less, VCS Development Over Commitment	5,342
	Add, Community Cohesion Under Commitment	434
	Total NRF TF & Community Cohesion Funding as per Commissioning Plan 2008-11	3,490,000
*Cohesion Events and Activities (additional detail)		
	Education Programme for Mosque Committees and Imams	10,000
	Muslim Women's leadership training and support	20,000
	Mentoring for young people (Mosaic Yorkshire)	25,000
	Hate crime training, awareness raising and publicity for partners and communities (Community Safety Unit)	10,350
	Small grants programme (including support for events)	30,000
	Schools Linking Project	9,650
	Community based cohesion worker to engage white British communities (e.g. Rotherfed)	30,000
	Total	135,000

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO SCRUTINY

1.	Meeting:	Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel
2.	Date:	29th October 2009
3.	Title:	Community Leadership Fund
4.	Programme Area:	Neighbourhoods and Adult Services

5. Summary

This report provides a summary of spending activity around the Elected Members Community Leadership Fund for the financial year 2008-9 and options for the future administration of the Fund.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel;

- 1. Note the performance against the Community Leadership Fund for 2008-09,**
- 2. Consider options to ensure maximum value for money is achieved from the Fund.**

7. Proposals and Details

The Local Government White Paper, 'Strong and Prosperous Communities', emphasised the importance of ward councillors as local political and community leaders. The White Paper encourages local authorities to adopt a range of powers and responsibilities to empower ward councillors including new opportunities to act on local issues and be more effective advocates. Through the Community Leadership Fund Rotherham has already put some of these tools in place to strengthen the role of the ward councillor.

More recently the Empowerment White Paper: 'Communities in Control' (June 2008) looked at how to empower people to become more active citizens and get involved and influence in the key decisions that effect their lives. The Paper states "We will give backbench Councillors more powers to make changes in their ward with discretionary localized budgets that they can target on ward priorities" Although further guidance is due from the government on this proposal it is clear that the principal of devolving local budgets to ward councillors is seen as an effective way of improving quality of life within Neighbourhoods and the Community Leadership Fund reflects this thinking.

Consultation with Members

During Autumn 2008 a Members Seminar was held to look at the Community Leadership Fund in light of the Public Involvement in Health Act chaired by the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement.

The Seminar looked at the relationship between the Fund and recent legislation, improvements to the way the Fund is currently operating and the future of the Fund.

This was followed by a questionnaire based on the above issues and sent to all Members. 25 questionnaires responses were received and the results were as follows:-

Question	Yes	No
Do you find the forms and guidance easy to use?	100%	
Would you like to receive cheques directly?	56%	44%
Have you found the carry over facility useful:	100%	
Are you fully aware of groups and projects in existence in your area?	96%	4%

In addition the following comments were received from Members :-

"Fund ought to be increased in size"

"I would appreciate being able to present the cheque to the organisation myself"

"It is a very helpful way of keeping in touch with and helping groups throughout a very widespread and diverse ward"

"A higher profile needs to be made of the ways in which money given benefits local groups"

"I would like to know the admin costs of running the scheme"

"I think it would be helpful to have carbon copies of the forms we sign so we keep a personal check on what we have agreed to fund"

During the Seminar Members indicated the high value they place on the Fund and it's ability to enhance their role within local communities.

Analysis of Expenditure 2008/9

- £20,697.77 carried over from the financial year 2007/8.
- The budget for the financial year 2008/9 was £63,000 plus the carry over above totalling £83,697.77 During the financial year 2008-9 Members committed £53174.62 representing 64% of the of the total budget allocation.
- Only £201.88 was lost due to Members carrying over the £1000 balance threshold.
- Members chose to carry forward £30523.15 to the financial year 2009/10 resulting in a current budget of £93,523.15

Over 150 projects were supported in total during 2008/9. A full listing of projects is attached in Appendix 1.

2009/10 Budget

The total spent for the current financial year 2008-9 as at September 09 stands at £29000 representing 30% of the total budget available to Members.

15 Members have yet to commit to any projects and are carrying balances of over £1000.

However it should be noted that CLF spending is traditionally very high in the last two months of the financial year.

Managing the Fund

- 6 month reminder letters sent to Member setting out the current balance to spend and a list of projects supported.
- Spreadsheet updated on the intranet every week and available to Members showing the latest spending situation.
- Feedback, financial evidence and qualitative information are sought on every project supported. For example the following quotes were obtained from groups/projects supported during 2008/9:-

“The grant paid for the hire of the hall for dance training for 25 people of mixed ages in preparation for the World Hip Hop Championships...the dancers have made great improvements and are ready to represent Dinnington at the competition!..”

Ward 4 Dinnington (Nic Prentice, SD Crew)

*“The trophies were excellent and they increased the interest of local young people and encouraged them to participate in the race day”***Ward 8 Keppel (Carole foster Rotherham Rednecks)**

*“The grant provided a brand new opportunity for 12 of our young people to volunteer for a wide range of projects and to participate in recognised accreditation. The activity gave our more vulnerable young people an opportunity for skills development, improved health awareness and social time together.”***Ward 10 Rawmarsh (Rachel Mullins Rawmarsh Community School)**

Options for the Future of the Fund

- Funding of £64k per year has been secured for the future.

To ensure value for money and that no funding is ‘lost’ the following options could be considered in the future:-

- Consider ending the ‘carry over’ to provide an incentive for Members to spend their allocation within the financial year. Any unused funds are then directed back into wider budgets to be used elsewhere.
- Alternatively consider a cut off point for expenditure in January with any unspent monies going into a general pot for Members to use via an application process.
- Undertake a benchmarking exercise with other local authorities operating similar schemes to look at arrangements for monitoring and value for money.

8. Finance

The estimated annual cost of running the scheme is currently approximately £4000 which includes net salary administration costs and postage.

If the scheme is maintained in it’s current format no additional costs are envisaged.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The Community Leadership Fund supports grass roots local organisations and the leadership role of the Ward Member and the Fund is an effective tool available to ward members to directly address local issues and concerns. Any reduction in funding or value for money will have a negative impact on the community leadership role of individual ward councillors and their advocacy of the value of local democracy and active citizenship.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Community Leadership Fund contributes towards the key Corporate strategic theme of:-

Rotherham Proud

This key theme is reflected within Strategic Objective 4 of the NAS Service Plan 2009-12 and the following element of the Outcome Framework

Strengthen by 2011 neighbourhood leadership through increased opportunities that shape local service delivery in a way that people are involved and increasingly feel that their views make a difference.

The Fund has a demonstrable record of encouraging people to participate fully within their community and developing a view that engagement with the local democratic process can make a difference to their lives and the well being of the wider community.

- **Background Papers and Consultation**

- 1 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- 2 Ward Councillors and Community Leadership: A Future Perspective JRF December 2007
- 3 The Local Government White Paper "Strong and Prosperous Communities" October 2006
- 4 Councillors Commission
- 5 Community Empowerment White Paper
- 6 CLF Members questionnaire October 2008
- 7 CLF seminar September 2008

Contact Names : Paul Griffiths, Community Liaison Officer – Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, Ext 3159 paul.griffiths@rotherham.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – CLF Projects by Ward 2008/9

Ward No.	Councillor	Name of group	Project to be funded	Amount spent
Ward 1	Darren Hughes	Toddle Totts	Toys for the playgroup	300
		Woodsetts Scout Explorers	Rucksacks/maps/compass and tents	500
		Anston new Estate TARA	Youth club/remember when event/fun days	800
Anston & Woodsetts	IGL St John	Dinnington Comp	Football pitches for community use	890
		Woodsetts Neighbourhood Watch	Sustaining the group	200
		35th Rotherham Scouts	Improvements to the scout hut	500
	JA Burton	Active Regen	Summer sports activities for children	1200
Ward 2	Mahroof Hussain	Canklow Woods Primary School	Trip to Scarborough/equip for the breakfast club	155.33
		Charity Cricket Match	Wickets and catering	238.6
Boston		Clifton Community Partnership	Room hire for meetings	50
Castle	PA Wootton	Canklow Woods Primary School	Trip to Scarborough/equip for the breakfast club	155.33
		Clifton Community Partnership	Room hire for meetings	50
		Clifton Community Partnership	Room hire - Active Always	150
		Maltings TARA	Activity programmes for residents	50
		Friends of Boston Park	Promotional items/work in the park	100
		Clifton Community Hall Group	Community Café	100
		Friends of Clifton Park	Compass feature in the park	100
	RA Mcneeley	Canklow Woods Primary School	Trip to Scarborough/equip for the breakfast club	155.33
		Rotherham South Area Assembly	School award shield and plaque	65.94
		Clifton Community Partnership	Room hire for meetings	50
		Clifton Community Partnership	Active Always programme	150
		Community Safety Advice centre	Snatch chains	210
		Friends of Boston Park	Promotional items/work in the park	100
		Maltings TARA	Activity programmes for residents	50
		Clifton Community Hall Group	Community Café	100
		Friends of Clifton Park	Compass feature in the park	100
Ward 3	John Gamble			
Brinsworth & Catcliffe	R Littleboy	Chapel Walk Club	Bingo Machine	175
		Brinsworth Art Group	Laptop for art instruction demonstrations	300

		Brinsworth Lane	Planting of shrubs to reduce pollution	150.97
	F Wright	Rush House project	Essential furniture for homeless young people	500
		Poplar Way Play Area	New Litter bin	375
		Chapel Walk Club	Bingo Machine	125
Ward 4	Simon Tweed	SD Crew	Training sessions to enter world dancing competition	500
		Dinnington Town U14 Football	Set up costs	200
		New laughton TARA	tree planting on laughton common	100
Dinnington	JA Havenhand	Lyric Theatre Players	Costumes and staging for dance & drama show	250
		Dinnington Development Forum	Area Assembly christmas event for young people	100
	J Falvey	Wacky Olympics	Youth activity during halloween	200
		Dinnington Resource Centre	towards costs for refurbishing the function room	460
		Dinnington Development Forum	Area Assembly christmas event for young people	100
		Community Safety Unit	hate crime leaflets	340
Ward 5	RAJ Turner	Heather Court Community Club	Equipment to increase use of kitchen	275
		Hellaby Community	Hellaby Sign	600
Hellaby	B Cutts	Hellaby Community	Hellaby Sign	600
		Wings	Support for voluntary work with OAPs,sick and disabled	400
	L Donaldson	Hellaby Community	Hellaby Sign	600
		Tax Credit Casualties	Provision of benefit advice/support	968.04
Ward 6	HL Jack	Aston cum Aughton	Community firework display	500
		Area Housing Panel	Fencing to prevent ASB	500
Holderness	J Austen	Aston cum Aughton	Community firework display	500
		Area Housing Panel	Fencing to prevent ASB	500
	G Smith	Aston cum Aughton	Community firework display	500
		Area Housing Panel	Fencing to prevent ASB	500
Ward 7	F Hodgkiss	Brightstart Toddler Group	New toys for the group	150
		York Gardens Centre	Trip to Skipton Market	150
		Harley Village Partnership	printing costs for Harley Highlights	270
		Wentworth Old Persons Treat fund	mystery trip and meal out	200
		Various Primary Schools	Safety vests	251.33
Hooper	J Hamilton	Marquis Bowls Club	Encouraging new members	200
		Various Primary Schools	Safety vests	251.33

	RS Russell	Brampton Ellis Junior School	Theatre trip	300
		Various Primary Schools	Safety vests	251.33
		Brampton Youth Club	Youth Arts Project	300
		Brightstart Toddler Group	Toys & furniture for the group	300
Ward 8	S Walker	Forty Martyrs Bowling Club	Coach outing	100
		Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for comm sports facility	50
		Haynook OAPS	Trip to Bridlington	100
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and First Aid cover	50
		Thorpe Hesley & Scholes OAP	Trip to Cleethorpe	335
		Friends of Bar Park	Stationary/room hire	100
Keppel	IC Barron	Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for comm sports facility	50
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and First Aid cover	50
		Friends of Bar Park	Repairs to the community building	191.37
		Thorpe Hesley Brass Band	Storage box and mutes	500
	BA Kaye	Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for comm sports facility	50
		Thorpe Hesley & Scholes CF	Summer fete	300
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and first aid cover	60
		Thorpe Hesley PCC	School holiday badminton club	180
Ward 9	Will Blair	Addison Day care centre	Equipment for the sensory room	200
		Safer Neighbourhoods Team	Food parcels for elderly & vulnerable	65.52
	B Slade	St Marys Friends of the school	Picnic table and easels	500
		Friends of Maltby Craggs School	Play equipment/dance sessions for young children	350
		Maltby Craggs Junior School	Allotment project	350
Maltby	A Rushforth			
Ward 10	G Whelbourn	Various sheltered schemes	Equipment to support communal activities	610
		Rawmarsh Community School	Cook n chill & Cert in community volunteering	400
Rawmarsh	S Wright	Rawmarsh Rugby Club	Training and match day equipment	500
	N Hamilton	Groundwork Dearne Valley	Artists workshops to benefit Rosehill Park	500
Ward 11	MG Boyes	Orgreave Parish Council	Card making classes	125
		St Helens Heritage Trust	Start up costs	100
		Ulley Parish Council	Notice board for groups in the village	50
		Treeton Parish Council	start up costs for a film club	275
		Orgreave Parish Council	Craft classes/outreach bus for youth club	150
		Vulnerable local residents	Magnetic Door and Window Alarm	114

Rother Vale	G Nightingale	Workers Old People social club	social/educational activities for the group	96
		Passap Knitting and Craft Group	Knitting materials	150
		Thurcroft Friday Circle	Speakers fees/coach hire	100
		The Friday Club	Paints/craft papers	100
		Thurcroft Welfare Band	Sheet music	100
		Thurcroft Training Band	Music books	100
	JF Swift	Orgreave Parish Council	Card making classes	125
		St Helens Heritage Trust	Start up costs	100
		Ulley Parish Council	Notice board for groups in the village	50
		Friday club	after school club	100
		Treeton pc	Start up costs for a film club	275
		Orgreave Parish Council	Craft classess/outreach bus for youth club	150
		Vulnerable local residents	Magnetic Door and Window Alarm	113.99
Ward 12	M Kirk	Clifton Community Partnership	Newsletter printing costs	83.33
		World Aid Foundation	Trip for elderly people with health/isolation issues	176.65
		Lanes Community Association	Gate installation to enable area to be cleaned	100
		Clifton Community Partnership	Spring newsletter	33.33
		East Dene Social Club	Football kit	100
		Rotherham East Comms Ass	Sustaining the group	100
Rotherham East	B Dodson	Clifton Community Partnership	Newsletter printing costs	83.33
		World Aid Foundation	Trip for elderly people with health/isolation issues	176.64
		Lanes Community Association	Gate installation to enable area to be cleaned	100
		Clifton Community Partnership	Spring newsletter	33.33
		East Dene Social Club	Football kit	100
		Rotherham East Comms Ass	Sustaining the group	100
	S Ali	Clifton Community Partnership	Newsletter printing costs	83.33
		World Aid Foundation	Trip for elderly people with health/isolation issues	176.65
		Lanes Community Association	Gate installation to enable area to be cleaned	100
		Clifton Community Partnership	Spring newsletter	33.33
		East Dene Social Club	Football kit	100
		Rotherham East Comms Ass	Sustaining the group	100
Ward 13	J Foden	Rotherham Utd Community Sports	Sports Festival June 08	150
Rotherham West		Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for a comm sport facility	50
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and First Aid Cover	50

		Blackburn Community Partnership	Alarm system for the community building	200
		Richmond Park TARA	Community events	150
		Henley Crew	Goal posts	53
		Rotherham Canal Association	Towards a clubhouse	50
		Area Assembly issue	Development of green space for football	147
	J Akhtar	Rotherham Utd Community Sports	Sports Festival June 08	150
		Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for a comm sport facility	50
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and First Aid Cover	50
		Blackburn Community Partnership	Alarm system for the community building	200
		Richmond Park TARA	Community events	150
		Henley Crew	Goal posts	54
		Rotherham Canal Association	Towards a clubhouse	50
		Area Assembly issue	Development of green space for football	147
	Kath Sims	Rotherham Utd Community Sports	Sports Festival June 08	150
		Winterhill School	Raffle prizes to raise money for a comm sport facility	50
		Rotherham Rednecks	Trophies and First Aid Cover	50
		Blackburn Community Partnership	Alarm system for the community building	200
		Richmond Park TARA	Community events	150
		Henley Crew	Goal posts	53
		Rotherham Canal Association	Towards a clubhouse	50
		Area Assembly issue	Development of green space for football	147
Ward 14	GA Russell	Swinton Girl Guides	Day trip for the guides	50
		Rosehill Junior School	Theatre Trip	100
		Rawmarsh Sandhill Primary	Theatre Trip	100
		Kilnhurst Primary School	Visit to the Town Hall	100
		Ravenfield Events Group	Entertainment at Christmas celebrations	75
		March Flatts Centre	Children and OAP christmas party	83.33
		Ravenfield Old Village Garden	Planting and bio diversity	150
		Various Primary Schools	Safety Vests/Banners	376.95
Silverwood	R Stone	Swinton Girl Guides	Day trip for the guides	50
		Rosehill Junior School	Theatre Trip	100

		Rawmarsh Sandhill Primary	Theatre Trip	100
		Kilnhurst Primary School	Visit to the Town Hall	100
		March Flatts Centre	Children and OAP christmas party	83.33
		Ravenfield Old Village Garden	Planting and bio diversity	150
		Ravenfield Events Group	Entertainment at Christmas celebrations	75
		Kilnhurst Action Group	2 shows/community building upgrade	900
	PA Russell	Swinton Girl Guides	Day trip for the guides	100
		Rosehill Junior School	Theatre Trip	100
		Rawmarsh Sandhill Primary	Theatre Trip	100
		Kilnhurst Primary School	Visit to the Town Hall	100
		Ravenfield Events Group	Entertainment at Christmas celebrations	75
		March Flatts Centre	Children and OAP christmas party	83.33
		Ravenfield Old Village Garden	Planting and bio diversity	150
		Various Primary Schools	Safety Vests/Banners	376.95
Ward 15	JM Clarke	Whiston Heritage Society	Memorial plaque	168.74
		Whiston Junior and Infant	Physical activity equipment	400
		Sorrel Sykes Close OAP Centre	Wartime event at the Consort Suite	250
		Greystones Community Action Grp	Queens Award Celebration event	250
Sitwell	J Gilding	Greystones Community Action Grp	Bollard to stop parking on the childrens play area	182.5
		Whiston Afternoon WI	Stacking chairs	500
	AM Mannion	Greystones Community Action Grp	Christmas Whiston village event	1141
Ward 16	K Wyatt	Swinton Lock Activity Centre	Heaters/fridge and new seating	1000
Swinton	J Doyle	Rotherham Tigers Judo club	National coaching qualification for club members	200
		Sygnets Netball Team	Uniform for the team	342.32
		Kilnhurst Parocchial Church	150th Anniversary Celebrations	500
	N License	Charles Street Social Club	Audio equipment/stationary	300
		Various Schools	Safety Vests	600
Ward 17	S Currie	Swinburne Place Community Centre	Coach trip to Bridlington/Beamish	100
		Thrybergh Indoor Bowls	coach hire for annual outing	50
		Safer Rotherham Partnership	Big Bang Event	50

		Neighbourhood Pride Team	Christmas stocking for Chesterhill event	50
		Neighbourhood Pride Team	Wildflower planting project	166.66
		Highgreave Place Social Club	Trip to Skegness	100
Valley	PM Lakin	Swinburne Place Community Centre	Coach trip to Bridlington/Beamish	100
		Thrybergh Indoor Bowls	coach hire for annual outing	50
		Safer Rotherham Partnership	Big Bang Event	50
		Neighbourhood Pride Team	Wildflower planting project	166.66
		Highgreave Place Social Club	Trip to Skegness	100
	D Pickering	Swinburne Place Community Centre	Coach trip to Bridlington/Beamish	100
		Thrybergh Indoor Bowls	coach hire for annual outing	50
		Safer Rotherham Partnership	Big Bang Event	50
		Neighbourhood Pride Team	Wildflower planting project	166.66
		Highgreave Place Social Club	Trip to Skegness	100
Ward 18	J Whysall	Jade	Young peoples activities	1000
Wales	G Sharp	Harthill Parish Council	Community participation event	200
		RMBC Sports Development	Activities for sheltered housing schemes	1000
	Thomas Fenoughty	RMBC Youth Services	Trip to Alton Towers for youths	770
Ward 19	A Gosling	Wath Comp - Lifestyle project	School prizes and publicity	75
		Junior Lifestyle Project	Replanting conifers	100
		Wath upon Dearne Community P	Town Centre Regeneration Event	66.66
Wath	A Sangster	Wath Comp - Lifestyle project	School prizes and publicity	75
		Wath upon Dearne Community P	Town Centre Regeneration Event	66.66
	A Atkin	Wath comp - Lifestyle project	School prizes and publicity	75
		Wath upon Dearne Community P	Town Centre Regeneration Event	66.66
		Safety Vests	Various Primary Schools	505.08
Ward 20	Martyn Parker	Bramley Junior FC	New kit for the team	510.8
		Wickersley Old Village Cricket Club	Practice net	500
		Scholey Road Action Group	Planning application	85
Wickersley	P Thirlwall	Neighbourhood Watch	Publishing the quarterly newsletter	200
		Scholey Road Action Group	Planning application	85

		University of the 3rd Age	Activities for the elderly	300
		Rotherham pensioners group	Room hire and transport	200
		Bramley Parish Council	Floral arrangements on Flanderwell Lane	300
	C. McMahon	Neighbourhood Watch*	Publishing the quarterly newsletter	200
Ward 21	LMS Johnston	Greasborough Bowling Club	Replacing fire damaged equipment	500
		Greasborough Operatic Society	80 year anniversary celebration	500
		Greenside Residents Assoc	Trip to the seaside	100
		Greasbrough Youth FC	Kits/training equipment	400
Wingfield	TR Sharman	Greasbrough Youth FC	Changing and storage facility	500
		Friends of Rotherham Youth Music	Portable staging	500
		Greasbrough parent & toddler	Padding cover for posts	500
	K Goulty	Kimmie Park Youth Forum	Mischief night Diversionary events	250
		Greasborough Youth FC	Fleetline Pitch Marker	420
		Chislett Fishing Club	Fishing permits for young people	400

Appendix 2

DEVOLVED BUDGET SCHEMES

1) **Suffolk County Council –**

Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel Report 01/04/03

“This is called the “Locality Budgets” scheme. Members receive £12000 annually to be spent in their ward. Members fill in a pro-forma which is then passed on to the Locality Manager who approves or otherwise the payment. Members are expected to consult on how the money will be spent and to work collaboratively with other councillors to ensure that best practice is maintained. Money is for one off projects and there should not be any promise of on-going funding.”

Update:-

In 2007/2008 Suffolk's county councillors have been given a Locality Budget of £750,000, divided between them according to the number of people they represent. (average of £10,000 per Member)

Councillors are able to make recommendations about funding from this budget for local projects in their area. Last year groups and projects that benefited include village halls, sports and social clubs, and toddler groups.

2) **Torfaen County Borough Council**

Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel Report 01/04/03

“There are two schemes – Members Locally Determined Schemes (MLDS) which are Capital schemes and Members Small Schemes(MSS) which are revenue schemes. The MLDS gives Members £10,000 a year and the MSS, £2000 a year. Members are encouraged to work with their ward colleagues, and indeed across wards in the use of these funds.”

Update

The scheme has remained the same in terms of allocation of resources.

However a root and branch review of the scheme has recently been completed including issues such as :-

- Whether members should be able to make donations to school's general funds.
- Whether members should be able to make donations to the authority toward a specific scheme or initiative that is being funded and progressed by the authority.
- Whether small schemes money should be used for the production of councillor/ward newsletters.

Other Recent Examples

4) Newcastle City Council

Operates a Grant Aid scheme, a Ward Support Scheme and an Environment Stewardship Scheme as well as participatory budgeting.

The Grant Aid scheme allocates £880,000 between the 26 wards by means of a formula based on population and deprivation so each ward of 3 members gets between £20,000 to £40,000.

Local organizations can 'bid' for funds and these bids are debated by the ward committee in public. The projects can be revenue or capital. Officers will consider the 'bids' before they go before the ward committee and recommend whether the schemes or organizations are viable.

There are specific criteria that organizations have to meet in that they have to have written aims and objectives (a constitution), an elected management committee and the project they are seeking funding for has to meet one of the City Council's core priorities or a locally determined priority.

Nottingham City Council

Ward Member Budgets of £10,000 per Councillor.

Divided 60/40 between an Area Allocation budget to fund grants to community and voluntary sector initiatives and individual Ward Support budgets to fund issues recommended by the relevant ward member

Any individual ward support budgets not spent at the end of the financial year is then allocated to the Area Allocation budget

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL
2.	Date:	29 OCTOBER 2009
3.	Title:	EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING
4.	Programme Area:	CHIEF EXECUTIVES

5. Summary

Participatory Budgeting (PB) is a mechanism that allows the citizens of an area (neighbourhood, regeneration or local authority area) to participate in the allocation of part of the local Council's available financial resources.

6. Recommendations

That the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel note the contents of this report and determine any further action required.

7. Proposals and Details

PB aims to increase transparency, accountability, understanding and social inclusion in local government affairs. PB applies to a varying amount of the local Council's budget and the actual process is developed to suit local circumstances.

In practice, PB provides citizens with information that enables them to be engaged in prioritising the needs of their neighbourhoods propose and debate new services and projects and set budgets in a democratic and transparent way. As the process becomes embedded it involves citizens being engaged in an annual budgetary cycle of setting priorities and budgets and monitoring the delivery of projects and services.

The PB process usually requires citizen engagement in the following phases of the budget cycle to identify the capital investments and projects to address the most pressing local needs:

- Preparing feasibility studies to support the appraisal of such investments or projects
- Preparing a budget proposal for submission to the local council
- Overseeing the budget approval process
- Monitoring budget execution
- Monitoring procurement (tendering, bidding and contracting)
- Evaluating the delivery of the service or public works

PB involves citizens, councillors and local government officers working together. PB aims to include those who are not traditionally engaged in policy decisions. As well as citizen involvement PB creates opportunities for greater efficiency in the allocation of public funds and increased community cohesion. The main features of PB include:

- A geographically defined area such as a local authority, a decentralised district of a local authority, or a defined neighbourhood
- Regularly scheduled meetings and debates in each geographical unit
- A cycle of activities closely following the local budgeting cycle
- A network of individuals and organisations involved in training, informing and mobilising local citizens

There is no universal way of applying PB. Methodologies vary from city to city but typically it involves allocating between two to three percent of the annual revenue budgets and sometimes the allocation of new investments. The process involves citizens taking into account both the demand and supply of services and public infrastructure.

Participatory budgeting **small grants schemes** have been set up using money allocated from a variety of sources including neighbourhood renewal funds, community council precepts, local strategic partnerships, neighbourhood management funds, new deal for communities funds and housing funds.

Participatory Budgeting can be applied to some local authority **main stream budgets**. Part of these budgets can be “top-sliced” and allocated to wards or neighbourhoods to be spent according to residents’ priorities. In this way residents influence the council’s departmental priorities.

Most local authorities carry out a **yearly budget consultation** with the public. But this is often limited to paper correspondence and has a limited time scale. If the consultation process started at the beginning of the budget year, instead of the end, there would be scope to apply a PB process.

Local Area Agreements and PB share many common principles including: an emphasis on meeting local priorities, area based working, partnership, strong local accountability to communities, revitalising local democracy, community engagement, streamlining of funding and making the best use of resources.

Other possible options for using a participatory budgeting approach include the allocation of funds from the following:

- The Neighbourhood Police Budget (especially relating to community safety), possibly through a neighbourhood management scheme as recommended in the Flanagan Report
- Specific areas of Primary Care Trust budgets
- Youth Opportunity Fund and the Youth Capital Fund which central government has set up to give young people money for activities and facilities in their neighbourhoods.
- Housing Association budgets where tenants might be involved in setting priorities and budgets for communal facilities, environmental improvements and housing renovation programmes

PB process Benefits to Local Government

- Increases legitimacy by increasing dialogue
- Improves budget targeting through citizen participation
- Builds consensus
- Can promote good governance
- Supports the ‘duty to involve’
- Encourages community cohesion
- Help to develop the role of ward councillors
- Can assist in the development of the role of ward councillors as “community champions”
- Increases transparency and respect

PB process Benefits to Citizens

- Provides citizens with access to local government information such as the amount of Taxes collected, budgetary expenditure and budget forecasts
- Increases the voice of citizens in local decision making
- Provides an opportunity to deepen citizenship and democracy

- Allows citizens to engage in the development and renewal of their neighbourhoods
- Increases understanding of the different people in their neighbourhood

PB process Benefits to Private Sector

- Transparency: The business community often supports PB because it promotes transparency and provides them with greater information on how business tax is allocated and spent.

The PB Process: International

PB began in Brazil in the mid-1980s as part of a wave of popular participation following the end of the military dictatorship. In cities, such as the famous Porto Alegre example, people were encouraged to attend local meetings to decide which improvements were most needed in their neighbourhoods. Over the years, the process became increasingly elaborate – including local assemblies, citywide delegate structures, and complex rule books governing the process itself. After 20 years, some 50,000 people per year were attending local meetings to discuss, argue and vote on their priorities for up to 18% of the city's investment budget.

PB now has worldwide take-up and has been praised by the World Bank, the European Union and the United Nations. In this country, there have been modest PB pilot projects over the past ten years. A growing number of European municipalities in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and the UK have adopted different models of PB to suit their circumstances.

The PB Process: Successful UK examples

- In Newcastle, young people have been taking decisions on how youth budgets should be allocated, culminating in a major event in Spring 2008 where over £2m was allocated;
- In Harrow, 300 local people spent all day discussing what should be the budget priorities for their local council;
- Bradford Vision, the Local Strategic Partnership, pilots include the Keighley project which engages local people in the allocation of small project funds. Bradford Vision has allocated over £1 million through PB;
- Birmingham, is using £2 million on environmental projects across several Neighbourhoods;
- Lewisham's pilot has been developed by the voluntary sector as a small grants programme. The criteria for funding were linked to the LAA;
- Manton (Nottinghamshire) has distributed £50,000, as part of the Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder programme. In 2008/09 they will be distributing £150,000 through PB, including £100,000 from the Primary Care Trust;

- Salford, PB pilot involved local people in 3 wards deciding the allocation of £100,000 from the Highways Budget. The PB pilot in Salford is continuing in 2008/09 for it's third year and the amount of money to be distributed by PB has increased to £200,000;
- Dartford, plans to allocate a small pot of around £30,000 of the council's housing tenants' budgets via PB, for housing environment issues;
- Sunderland's pilot, "The People's Fund", was a New Deal for Communities programme. It initially involved residents allocating a small grants fund of £30,000 for themes such as crime, transport and young people. Sunderland also used a PB process in their New Deal for Communities scheme;
- In Durham the first budget set by the unitary authority is using PB to get opinions of residents about where money should be cut;
- Sheffield City Council is using PB to decide LAA priorities.

8. Finance

The economic crisis means that we are certain to be in a period of prolonged retrenchment and reductions in public service spending. Yet expectations from citizens and service users continue to rise, and demographic changes – an ageing population and the influx of new communities – make new and increasing demands on local services. This creates a premium on the most accurate targeting of services on those who need them most.

Accurate targeting of resources can only reliably be achieved through the constant interaction of service providers with their local communities. This involves a continuous stream of information to citizens, service users (and non-users), appropriate consultation and involvement, and listening to all their local communities – both the frequently and seldom heard. Such a commitment may require an initial investment of resources, but is certain to bear fruit in the medium and longer term in more effective and targeted local services.

Community cohesion can all too easily become a casualty in an economic downturn or crisis. It therefore becomes extremely important to find ways to make decision-making more transparent and accessible to local communities. The more people are directly involved or see others from their communities involved in decisions on the allocation of resources and the choice of priorities, the more willing they are likely to be to accept the outcomes as fair and reasonable.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- **Complexity and bureaucracy**
Implementing PB can be complex. It is not just a matter of turning up at a meeting of an assembly but it relies on people understanding budgets and mechanisms such as voting systems and budget matrices.

- **The need for strong commitment**

PB requires strong commitment from all parties involved – council officers, elected members and citizens.

- **The need for capacity building**

Community and voluntary sector groups require training, resources and support if they are to play a role in the PB process. Councillors and local authority officers also need training.

- **The need for time**

To get PB processes up and running requires time especially in the early years.

- **The danger of raising expectations**

There is a danger that the introduction of a PB process can raise the expectations of local people – expectations that cannot be met.

- **The need for continuity**

There is a danger that PB will be seen as a one off event. The challenge is for local authorities to incorporate PB into their budget making cycle so it becomes an established procedure that increases the sense of citizenship and deepens participatory and representative democracy.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The UK Government had launched a national Participatory Budgeting strategy calling for every area to introduce some form of PB by 2012 – the first country in the world to do so. The Government has recently withdrawn this instruction to local authorities, however, the Government-funded Consultation Institute, has interpreted this as a positive sign that the Government does not mean for participation in PB to become merely a ‘tick-box exercise,’ but instead to be some thing more meaningful.

Despite this, there is a commitment to expand PB to public sectors, the Local Government Association is committed to PB and with the advent of Comprehensive Area Agreements, it is inherently more risky for a local authority not to partake in PB than to take part.

Since April 2009, councils (and fire and rescue services) have had a new legal “duty to inform, consult and involve” local people in both their day-to-day work and in their major decision-making via information to citizens, local public ownership of assets, more citizen and user choices, citizen involvement in debates on local priorities, services and budgets.

Public engagement is to be a “bottom up” rather than a “top down” process. The introduction of Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP), Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements (LAA) encouraged partnership working across and between statutory, community and private sectors and citizens.

The White Paper, “Strong and Prosperous Communities”, referred positively to PB and made it clear that LSPs would be expected to report back annually on progress

on their LAA to local people. Neighbourhood and thematic meetings to discuss the progress on the LAA could also make decisions on citizen priorities for inclusion in the LAA in the following year.

Even the new performance and inspection regime now measures how well services are involving local citizens and service users. There are specific performance indicators looking at citizen involvement and how well people feel they can influence local decision-making.

One of the National Indicators used to monitor the LAA is National Indicator 4 – the percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality – this relates to the government’s Public Service Agreement 21 – to build more cohesive empowered and active communities. PB can help meet both NI 4 and PSA 21.

Last but by no means least, the Comprehensive Area Assessment gives significant weight to how thoroughly and efficiently local people are informed, consulted and involved. CAA will become a major driver of the empowerment agenda.

“An Active Plan for Community Engagement”, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in 2007, sets out how government will deliver on its commitment to bring about devolution and empower communities. The key areas of focus are: widening and deepening empowerment opportunities; supporting people to take up these opportunities; and strengthening local democracy. In its summary of activities the report recommends giving citizens a greater role in planning and in developing “community kitties”.

The independent Councillors Commission report, “Representing the Future” published in December 2007 recognised the importance of the modern councillor being a vital part of participatory as well as representative democracy. PB can strengthen both forms of democracy.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

- Department of Communities and Local Government LG: National PB Strategy
- “*Communities in control*,” CLG White Paper, 2008
- “*An Active Plan for Community Engagement*”, the Department for Communities and Local Government, 2007
- “*Representing the Future*,” The independent Councillors Commission, 2007
- Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007
- “*Strong and Prosperous Communities*,” Communities and Local Government, 2006
- The Power Enquiry, 2006

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1	Meeting:	Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel
2	Date:	29th October, 2009
3	Title:	CONTEST 2 and Prevent Strategy Progress
4	Directorate:	Chief Executive

5. Summary

This report provides information about the Government's national CONTEST counter-terrorism strategy and Prevent strategy. It also reports on progress made in Rotherham to respond to this agenda.

6. Recommendations

That Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel:

- 1. Notes the progress made against the Prevent agenda**

7. Proposals and Details

7.1 Background to CONTEST

Since 2003, the Government has had a comprehensive strategy in place to counter the threat from international terrorism. The strategy is known as CONTEST. The aim of the strategy is 'to reduce the risk to the UK and its interests overseas from international terrorism, so that people can go about their lives freely and with confidence'. The Contest Strategy was revised in March 2009 to take account of the evolution of the threat and of the understanding of the factors which are driving it. The strategy has been published in order to be as open as possible in describing the threat we face and the responses that the Government believes are appropriate to address it.

There are four main workstreams of the strategy – known as *Pursue*, *Prevent*, *Protect* and *Prepare*. More detail about these is provided at appendix 1. Local partners are responsible for delivering the Prevent workstream, the aim of which is to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism. As CONTEST makes clear, *Prevent* builds on and is linked to the Government's wider work to create strong, cohesive and empowered communities, based on a commitment to our common and shared values.

7.2 The Threat

The Government recognises the importance of challenging violent extremism in all its forms, and continues to work to do so. The most significant current terrorist threat is assessed as coming from Al Qa'ida and like minded groups. It is this threat that is the focus of *Prevent*. The threat is in various forms, such as:

- The Al Qa'ida leadership and their affiliates.
- Groups affiliated to Al Qa'ida abroad.
- Self starting networks or lone individuals with a similar ideology but no connection to Al Qa'ida.
- Terrorist groups with a similar ideology to Al Qa'ida but their own agenda.

The development of CONTEST has been based upon the effect and impact of four deeper and longer term strategic factors:

- Unresolved regional disputes.
- The violent extremist ideology associated with Al Qa'ida.
- Use of technology.
- The radicalisation process.

Assumptions underpinning this are:

- The structure of Al Qa'ida is likely to fragment and diversify into smaller groups.
- Technology will be a facilitator.
- The Al Qa'ida ideology will probably outlive the structure.
- Our ability to reach out to vulnerable people will determine the shape of the threat.
- British Muslims and others will continue to challenge Al Qa'ida's ideology

7.3 Scale of the threat

Nationally, between 2001 and 31 March 2008, over 1,450 terrorism-related arrests took place, of which one third led to a charge. Three-quarters of these were for terrorism-related offences, and just over half of these resulted in a conviction

7.4 The Prevent Strategy

In June 2008 the Government published a booklet entitled *The Prevent Strategy: A Guide for Local Partners in England*. This explained the background to and content of the new *Prevent* strategy and provided some advice on local delivery. The key messages in the June 2008 document remain current and recent guidance issued in August 2009, entitled *Delivering the Prevent Strategy: An Updated Guide for Local Partners*, reaffirms and updates the earlier document, taking into account lessons learned and emerging best practice.

7.5 The Prevent Framework

The *Prevent* strategy is based around five objectives (see appendix 1). It needs to be delivered through a wide ranging local partnership and should be informed by an understanding of the local context. Local *Prevent* partnerships should make connections between *Prevent* and other associated and related agendas. Local partners can give *Prevent* work different titles but, irrespective of the way *Prevent* is presented, it is vital to retain a focus on the *Prevent* objectives.

Local partnerships are responsible for ensuring that their *Prevent* programme of action includes clear objectives, measurable impacts and comprehensive arrangements for monitoring and evaluation. It is recognised that effective interventions often need to draw in many different communities, working alongside one another. Localities need to make full use of all available resources, not just *Prevent* specific funding.

7.6 Rotherham Partnership response.

a) Leadership and Coordination

Partnership groups have been established to lead and coordinate Rotherham's response to the Government's *Prevent* Strategy. These are the Guardian (strategic), Silver (tactical) and Delivery (Bronze) groups. The groups were formally established from October 2008 and have met regularly since then. Representation at Guardian Group includes, from RMBC: the Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive, Children and Young People's Services, Engagement and Cohesion, and Safer Neighbourhoods. Partners represented include SY Police (Rotherham Command); FE Colleges; Voluntary Action Rotherham; and SY Fire and Rescue Service. At Silver group, Probation Service, Headteachers, the Chamber of Commerce and REMA are also represented. The GOYH *Prevent* Adviser provides advice and support.

b) Rotherham Prevent Action Plan

Rotherham *Prevent* Action Plan was developed and agreed by all partners. It sets out actions to respond to the five objectives (plus 2 cross-cutting enablers) contained within the national *Prevent* Strategy. It was based on the priorities for Rotherham identified by Guardian Group in accordance with the *Prevent* Strategy, taking into account the local context. Rotherham's Counter Terrorism Local Profile is also informing the local *Prevent* agenda, so that activities are in line with and proportionate to local circumstances.

Rotherham's action plan has been recognised as good practice by GOYH and OSCT, and as a result, Guardian Group representatives have been asked to share this work at several regional, national and European forums.

The action plan is supported by a series of projects to deliver work in partnership with partners and communities. These activities, along with community cohesion activities, are

labelled under the “Rotherham One Town One Community” initiative, which is inspired and led by Cllr Mahroof Hussain, Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement. The projects that form the Prevent programme and progress on these are summarised at appendix 2.

7.7 Next Steps

New guidance for Local Partners to support the Prevent agenda was published in August 2009. The guidance (*Delivering the Prevent Strategy: An Updated Guide for Local Partners*) reaffirms the objectives of the original Prevent Strategy, but incorporates new learning based on experience and comments from local authorities and Muslim communities. The new guidance acknowledges that the effectiveness of the programme can be reduced if the labelling of local activities or their restriction solely to Muslim communities discourages some groups from becoming involved.

The new guidance includes the need to:

- Strengthen Partnership working and involvement of partners, such as health partners.
- Broaden and deepen engagement with communities
- Ensure best practice around the *Prevent* objectives is reflected in the design of local *Prevent* programmes. Programmes need to focus on individuals, communities and places. It may also be important to facilitate debate about foreign policy.
- Recognise that communications, and in particular, the internet and digital media are vital to *Prevent*.
- Ensure that the *Prevent* programme of action includes clear objectives, measurable impacts and comprehensive arrangements for monitoring and evaluation.
- Ensure interventions draw in many different communities, working alongside one another.
- Embed Prevent in mainstream delivery and make links with related work such as community safety and cohesion.
- Support vulnerable individuals through effective interventions.

The new guidance also makes reference to the need to respond to other forms of violent extremism such as far right extremism. It makes clear that alongside the *Prevent* strategy, the Government and the police are engaged in a range of work in response to these concerns and over the coming months, the Government will be making further announcements about work in these areas. It is indicated that this work will be resourced separately to *Prevent*.

Rotherham has been accepted for the IDeA Prevent Peer Review Programme. Commissioned by CLG, this programme provides support from IDeA Improvement Managers and specialist associates who will work with us to improve our Prevent programme and ensure it responds to latest the guidance and learning. Initial discussions and scoping work is scheduled to start in October 2009. The aim of the programme is to create exemplar local authorities to share learning and develop good practice in Prevent delivery.

8. Finance

Area based grant funding for Prevent has been allocated by central Government to support this work. Rotherham’s ABG Prevent budget for 2008 to 2012 is £339,750. Additional funding has also been allocated via South Yorkshire Police, for example, funding for young people’s leadership training and capacity building for Mosques, along with staff resources.

In August 2009, the Communities Secretary John Denham announced that Local Authorities will receive an additional £7.5 million to broaden their counter-terrorism activities. The new funding is intended to allow greater flexibility to support a broader range of activities to improve the effectiveness of the Prevent agenda. Further details of this and any Rotherham allocation is awaited.

9. **Risks and Uncertainties**

This is a sensitive agenda and a strong partnership and community approach is vital to ensure that all sections of the community are engaged and supported in working to prevent violent extremism and promote shared values.

10 **Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

Progress towards the Prevent Strategy is measured and reported through NI35. It is also part of CAA and inspection frameworks. It is linked to the Community Cohesion agenda which is a priority within Rotherham Community Strategy and LAA.

11. **Background Papers and Consultation**

The Prevent Strategy: A Guide for Local Partners in England (June 2008)

<http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/newspublications/publication-search/Preventstrategy/>

Delivering the Prevent Strategy: An Updated Guide for Local Partners (August 2009)

<http://security.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-publications/publication-search/general/updated-guide-for-local-partners>

IDeA support for local delivery of Prevent 2009/10:

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=13510589>

12. **Contact Name**

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CONTEST 2 workstreams:***Pursue: to stop terrorist attacks***

Police and security services are the key delivery agents. Action focuses on:

- Disruption
- Non-prosecution (civil) executive actions
- Exclusions
- Deprivation of citizenship
- Deportation
- Control orders
- Proscription and asset freezing
- Building capacity overseas
- Legislation
- New - Intercept Modernisation Programme

Prevent: to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting violent extremism

The Preventing Violent Extremism programme is a community-led approach to tackling violent extremism led by the Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG) in partnership with local authorities and a range of statutory and voluntary organisations.

The overall *Prevent* programme has **five main objectives** which are intended to address specific causes of radicalisation. The five objectives are:

- To challenge the ideology behind violent extremism and support mainstream voices;
- Disrupt those who promote violent extremism and support the places where they operate;
- Support individuals who are vulnerable to recruitment or who have already been recruited by violent extremists;
- Increase the resilience of communities to violent extremism; and
- Address the grievances which ideologues are exploiting.

The strategy has **two supporting objectives** or 'enablers':

- To develop supporting intelligence, analysis and information; and
- To improve strategic communications.:

Protect: to strengthen our protection against terrorist attack

Key delivery agents are the police, security and intelligence agencies, OCST, UKBA and other *Pursue* stakeholders. The new *Protect* strategic framework is based on reducing vulnerability in eight sectors:

- the critical national infrastructure;
- crowded places;
- transport;
- the UK Border;
- hazardous sites and substances;
- hostile insider action;
- individuals at risk of being targeted by terrorists;
- and UK interests overseas.

Prepare: where an attack cannot be stopped, to mitigate its impact

Since 2004 the Government has put in place capabilities to deal with a range of emergencies, of which terrorism is one. This includes work to manage an ongoing attack and to recover from its aftermath. Organisations have been established, notably local and regional resilience networks. Objectives in this workstream are to ensure:

- capabilities are in place to deal with a range of terrorist incidents
- there is continuity or swift recovery in our critical national infrastructure following terrorist incidents
- central, regional and local crisis management structures are appropriately equipped, competent and trained.
- plans are developed and capabilities improved to respond to a terrorist incident
- and to deal with the consequences of the UK's highest impact terrorism threats as set out in the NRA.

Current Rotherham Prevent projects and summary of progress

1. Raising Awareness for partner agency employees and representatives

Description: Targeted themed seminars and workshops for partner agency employees and representatives, including attendance at relevant Prevent conferences, involvement in Prevent workforce development pilot and Islam Awareness training for Police/Council SNT employees.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 4, 7

Project Lead: Delivery Group

Progress/Outcomes: Guardian and Silver Group representatives have attended a variety of conferences: Preventing Islamic Radicalisation: A South Yorkshire multi-agency conference (31/3/09); GOYH Regional LA Prevent Leads (24/3/09); OSCT Islam Awareness Course; Act Now (9/3/09); Huddersfield University 'Between Two Stools (11/3/09); RICU workshop (8/7/09). Initial awareness sessions delivered to RMBC M3 managers and to Headteachers meetings; Prevent workshop for workers with young people included in Youth Work Annual Conference 2009; Programme of locally developed Islam Awareness training underway - 54 partner employees trained, prioritising SNTs. Rotherham Guardian Group have agreed to work with GOYH to pilot the new national PVE Workforce Development Programme in Rotherham. This will include a wide roll out of training to partner agency employees. A training needs analysis and stakeholder analysis is currently underway. South Yorkshire Police have recruited a new training co-ordinator to support the development and delivery of Prevent training and he will take up post in the near future.

2.2 'Rotherham One Town One Community' launch

Description: High profile launch of the Prevent programme to publicly unite Rotherham against hate and extremism. Production of DVD resource for schools and community groups with local messages.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 3, 4, 7

Project Lead: Faith Matters

Progress/Outcomes: Rotherham 'One Town One Community' launch event held 23 April 2009. The event brought together approximately 240 people (including 131 young people) from diverse backgrounds to unite as one community and take a stand against hate and violent extremism. Key note speeches from Community Cohesion Minister, Sadiq Khan MP, Cllr Mahroof Hussain MBE, Cabinet Member for Communities and Cohesion, Council Leader Roger Stone and Sabi Akram, from Rotherham Ethnic Communities Network. Football and rugby players attended from Rotherham United and Rotherham Titans.

2.3 Addressing grievances – programme of senior manager visits to Mosques/Muslim women's groups

Description: A programme of visits to identify and address grievances by Rotherham Police and RMBC senior managers using a variety of mechanisms, e.g. Mosque Liaison Group, Mosque visits, meetings.

Prevent Objectives: 4, 5, 7

Project Lead: SYP

Progress/Outcomes: Senior management representation at Mosque Liaison Group. A forward programme of visits is being organised.

2.4 Targeted Engagement Activity

Description: A range of projects and preparatory work undertaken with local community groups in 2008/09 and continuing.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Project Lead: REMA

Progress/Outcomes: Outputs include: increased participation and involvement in community activities; increased number of people involved in leadership and representational positions, including Muslim women and young people; improved community engagement, increased volunteering and placement opportunities for BME women and young people.

2.5 United 4 Communities – young people’s sports project

Description: By bringing young people from diverse backgrounds together through their shared interest in football the project will engage diverse young people in shared goals and activities, break down barriers, promote friendships, develop self esteem, confidence, teamwork and leadership skills, and involve young people in promoting cohesion and challenging violent extremism in the wider community.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7

Project Lead: Rotherham United Community Sports Trust

Progress/Outcomes: An SLA has been agreed. The trust has secured £105,000 match funding over a three-year period from The Football League Trust and will employ a Community Cohesion Officer to lead this work.

2.6 BME and Schools Councils – support for school cohesion

Description: The project will provide a range of support to the management teams and governing bodies of 6 target secondary schools. This includes re-establishing quarterly ‘BME and Schools Council’ meetings, contributing to tension monitoring and identifying grievances within school communities; advice and training to school management teams and governing bodies; meeting parents and providing advice to Bronze and Silver Prevent groups. Target secondary schools are: Clifton, Oakwood, Brinsworth, Winterhill, Maltby, Dinnington.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Project Lead: Rotherham Diversity Forum

Progress/Outcomes: SLA agreed 25 June 2009. Preparatory work is being undertaken. The project will complement the work of MAARI which has recently been successful in securing external funding to tackle race hate crime.

2.7 Young Peoples Services projects

Description: A range of activities led by Young Peoples Services, including young peoples leadership training; 'Let's Talk Extreme' young peoples Prevent conference; media training and poster campaign; Maltby Youth Centre Prevent project; Rotherham Youth Cabinet anti-fascism project; Young Muslim faith study circle; Cast-offs theatre group 'Queen Bibi'; Global Links project; 'One Extreme to the Other' GW Theatre Company play for schools.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

Project Lead: Young Peoples Services, RMBC

Progress/Outcomes: Young Peoples conference on 25/4/09 was attended by 57 young people. The event included a personal DVD message for Rotherham young people from the Home Secretary. Young people participated in workshops, outcomes of which will be used to inform future activities. Young Leaders training held in 16-18/2/09, delivered by Common Purpose, was attended by 37 young people. The full range of projects was selected following consultation with Young Peoples Services.

2.8 Arab communities engagement

Description: To build capacity for engaging Yemeni and other Arab communities to improve understanding of the issues facing these communities in Rotherham, including concerns and tensions. The project will include support for a coordinated programme of community based solutions to be delivered in partnership with other agencies. It will also promote positive messages and challenge misconceptions.

Prevent Objectives: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Project Lead: Yemeni Centre

Progress/Outcomes: SLA currently being agreed

2.9 Kashmir Police Link

Description: To develop exchange visits leading to improved information sharing and cross-border investigative cooperation and greater understanding of needs of local community when travelling in Kashmir.

Prevent Objectives: 2, 4, 6

Project Lead: SYP

Progress/Outcomes: Preparation for visit underway

2.10 Prevent and cohesion related emergency and contingency planning

Description: This project will build on existing emergency planning arrangements to review and test plans for prevent and cohesion related incidents with key partners and stakeholders.

It will also engage voluntary, community and faith sectors in community communication and reassurance.

Prevent Objectives: 5

Project Lead: CXD, RMBC

Progress/Outcomes: Further discussions required with EDS Emergency Planning Team

2.11 Prevent communications briefings for partners

Description: Communication is currently taking place through Guardian, Silver and Bronze structures – this project will build on this to develop internal and external briefings and newsletters

Prevent Objectives: 1, 4, 7

Project Lead: Delivery Group

Progress/Outcomes: Consultation with Silver Group has started on preferred formats for briefings.

2.12 Prevent project evaluation

Description: Evaluation of the Prevent programme and Rotehrham NI35 self assessment involving local communities through surveys and focus groups. .

Prevent Objectives: 6

Project Lead: Bronze Delivery Group

Progress/Outcomes: Evaluation to take place in years 2 and 3 (2009-2011)

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL
17th September, 2009

Present:- Councillor Austen (in the Chair); Councillors Currie, J. Hamilton, Johnston, Littleboy and Sims.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cutts, Dodson, Mannion, Parker and Pickering.

Also in attendance:- Joanna Jones (Community Representative).

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

28. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

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

29. THE SAFER ROTHERHAM PARTNERSHIP – PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Steve Parry, Neighbourhood Crime and Justice Manager, gave a presentation which highlighted the current Safer Rotherham Partnership performance and how it rated amongst its particular family of similar Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.

The presentation drew specific attention to:-

- Priorities for 2009/10.
- Headline Performance.
- Challenges,
- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – All Crime.
- Number of Crimes.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – All Crime.
- Number of Sanction Detections – All Crime.
- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Most Serious Violence Excluding GBH Without Intent.
- Sanction Detection per Crime - Most Serious Violence Excluding GBH Without Intent.
- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Serious Acquisitive Crime.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – Serious Acquisitive Crime.
- Crimes per 1,000 Households – Domestic Burglary.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – Domestic Burglary.
- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Robbery.
- Sanction Detection per Crime - Robbery.
- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Vehicle Crime.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – Vehicle Crime.

- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Other Wounding.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – Other Wounding.

- Crimes per 1,000 Residents – Racially or Religiously Aggravated Offences.
- Sanction Detection per Crime – Racially or Religiously Aggravated Offences.
- Confidence in the Police – Interviews.
- Police Statistics – Baseline and Targets.

A discussion and question and answer session ensued and the following issues were raised and subsequently clarified:-

- Trend analysis and the inclusion of further information to show key timelines, such as introduction of the PACTS and Police Community Support Officers.
- Fear of crime statistics and the possibility of this being reported to the next meeting.
- How the priorities of the Safer Rotherham Partnership fed into South Yorkshire Police priorities and how these were addressed through the PACT meetings.
- The positive improvement in performance, but how this compared with the fear of crime and perception indicators.
- Number of racially aggravated incidents, which would suggest that reporting structures were more robust following implementation of a Community Cohesion Services. An evaluation of this Service was pending.
- How public awareness recording was fed into the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and whether there was room for improvement.
- Engagement and involvement in intensive neighbourhood management and the good progress to date.
- Promotion and publicity of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and their activities.
- Confidence and assurance the reporting figures showed.
- Evaluation of the PACT process.

Resolved:- (1) That Steve Parry be thanked for his informative presentation.

(2) That the contents of the presentation be noted.

(3) That a further presentation on the fear of crime statistics be presented to the next meeting of this Scrutiny Panel.

(4) That a further report be submitted to this Scrutiny Panel on evaluation of the PACT process.

30. SCRUTINY OF CRIME AND DISORDER PARTNERSHIPS, POLICE AND JUSTICE ACT 2006

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Support which advised Members of the Government's intention to commence Sections 19 - 21 of the Police and Justice Act, 2006 by 30th April, 2009 and highlighted the implications for scrutiny in Rotherham.

The provisions extended the remit of Local Authorities to scrutinise the functioning of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP) in England from the 30th April, 2009.

The provisions also put in place arrangements that ensured every Local Authority had a committee with power to review and scrutinise and make reports or recommendations regarding the functioning of the responsible authorities (local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, police authorities, the police, primary care trusts in England) which comprised a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The arrangements for this had been made here in Rotherham and it was the responsibility of this Scrutiny Panel to carry this out.

The Police and Justice Act, 2006 also made provision for the Councillor Call for Action (CCfA) which gave Members a new right to raise matters of local concern with their Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Overview and Scrutiny Committees could then decide whether to use their powers to investigate the issue.

CCfA was, therefore, a valuable tool in equipping Councillors to act as powerful advocates for the communities they served and to strengthen still further their role as community champions.

The regulations also allowed the Crime and Disorder Committee to co-opt additional members to serve on the Committee. These co-optees could be specialists in particular areas and bring great value and expertise to the Committee's work. Members could, therefore, be co-opted in accordance with the Regulations, which allowed a committee to co-opt additional persons, but it would be up to the Committee to decide whether they should have the right to vote.

It was noted that a protocol was being developed at a local level with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership with work taking place with the Area Assemblies, through the Co-ordinating Groups. Involvement of this Scrutiny Panel in this process was welcomed.

Discussion ensued on the provisions within the Police and Justice Act, 2006 and the suggestion that someone from the Police Authority be co-opted onto the Committee. This Scrutiny Panel was fortunate in that one of its own Panel Members was also a Member of the Police Authority. In this event it was suggested that co-options only be sought for specific areas of work requiring certain expertise.

It was also noted that every effort should be made not to duplicate some of the work being undertaken by the Police Authority themselves.

Added value could be given to the commitment to changing culture at an early age and delivered through the education system.

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

(2) That Councillors Austen, Currie, J. Hamilton, Johnston and Littleboy be invited to assist in the development of the protocol of working with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

(3) That co-optees onto this Scrutiny Panel only be sought for specific areas of work requiring certain expertise.

31. CHANGE TO EXECUTIVE ARRANGEMENTS

Consideration was given to the report submitted by the Head of Scrutiny and Member Support which detailed how under the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act, 2007, the Council had to adopt new executive arrangements from May, 2010.

The legislation provided that the executive of the Council must take one of two forms, this being:-

- A Mayor and Cabinet Executive Model, where the Mayor was directly elected by the public for a four year term and Cabinet Members were appointed by the Mayor from Members of the Council.
- A Leader and Cabinet Executive (England) Model, where the Leader was elected from among the current Members of the Council for a period of four years or until the Leader's current term of office as a Councillor ended and the Leader appointed the Cabinet from Members of the Council.

There were many similarities between the two models. The key difference was that under the Leader and Cabinet Executive (England) Model, the Council could include in its constitution a provision to allow the Council to remove the Leader, if necessary, during his or her term of office. A directly elected Mayor could not be removed by the Council during his or her term of office.

The Council expressed its preference for the Leader and Cabinet Executive (England) Model at its meeting on the 22nd July, 2009. However, before drawing up proposals for change the Council was obliged to take reasonable steps to consult the local government electors and other interested persons in the area. Having considered responses, the Council would then draw up the proposed changes to the Constitution and make them available to the public. The Council must then resolve to

implement the proposals by 31st December, 2009, to take effect following next year's local government elections.

Discussion ensued on the consultation arrangements and attention was drawn to information be provided via press releases to the local media, on the Council website, an article in Rotherham News, stakeholder and partner meetings, meetings with the Chief Executive Officers Group with the Local Strategic Partnership, involvement of young people in Local Democracy Week and information provided to all Parish Councils.

It was noted that the deadline for responses/comments was the 16th October 2009, with a report being presented to the Council at its meeting on the 21st October, 2009.

The Scrutiny Panel were happy with the model proposed for implementation.

Resolved:- That the contents of the report be noted.

32. FUTURE SCRUTINY REVIEWS - ARRANGEMENTS

Further to Minute No. 17 of the meeting of this Scrutiny Panel held on 16th July, 2009, Cath Saltis, Head of Scrutiny and Member Support asked Members to suggest any further areas they would like to initiate scrutiny reviews.

Those areas already suggested included devolved budgets and perception indicators.

It was, therefore, suggested that these two areas go forward and that work commence on a scrutiny review of devolved budgets.

Resolved:- That a scrutiny review on devolved budgets commence and membership include Councillors Austen, Currie, J. Hamilton and Johnston, in addition to Joanna Jones (co-optee).

33. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL HELD ON 16TH JULY, 2009

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meeting of the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel held on 16th July, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

With regards to Minute No. 20 (Debt Recovery) it was noted that the report relating to the scrutiny review was to be submitted to Cabinet on Wednesday, 23rd September, 2009.

6B

DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL SCRUTINY PANEL - 17/09/09

34. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON 10TH AND 24TH JULY, 2009

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings of the Performance and Scrutiny Overview Committee held on 10th and 24th July, 2009.

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes be noted.

35. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NEW ARRIVALS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 22ND JULY, 2009

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting of the New Arrivals Working Party held on 22nd July, 2009.

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes be noted.

36. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL HELD ON 23RD JULY, 2009

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meetings of the Members' Training and Development Panel held on 23rd July, 2009.

Resolved:- That the contents of the minutes be noted.

**CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT
14th September, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Hussain (in the Chair).

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Burton.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

12. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 6TH JULY, 2009

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th July, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

13. MATTERS ARISING

One Town, One Community initiative

Resolved:- (1) That the Community Engagement Cohesion Manager identify suitable partners and arrange a meeting on this matter in October, 2009.

(2) That a report be prepared and submitted to all partners for consideration at the arranged meeting.

14. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NEW ARRIVALS WORKING PARTY HELD ON 22ND JULY, 2009

The minutes of a meeting of the New Arrivals Working Party held on 22nd July, 2009, attended by Councillor Sharman (in the Chair), and Councillors Doyle and Hussain were noted.

15. ROTHERHAM NEW LIVES - UPDATE

Andrew Crowley, Team Leader, Asylum Team, presented the submitted report on Rotherham New Lives, an integration strategy for services for asylum seekers and refugees in Rotherham.

Rotherham New Lives is a strategy that has been jointly prepared by the Rotherham Asylum Project Team and the Refugee Council. It is the result of two separate strands of work – the first was an Action Plan developed by the Asylum Team to co-ordinate the work of different services in Rotherham, and the second was an initiative by the Refugee Council to develop local strategies.

The Strategy was finalised in July 2007 following a consultation period over the last quarter of 2006. Progress on achieving the targets set out in the strategy has been limited. An unforeseen difficulty was that a number

of key agencies had not responded to the original consultation and individual work had to be carried out with them to agree a relevant action.

Despite there being no formal launch of the strategy, a number of actions have been completed, either as a result of the strategy, or as other services have been developed. The actions that have been achieved, and actions which are ongoing, are listed in Appendix A.

Appendix B set out a list of Agencies responsible for actions within the Rotherham New Lives Strategy.

The current Asylum Dispersal Programme is due to end in May 2011. The number of supported asylum seekers is expected to fall over the next 6 to 9 months as a consequence of the final phase of the Case Resolution Programme.

The Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Migration Partnership launched a draft regional strategy in July 2009 which supports Rotherham New Lives, and will provide a framework for future local strategic developments.

The meeting discussed:-

- Educational needs of asylum seekers
- Areas of work to be carried out with School Governors
- Media and public perception issues
- Outreach work
- Work with landlords
- Ambassadorial Programme for staff
- Need to co-ordinate information on the Council's website/suitable links to key reports/documents

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

(2) That the reasons for the partial success in achieving the targets, as reported, be noted.

(3) That the proposed method of monitoring the completion of the outstanding actions be supported.

(4) That regular progress reports be submitted to the New Arrivals Working Party every 6 months, and to the Community Cohesion Group of the Proud Board on an annual basis.

(AT THE AGREEMENT OF THE CABINET MEMBER, THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS MOVED TO THE OPEN PART OF THE MEETING)

16. FORWARD PLAN/WORK PROGRAMME FOR COMMUNITIES AND INVOLVEMENT

Consideration was given to items for the current Forward Plan/Work Programme.

These included:-

- ❖ REMA/VAR – Presentation to be arranged for the next meeting on the up to date situation with regard to Service Level Agreements
- ❖ LINK Annual Report – Need for current position to be clarified
- ❖ Communication and Marketing Strategy – Need for current position to be clarified
- ❖ One Town, One Community – Meeting to be arranged to take place on 20th October, 2009

In addition, the following areas of work were discussed:-

- Area Plan Updates
- People in Communities Together (PACT)

Resolved:- That the current position with regard to work within the Forward Plan/Work Programme be noted.

(AT THE AGREEMENT OF THE CABINET MEMBER, THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS CONSIDERED IN ORDER TO KEEP MEMBERS FULLY INFORMED)

17. LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK

The Neighbourhood Partnership Manager reported that a number of projects had been identified for the Local Democracy Week initiative.

Resolved:- (1) That a separate meeting to discuss this matter be arranged.

(2) That a report on this matter be submitted to the next meeting of the Cabinet Member, Community Development and Engagement.

18. 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 items of business on the grounds that they involve 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 March 2006) (information relates to financial or business matters).

19. EXTENSION OF FUNDING FOR ADVICE SERVICES

Further to Minute No. 61 of a meeting of the Cabinet Member, Communities and Involvement held on 11th February, 2008, consideration was given to a report presented by Zafar Saleem, Community Engagement and Cohesion Manager, which sought approval to extend the current grant aid contracts with a number of advice and information providers to the end of the current financial year.

The Cabinet Member, Communities and Involvement meeting held on 11th February, 2008, had agreed that these payments would be reviewed at the end of the funding period, pending the outcome of the current strategic review of advice services. As the review has not been completed it is necessary to renew funding until the end of the current year in order to provide stability to the projects.

Resolved:- (1) That the ICIB grant aid funding to the listed voluntary and community sector organisations, as set out in the report now submitted, be approved.

(2) That the current situation with regard to the Ferham Advice Centre Enterprise initiative be clarified and a meeting be arranged with Ward Members.

20. ROTHERHAM WOMEN'S NETWORK

Consideration was given to a report presented by Zafar Saleem, Community Engagement and Cohesion Manager, which sought authority to award a small grant to Rotherham Women's Network which is managed by GROW (Giving Real Opportunities for Women).

The Rotherham Women's Network aims to develop a network that will represent the views and aspirations of Rotherham women. There is a real commitment to ensure all communities of Rotherham women have the opportunity to become involved in the development of a strong, active and empowered community in which women are able to do things for themselves, define problems they face and, together with partners, tackle them.

The report set out the specific aims of the project, together with good progress in delivering its aims and current achievements.

Women are now volunteering/participating in:-

- Area Assemblies
- Environment Forum

- Maternity Services Liaison Committee
- Maternity Service User Forum
- Community Strategy Refresh
- Changes UK – Government Equalities Office
- Regional Women's Forum
- Women Working Together for Change (Rotherham's first Gender Equality conference)
- Rotherham Town Centre Planning Group (the only Rotherham residents attending not representing a group)
- Rotherham Town Team
- Rotherham Economic Master Plan – review
- Voluntary Community sector Trustee's and Directorships

Following inter-agency discussions, small grant aid funding has been secured from the health sector (Department of Health) for 2009/10 and 2010/2011.

Resolved:- That an ICIB grant aid funding of £5k be approved to the Rotherham Women's Network.

21. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement take place on Monday, 12th October, 2009 at 11.30 a.m.

**1 ECABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT -
12/10/09**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT
Monday, 12th October, 2009**

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

Apologies for absence:- An apology was received from Councillor .

22. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest to report.

**23. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 14TH
SEPTEMBER, 2009**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th September, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

24. VOLUNTARY ACTION ROTHERHAM

Janet Wheatley, Chief Executive, Voluntary Action Rotherham, gave a powerpoint presentation on the up to date situation with regard to Service Level Agreements and service delivery, in accordance with Voluntary Action Rotherham's Strategic Plan 2009-2012.

The powerpoint presentation set out:-

- ❖ Making a difference for the Voluntary and Community Sector in Rotherham
 - by what they do
 - by what they say
 - by working together
 - by developing VAR
- ❖ The Future

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

- Support to small Community Groups
- Business Plans and funding sources
- Commitment/support to volunteers
- Quality Control

Resolved:- (1) That Janet Wheatley be thanked for her informative presentation.

(2) That the Community Engagement Cohesion Manager be asked to arrange a partner meeting to discuss the One Town, One Community

initiative. This meeting to include a representative from Voluntary Action Rotherham.

25. PARISH COUNCIL REVIEW

Paul Griffiths, Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, gave an update on the Parish Council Review.

The meeting was informed of:-

- ❖ Revised Timescales
- ❖ Time Factors/Pressures
- ❖ Proposed Boundary Changes
- ❖ Proposed New Parishes

Work was now in the final phase of consultation, and liaison was taking place with the Boundary Commission.

Resolved:- That the update on the Parish Council Review be received and noted.

26. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Resolved:- That the next meeting of the Cabinet Member for Community Development and Engagement take place on Monday, 2nd November, 2009 at 11.30 a.m.

PERFORMANCE AND SCRUTINY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE
Friday, 9th October, 2009

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Jack.

67. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of Interest made at this meeting.

68. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS.

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

69. LOCALISED FLOODING IN JUNE, 2009

Graham Kaye, Principal Engineer, outlined the matters set out in the report circulated.

A progress report was provided on the flash flooding event of June, 2009, together with actions taken by the Council to date and proposals to improve further resilience against future flooding.

On 9th September, 2009 a detailed report on the flash flooding event of June, 2009, together with actions taken by the Council to date and proposals to improve further resilience against future flooding, was approved by Cabinet Members. A copy of the Post Incident Report and Initial Investigations Report was attached in Appendix A to the report.

The Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report described the incidents that affected the Borough of Rotherham. Section 3 provided detail of the initial investigation works that had been carried out by the Streetpride Drainage Team into the cause of the flooding and any possible initial recommendations and schemes to improve the flooding problems. It did not describe in detail what the Council and other responding agencies did but it did include a description of events that led to the incidents, together with a summary of the Council's response and recovery actions.

Sections 3 and 6 of the report listed observations and initial recommendations to improve the existing flood prevention and any future response to incidents of this nature in the Borough of Rotherham.

In September, 2009, two additional temporary Agency Drainage Engineers had been employed by the Council to carry out the next stage of the feasibility study and to analyse and identify solutions to minimise the risk of future flooding in the areas detailed in the Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report.

The feasibility works commenced in September, 2009 and were likely to extend until March, 2010. It was the intention of the Council to update Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents affected by the floods regarding the progress of the works on a regular basis. The Council's Communications Unit, Media and Public Relations, would assist in forwarding all relevant updates and information, to Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents.

To date feasibility works had commenced in Aston and Laughton Common. Topographical surveys and Closed Circuit Television Surveys were being carried out throughout Rotherham in areas affected by the June, 2009 floods. The topographical surveys had now been completed ahead of programme and all Closed Circuit Television Surveys and manhole surveys were programmed to be completed by mid October, 2009.

The Council's Drainage Section and Media and Public Relations had met with Ward Members, Kevin Barron, Aston Parish Council Members and residents in Aston and Laughton Common to update them on the progress of the works and the aims of the feasibility studies. Over the coming weeks contact would be made with Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents in all other areas affected by the floods, such as Swallownest, Aughton, Treeton, Herringthorpe, Todwick, Clifton, Thrybergh, and Thurcroft.

On completion of the feasibility works detailed information and solutions to minimise the flooding problems would be reported to the Council, Ward Members, Members of Parliament, Parish Councillors and residents so that funding maybe sought to enable all future flood alleviation works identified, to be carried out.

Shortly after the June, 2009 floods, Streetpride Drainage Team, on behalf of Green Spaces, carried out various maintenance works to ditches and an outfall, including diverting a ditch to transfer water away from properties in Windle Court and Shoreland Drive, Treeton.

Major de-silting works had also been carried out to the highway drain in Worksop Road, Swallownest.

Ongoing discussions were taking place between the Environment Agency and Streetpride Drainage Team, into the possibility of providing a pluvial flood warning message to the residents in Aston, Swallownest and Aughton. Pluvial flooding was the result of rainfall generated overland flows before the run-off enters any watercourse or sewer. This new system was only in its trial period but the Government had stressed the need to issue pluvial flood warning messages, in areas where there was a high risk of pluvial flooding. Ward Members, Members of Parliament and residents would be consulted before the Environment Agency's pluvial flood warning system was commissioned.

The Emergency and Safety Team were currently investigating a multi messaging system to keep elected Members and Parish Councillors informed about flood response arrangements during an incident.

The Multi Agency Flood Plan was currently being prepared in line with the guidance from DEFRA and Environment Agency, and would be disseminated to partners in early October, 2009. The plan identified all high risk flood areas within the Borough of Rotherham following the floods of June, 2007 and June, 2009. Aston Cum Aughton and Swallownest had now been included as one of the high risk flood areas. The Multi Agency Flood Plan would be tested as part of the Corporate Exercise due to take place on 21st and 22nd April, 2010.

One of the recommendations in the Post Incident Report was the setting up of a team of key personnel who would be available to assist the affected community immediately after a flooding incident and this was currently being progressed by the Emergency and Safety Team.

In September, 2009, the Council, on behalf of the property owners who were flooded internally after the June, 2009 floods, submitted applications to the Environment Agency for funding through the Property Flood Level Grant. DEFRA had provided the Environment Agency with a £3 million Property Flood Level Grant, for the whole of Yorkshire. If the applications were successful, residents may be eligible for grants which would enable them to protect their homes against future flooding.

There were also costs associated with the production of further public information such as the Council's website and leaflets for dissemination to the local communities before, during and after a flood.

Any requirements for additional revenue funding were not reflected in the current medium term financial strategy.

Failure to progress the observations and recommendations and future improvement works outlined within the attached Post Incident and Initial Investigations Report would leave the Council vulnerable to future events of this nature and seriously affect the Council's future reputation.

In order to carry out further investigation works, 2 additional temporary Agency Engineers had been employed over a 6 monthly period, otherwise the Streetpride Drainage Team would be unable to deliver previously committed schemes and works scheduled for this financial year.

The majority of the surface water overland flooding problems were from privately owned land and would require the full corporation of the landowner(s). The duty of all riparian owners (i.e. private landowners) was to ensure that all flows within a watercourse were not impeded. The Council had a duty to maintain the safety of the highway and had certain permissive powers to ensure that riparian owners carried out their maintenance duties.

Some residents affected by the floods were now demanding that the Council take action to resolve flooding problems. Residents had contacted elected members and Members of Parliament to stress the urgency in eliminating all risks from future flooding problems.

Gary Collins, Yorkshire Water, reported on strategic matters relating to engineering and detailed the local and regional situation. He offered to attend or be represented at relevant Parish Council or public meetings. He also outlined the communications procedures relating to Yorkshire Water.

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued that covered the full range of issues relating to the June, 2009 localised flooding.

These were summarised as follows:-

- The biggest problem was flooding from agricultural land
- Communications issues were significant and were being addressed by the Council and its partners
- Reference to specific properties at Aston, Aughton, Swallownest and Treeton
- Concern that remedies had not been provided following the 2007 floods
- A proposal by the Environment Agency to have a trial Pluvial flood relief pilot to control flooding from fields in Aston, Aughton, Swallownest and Treeton
- The effect of flooding of houses and the area surrounding Willows School at Thurcroft
- Anticipated legislation that would cover a wide range of issues including legal responsibilities, responsibilities of property and land owners, planning applications and general developments
- Flood risk assessments for flood plains
- Lack of consideration of flooding in most planning applications
- Houses that had suffered flooding for many years
- Prevention/protection
- Rapid response
- A proposal to have easy access to a list of key service providers and those able to respond to emergencies
- The role of British Rail and the need to take action on various sites in Rotherham
- The role of UK Coal and the need to obtain information on their land and coal mines
- The role of all utilities and service providers
- The Council's legal responsibilities
- Rotherham Borough Council was the designated land drainage authority with certain powers
- Few powers existed to control natural events, including rain water running off slopes and hills
- Ability for flooded owners to take civil action

- An offer from Yorkshire Water to provide a written report on specific areas raised at this meeting
- The need for the Environment Agency, Severn Trent, Network Rail and U.K. Coal to set out their positions relating to these floods
- Capacity for gully cleaning
- Annual schedule for gully cleaning
- The need for a report on how officers and members would make decisions during the August recess
- The need for a guidance note on house insurance
- Information required on the DEFRA property fund grant to be announced shortly
- Consideration of the bigger picture to include how the Government, regional and local agencies plan and take action to prevent wide scale flooding in future
- Climate change and the regularity and volume of heavy rain
- The fallacy of extensive floods being once per 100 years
- Use of Rotherham News to publicise names and telephone numbers of relevant people

Members welcomed the extensive activity taking place to combat flooding but emphasised the need for continual focus to be given to meeting the needs of individuals affected.

Resolved:- (1) That the overall position be noted and the reports be received.

(2) That further meetings of this Committee be held to meet various organisations and receive updates on activity.

(3) That the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel consider matters of detail.

(4) That written reports be submitted to this Committee from the various agencies whenever possible.

70. PAYMENT OF INVOICES WITHIN THIRTY DAYS - FORMER BVPI8 - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Karen Potts, Procurement Champion, Children and Young People's Services (CYPS), outlined the matters set out in the report circulated.

The key themes arising from the reports on Goods Returned Notes (GRN) showed as follows:-

- Each month Children and Young People's Services processed an average of 4,500 invoices of which approximately 100 fell outside the required 30 day timescale.
- Generally CYPS achieved the 2009/10 target of 97.5% of invoices processed within 30 days.
- In August, 2009 performance dropped to 95.24% due to a 25%

increase in late GRNs and the number of invoices processed reducing by almost half. This reflected the Summer holiday period and the term time only nature of a number of services.

The monthly analysis of late GRN transactions had highlighted the following issues:-

- Confusion over automatic reminder messages issued
- Old or incorrect order references quoted by suppliers
- Disputed invoices (including those sent too early by supplier)
- Delays in receiving copy invoice to be able to check details of services provided (usually related to children's care and high value invoices)
- Staffing problems / change of job
- Goods delivered in School holidays (no staff on site to deal with GRN)
- Top ups for call off orders (usually agency staffing or out of authority placements)
- Order errors for energy invoices that did not require receipting
- Occasional staff training issues

Discussion and a question and answer session ensued on the following :-

- Goods received notes
- Start of month, end of month
- Effect of school holidays
- P2P issues
- Invoices in dispute
- Communications and training issues
- Performance clinic
- Need for improvement
- Possibility of meeting targets better than thirty days

Councillor Wyatt, Cabinet Member for Resources, outlined the strategic position including the following:-

- There was a big improvement in performance overall
- This performance indicator was subject to robust review and monitoring
- Procurement achieved substantial cost savings for the Council
- The practical issues raised at this meeting were under consideration by the Procurement Panel

Resolved:- (1) That the position in CYPS be noted, together with action being taken to secure improvements.

(2) That the issues raised be considered by this Committee at future meetings, including when RBT Performance was scrutinised.

(3) That systems issues be reviewed by the Procurement Panel.

71. "11 MILLION TAKEOVER DAY" 2009

Cath Saltis reported that "11 Million Takeover Day 2009" was to be held on Friday, 6th November, 2009.

Members discussed the options for supporting this event and made suggestions on how best to utilise this opportunity.

Resolved:- (1) That "11 Million Takeover Day 2009" be supported.

(2) That the Youth Cabinet be invited to take over this Committee's meeting on 6th November, 2009.

(3) That members of the Cabinet and relevant youth groups be invited to attend.

72. MINUTES

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 25th September, 2009 be approved as a correct record for signature by the Chairman.

73. WORK IN PROGRESS

Members of the Committee reported as follows:-

(a) Councillor G. A. Russell reported on the following matters from the Children and Young People's Services Scrutiny Panel:-

- Children and Young People's Services – Revenue Budget 2009/2010
- 14 to 19 Strategy, including Learning and Skills Council Developments
- Special Educational Needs Provision and Funding
- Transforming Rotherham Learning/Building Schools for the Future – Update
- Children and Young People's Services – Performance Indicators First Quarter

(b) Councillor McNeely reported on activity relating to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel.

(c) Councillor Boyes reported on matters relating to the Regeneration Scrutiny Panel, particularly budget issues.

(d) Councillor Austen reported on the activity relating to the Democratic

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Renewal Scrutiny Panel.

(e) Reference was also made to the arrangements for Value for Money reviews and the Chairman was asked to raise concerns with the Strategic Director of Finance.

74. CALL-IN ISSUES

There were no formal call-in requests.

**MEMBERS' TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PANEL
THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2009**

Present:- Councillor Sharman (in the Chair); Councillors Austen, Gosling, Littleboy, McNeely, Pickering, St. John and Whysall.

Also in attendance was Carol Cockayne, Parish Council Representative.

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Cutts, Dodson, Hughes, G. A. Russell, Sangster, Smith, Whelbourn and Wootton.

19. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 23RD JULY, 2009

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 23rd July, 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

With regards to Minute No. 12 (Emergency Planning – Flu Pandemic) it was reported that regular updates were being provided to Members.

However, it would appear that the Council's Business Continuity Plan was still to be provided for Members.

Minute No. 13 (Alternative Technologies) made reference to a letter inviting volunteers which was to be circulated.

Further to Minute No. 14 (CAA for Children's Services and Adult Learning – Workshops) arrangements were being made for these workshops to take place for Elected Members.

With regards to Minute No. 15 (RIEP Bid) it was reported that ongoing discussions were taking place with counterparts in the other South Yorkshire Local Authorities to take forward Member training on a South Yorkshire basis. Updates on progress would be provided in due course.

Consideration would also be given to the suggestion of e-learning for Members similar to other Local Authorities. Information would be provided in due course.

20. REFRESHER TRAINING FOR MEMBERS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Further to Minute No. 16 of the meeting of this Panel held on 23rd July, 2009, the Director of Internal Audit and Governance presented a report which referred to proposals to provide refresher sessions for Members on Local Government Finance, budget setting and financial management.

Along with all local authorities, the Council's financial position would come under increasingly intense pressure over the next few years. A combination of increasing demand for services, resulting from

demographic changes and a tightening of public spending would mean Councils having to look closely at how robust control was maintained over the budget, how spending was aligned to priorities and how value for money was achieved.

In view of the financial outlook it was important that Members have the information relating to the Council's finances, to ensure they could participate appropriately and effectively in decisions made about Council spending.

It was anticipated that the refresher sessions would cover the context for Council budgets and the whole process of budget setting, monitoring and management. By providing the sessions internally they would be locally tailored to Rotherham's circumstances.

The draft programme set out the areas planned to be delivered with proposals for these to take place on the following dates:-

- 13th October (a.m.)
- 19th October (p.m.)
- 28th October (p.m.)

Each session would be for a half day and involve a combination of presentations, delegate discussions and case studies. Members who attend would have the benefit of up-to-date information on public sector finance and understand the budget setting and management processes in place in Rotherham.

As well as Rotherham Council Members, there were other stakeholders who the training would have relevance to and who might, therefore, be interested in attending, for example independent Standards Committee Members and Parish Council Members. It was, therefore, proposed to offer the refresher sessions to partners and stakeholders who might find the training of some help or interest.

Discussion ensued on the timeslots for the refresher sessions and it was suggested that to ensure everyone could attend the slots be aimed at a morning, afternoon and early evening.

It was also suggested that the invitation letter include a reply slip to give some indication of Member preferences of session and that this information be circulated at the Parish Network meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 23rd September, 2009.

Agreed:- (1) That the proposals for offering refresher sessions for Members on Local Government Finance and financial management be supported on a morning, afternoon and early evening basis.

(2) That Members be encouraged to attend one of the three sessions planned to be provided during October, 2009.

(3) That the invitation to attend be extended to relevant partners and stakeholders, including Parish Council and Standards Committee Members.

21. SINGLE EQUALITY SCHEME

Janet Spurling, Equalities Officer, drew to Members' attention the forthcoming Members' Seminar on the Single Equality Scheme scheduled to take place on the 20th October, 2009 at 9.00 a.m.

The seminar was requested by the Democratic Renewal Scrutiny Panel at its April, 2009 meeting and would provide information on the approach taken to develop the scheme and how the scheme will be evolving in response to future changes in legislation.

Reference was also made to the external Diversity Peer Challenge on the 10th -12th November, 2009 now the Council had declared at "excellent" level of the Equality Framework for Local Government.

Discussion ensued on the need for some further equalities training for Elected Members and it was reported that discussions were ongoing with ICOCO (Institute of Community Cohesion) regarding some collaborative South Yorkshire training. An update would be provided in due course.

It was also noted that the workbooks previously recommended for circulation by this Training Panel from the I.D.e.A. had not yet been received with a request that this be followed up.

Agreed:- (1) That the information regarding the forthcoming seminar be noted.

(2) That further information be provided on forthcoming equalities training.

(3) That the workbooks be circulated to Members as soon as possible.

22. LOCAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2009 - 21ST CENTURY COUNCILLOR - 5TH NOVEMBER, 2009

Consideration was given to details of the Local Leadership Conference organised by the I.D.e.A. taking place on 5th November, 2009 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Nottingham.

Agreed:- That Councillors Austen and Sharman attend on behalf of this Panel and provide feedback.

23. MEDIA TRAINING

Consideration was given to the report submitted by the Head of Scrutiny

and Member Support which set out details to develop a media training programme for Members.

The request for media training arose from Members' personal development plans and following discussion the Head of Scrutiny and Member Services and the Head of Communications have identified a media training company. Television and Radio Techniques (TRT), a specialist media training company, based in Sheffield with nearly thirty years success have a dedicated team of fully qualified, highly experienced tutors with journalistic backgrounds.

TRT could, therefore, provide a training package on Media Skills Training for up to six Members, specifically chosen given their role and portfolios.

In addition to this a workshop could then be provided for those Members on media awareness, which would then be delivered internally by the Communications and Marketing Team. This would then ensure Members were trained and equipped to deal with media interaction appropriately.

It was also reported that specific training packages were to be developed for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor to assist in their civic roles.

It was suggested that a refresher package also be put together for all Members on the Code of Conduct.

Agreed:- (1) That arrangements be made for specific media skills training for the Lead Members identified.

(2) That a workshop be arranged for all other Members in relation to media awareness training delivered by the Communications and Marketing Team.

(3) That a refresher package be developed for all Members on the Code of Conduct.

24. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Members' Training and Development Panel take place on Thursday, 22nd October, 2009 at 2.00 p.m.