

## **CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES**

**Venue: Bailey House**

**Date: Wednesday, 10 February 2010**

**Time: 8.45 a.m.**

### **A G E N D A**

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Apologies for Absence.
4. Minutes of the previous meetings held on 20th January, 2010 and on 2nd February, 2010 (copies attached) (Pages 1 - 9)
5. School Meals Research (report attached) (Pages 10 - 22)

#### **Ron Parry and Catherine Blakemore, report authors**

6. Children and Young People's Services - Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2009/2010 (copy attached) (Pages 23 - 30)

#### **Joanne Robertson, report author**

7. The Potential Impact of the Revised Ofsted Inspection Framework 2009 (report attached) (Pages 31 - 34)

#### **David Light, report author**

8. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended (information relating to financial and business affairs)

9. Saint Bernard's Catholic High School - Sports Hall (report attached) (Pages 35 - 37)

**Gary Gaunt and Robert Holsey, report authors**

**Date of Next Meeting:-  
Wednesday, 24 February 2010**

**Membership:-  
Cabinet Member:- Councillor S. Wright  
Councillors Havenhand, Senior Advisor, Currie and Tweed, Advisors**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES  
20th January, 2010**

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Havenhand and Tweed.

**D103. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS HELD ON 16TH DECEMBER, 2009 AND ON 12TH JANUARY, 2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 and on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2010 be approved as correct records.

**D104. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 9TH DECEMBER, 2009**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2009 be approved as a correct record.

**D105. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2009/2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Finance Manager providing details of expenditure, income and the net budget position for the Children and Young People's Services Directorate compared to the profiled budgets for the period ending 30th November, 2009 and the projected year end outturn position for the 2009/10 financial year. Currently the Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £4.084m.

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

(2) That the current forecast outturn position for the Directorate based on actual costs and income to 30th November 2009 and forecast costs and income to 31st March 2010 be noted.

**D106. SAFE AND WELL PRACTICE GUIDANCE: INTEGRATED WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ADDITIONAL OR COMPLEX NEEDS**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Interim Safeguarding Children's Board Manager stating that the Safe and Well Practice Guidance has been revised and now combines the two previous Safe and Well documents: the protocol and the practice guidance (2006).

The report stated that from birth, all children become involved with a variety of different voluntary and statutory agencies, particularly in relation to their health, day care and educational development. A range of workers from universal services including midwives, health visitors, general practitioners, nursery staff, teachers and voluntary sector workers, all have a role in promoting their welfare. Universal services are available to

all children and families and are accessed without the need for a referral. Most children and young people make progress through contact with these universal services, without requiring additional support.

However, some children and young people have additional or complex needs and these are most likely to be identified by workers in universal services.

Once additional needs are identified, the worker has a responsibility to assess which level of intervention, assessment and service provision is required and to liaise with other services and agencies as appropriate, in order to improve the outcomes for them. The Safe and Well document provides support and guidance to all staff across all agencies and ensures that children in Rotherham receive transparent, timely and appropriate services.

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

(2) That the proposal to amalgamate the two documents (the protocol and the practice guidance) be endorsed.

(3) That support be given to a robust dissemination programme to ensure that all agencies in Rotherham are aware of the Safe and Well protocol.

(4) That the appropriate officers ensure that a dynamic training programme is delivered to assure Safeguarding Children Board and the Borough Council that children in Rotherham are protected from harm.

**D107. H.M. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE LORD LAMING REPORT - THE NEXT STAGE**

Further to Minute No. 49 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Interim Safeguarding Children's Board Manager on the implications of the findings of the Lord Laming report about the protection of children from harm. The multi-agency action plan, which was appended to the submitted report, had been given a 'RAG Status' (Red, Amber, Green) based on a further assessment of Rotherham's continuing position. It was noted that the Safeguarding Children Board has made suggestions as to which group or agency should take forward the remaining issues.

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

(2) That the multi-agency plan be endorsed and partner agencies be supported with their self-assessment of compliance with Section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

(3) That the proposal that the Safeguarding Children Board, via the

Practice Standards Sub-Group, shall quality assure all Section 11 self assessment processes be supported.

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

**D108. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

Further to Minute No. D99 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 16th December, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services concerning the Children and Young People's Services' Improvement Plan summary. Members noted that detailed regular monitoring takes place against a number of actions across several themes. The report had also been submitted to the Improvement Panel, chaired by the Council's Chief Executive.

Members also considered the contents of the Notice to Improve, issued during December, 2009 by the Minister of State for Children, Young People and Families. Issues identified in the Notice to Improve would also be incorporated into the Improvement Plan.

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

(2) That the progress being made with the Children and Young People's Services' Improvement Plan, as now reported, be noted.

(3) That progress reports on the Improvement Plan continue to be submitted to meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services.

**D109. EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS (ESF) 2007-2013 - 16 TO 19 NEETS RESPOND FUND**

Further to Minute No. 25 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the European Structural Funds NEETs Response Fund Manager detailing the progress in the management and delivery of the European Structural Funds (ESF) 16-19 NEETs Response Fund to 30th November, 2009.

The report stated that although the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) had agreed in principle to this Council's business case to access £500,000 residual ESF monies, a number of factors at the LSC led to the business case not being endorsed. This Council is required to re-issue its business

case before March, 2010. The business case will focus on the priorities set out in Rotherham's 16-19 Statement of Need of mainstream funded provision, namely Apprenticeships, Foundation Learning and Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities .

The Learning and Skills Council has agreed to extend the duration of Rotherham's ESF 16-19 NEETs Response Fund from 31st March, 2010 to 31st December, 2010 to align Rotherham's contract with the other three South Yorkshire contracts and recognising that the original tender, funding and targets were to be delivered over a two-year period.

Details of the fourteen commissioned projects were appended to the report submitted.

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

(2) That further progress reports about the ESF 16-19 NEETs Response Fund continue to be submitted to meetings of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services at intervals of six months.

(3) That the report be submitted to the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel for information.

#### **D110. ABLE ROTHERHAM PROJECT**

Further to Minute No. 172 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2009, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Senior Director for Schools and Lifelong Learning, about the proposed changes to the ABLE Rotherham Project.

The report referred to the uncertainty of the future revenue funding of the project and proposed the withdrawal from the original proposal and the investigation of alternative opportunities to develop as much of the ABLE project on another site(s) in a way that is financially sustainable. This alternative provision would be developed to offer alternative curriculum provision for young people in Rotherham.

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

(2) That the proposal to develop the Ickles Lock site, Templeborough for ABLE Rotherham be not progressed.

(3) That alternative options continue to be explored that are financially sustainable.

(4) That a further progress report be submitted to a meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services early in 2010.

**D111. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT BOARD HELD ON 8TH DECEMBER, 2009**

Consideration was given to the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board, held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2009.

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

**D112. 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 those paragraphs, indicated below, of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

**D113. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW JUNIOR AND INFANT SCHOOL AT SWINTON QUEEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Project Manager, Environment and Development Services concerning the tenders received for the construction of a new Junior and Infant school building at the Swinton Queen Primary School. The report stated that the new building would comprise one foundation unit, two reception areas, two Infant classrooms and six Junior classrooms, a main entrance foyer and reception, administration offices, toilets, stores, hall, a community room and link corridors, with external works comprising hard and soft play areas.

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

(2) That the Target Cost of £4,060,547.12 and the Guaranteed Maximum Price of £4,704,950.32, submitted by Wildgoose Construction Limited, dated 8th October 2009, and the total project approval of £5,434,042.20 be accepted for the construction of a new Junior and Infant school building at the Swinton Queen Primary School.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act – information relating to financial or business affairs)

(Councillor T. Sharman in the Chair)

**D114. PROPOSED OFFER OF CONTRACT TO GROUNDWORK DEARNE VALLEY**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Children and

Families Special Needs Service Manager concerning a proposal for the Council to enter into a contract with Groundwork Dearne Valley for the design and commissioning of a new play area provision and the redevelopment of the garden area within the Cherry Tree House unit of the Orchard Children's Centre at Masbrough, Rotherham.

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

(2) That approval be granted for a contract to be awarded to Groundwork Dearne Valley for the project design, project management and final accounting on completion for the works to provide a new play area and to redevelop the garden area within the Cherry Tree House unit of the Orchard Children's Centre at Masbrough, Rotherham.

(3) That a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services after appraisal of the tenders received for the construction contract and prior to the awarding of the construction contract.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act – information relating to financial or business affairs)

(Councillor S. Wright declared a prejudicial interest in the above item, as a Director of the Groundwork Trust and left the meeting during consideration of this item; in his place, the Deputy Leader, Councillor T. Sharman attended the meeting to consider and determine this item)

(Councillor S. Wright resumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting)

**D115. PURCHASE OF PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITY MONITORING SOFTWARE (ESTART) FOR PHASE 3 CHILDREN'S CENTRES**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Childcare Sustainability Manager concerning the proposed purchase of three additional eStart Licences from Capita Children's Services for the Phase 3 Sure Start Children's Centres, without a further procurement process. This purchase will enable the expansion and ensure the coherence of the existing performance and monitoring software system used in all Phase 1 and Phase 2 Children's Centres. The estimated value of the additional Licences including implementation and annual maintenance is £12,000.

The report stated that expansion of the current Children's Centres activity and performance management system is essential to fulfil the requirements of the new Children's Centres Performance Management Guidance and will support the completion of the required Self Evaluation document.

approval be given under Standing Order 38 the exempting of the contract from the requirements of Standing Order 48 (contracts valued at £50,000 or more).



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

(2) That approval be granted under Standing Order 38 for the exemption of the contract from the requirements of Standing Order 48 (contracts valued at £50,000 or more) in respect of the purchase of three additional eStart Licences from Capita Children's Services for the Phase 3 Sure Start Children's Centres.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act – information relating to financial or business affairs)

**D116. EDUCATION CATERING SERVICES - BUDGET MONITORING REPORT APRIL TO NOVEMBER 2009**

Further to Minute No. 118 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2009, consideration was given to a report, presented by the Principal Catering Officer, detailing the forecast outturn trading position for the Education Catering Service based upon trade during the period April to November, 2009.

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

(2) That the Principal Catering Officer continue to submit budget monitoring progress reports on the trading position of the Education Catering Service to the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services.

(Exempt under Paragraph 3 of the Act – information relating to financial or business affairs)

**D117. SECONDARY SCHOOL LIFESTYLE SURVEY 2009 (BOROUGH WIDE)**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy and Planning Team Manager concerning the annual Lifestyle Survey, undertaken with both Primary and Secondary school pupils, with questions covering a range of issues, such as health, how pupils feel about school, how safe they feel, how pupils feel about the area in which they live, bullying, and how often they may smoke, drink or take drugs.

The submitted report detailed the Secondary Survey 2009, which was open to all Rotherham's secondary schools. The survey was designed online by RBT. A project group consisting of representatives from Children and Young People's Services, NHS Rotherham and Healthy Schools organised the design and implementation of the survey. The secondary survey period commenced on 15th June, 2009 and concluded on 24th July 2009.

Twelve schools had taken part and 2,589 pupils undertook the survey, an

increase in the number of pupils compared to 2008. Individual school reports and summaries have been produced for the schools who participated in the survey. The Borough-wide report, and the relevant data tables will be made available on the intranet, and the Executive Summary will be made available on the Council website.

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

(2) That a letter be sent to the twelve schools thanking them for participation in the survey and other schools be encouraged to participate in future years' lifestyle surveys.

(3) That the report also be submitted to the Children's Board, the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel and to the Youth Cabinet.

(Exempt under Paragraph 2 of the Act – information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual)

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES**  
**Tuesday, 2nd February, 2010**

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Havenhand and Tweed.

**D118. APPOINTMENT OF LEA SCHOOL GOVERNORS**

Pursuant to Minute No. C50 of January 2000, consideration was given to nominations received to fill Local Authority vacancies on school governing bodies.

Resolved:- That, with the effective date of appointment as shown, the following appointments be made to school governing bodies, subject to satisfactory checks being undertaken:-

**New Appointments**

Maltby Redwood J & I	Mrs. Susan Shepherd	02.02.2010
Rockingham J & I	Mrs. Jenny Artell	02.02.2010
Roughwood Primary	Mr. David Tomlinson	02.02.2010
Wingfield Comprehensive	Mrs. Christine Le-Voguer	02.02.2010

**Re-appointment**

Maltby Redwood J & I	Mrs. Christine Beaumont	06.03.2010
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<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>School Meals Research</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

Sheffield Hallam University have undertaken research into the factors influencing the take up of School Meals in Rotherham. This report outlines their research methodology, highlights key issues found, the conclusions reached and proposed action that partners from Education Catering Services, Healthy schools and Rotherham NHS Obesity Team intend to implement to address these issues.

### **6. Recommendations**

**That the report is received with the acknowledgement of the wider implications of the report to existing Local Area Agreement targets and priorities such as NI 52, 56, 57 and PSA 12. ; and approval is given for the implementation of the attached action plan.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

Communities for Health funding was secured to enable research in to school meals take up in Rotherham. Two specific questions formed the basis of the research project:

1. What factors influence school meals take up in Rotherham?
2. What are the solutions that can be implemented to increase the take up?

The research was undertaken by the Centre for Education Inclusion Research at Sheffield Hallam University between September and December 2009.

The research used a combination of pupil surveys, focus groups (pupil and staff) and interviews with parents, teachers and staff. A total of 15 schools (11 primary and 4 secondary) were involved with a total of 979 pupils surveyed (see appendix 1 for the survey). The schools were selected using a matrix based on the deprivation indices; the random sampling used created a cross section of different schools for the survey which reflected factors such as Free School Meal (FSM) entitlement, uptake of school meals, size of school and location.

### Summary of participant responses

The research highlighted some positive results in support of the school meals service with

- 80% of pupils have school meals at some time
- 76% of pupils stated that the catering staff are helpful and friendly
- 75% of pupils surveyed indicated they 'liked the meals a lot'.
- 69% of pupils said that the food tastes good

### Key Issues / themes were identified that may lead to low uptake of school meals

- Queuing
- Time
- Cost and value for money
- Menu
- Popular foods running out
- Choice
- Portion size (too small)
- Dining Environment – noise, cramped chaotic facilities
- Lack of information / communication
- Untapped resources
- Social time

A key issue is the cost and value for money of a school meal as only 36% of pupils agreed they were value for money, whereas 68% of secondary pupils indicated that lower prices would encourage greater take up.

A significant number of pupils entitled to free school meals do not take up their entitlement and therefore the report highlights that further research is required; as detailed in the action plan.

Some of the report recommendations are already being acted upon within several primary schools:

- Implementation of band systems where a child selects the main course every morning and is guaranteed their selection at lunch time.
- Funding has been received from DCSF to improve dining facilities and improvements to 19 schools will be implemented over the next eighteen months.
- Two pilot projects are also currently underway being delivered in partnership with the School Food Trust to target marketing of the school meal, and small changes that can be initiated from within the school to take ownership of increasing school meals.

It is anticipated these projects will support some of the recommendations highlighted in the research and offer evidence of best practise to be implemented across the borough.

### Summary of the report recommendations for each stakeholder

- **Healthy Schools / health promotion**

Engage schools to design educational and promotional materials for primary and secondary schools to raise awareness of impact school meals can have on health  
Develop and distribute healthy eating tips and ideas for packed lunches  
Conduct further investigations into the uptake of free school meals

- **RMBC Catering services**

Think innovatively about new ways of delivering the service that will best meet pupils' needs whilst balancing health and budgetary constraints  
Model a positive can do / will try attitude towards schools and staff and develop a clear communication strategy  
Consider developing a more modern, innovative menu with provision for vegetarian and special dietary requirements.  
Consider removing or reducing the quantities and frequency of less healthy snacks in secondary schools and replacing with a wider range of healthier alternatives

- **Headteachers /teachers**

Rushed and pressured lunchtimes leads to inadequately refreshed pupils, consider the possibility of extending the lunch period, reorganising sittings or finding ways to manage the process more efficiently  
Use school food as a link to other areas of the curriculum and view lunchtime as a resource and learning opportunity  
Consider stay on site lunch policies where appropriate  
Formally and informally invite staff feedback from pupils, parents and catering staff

- **Catering Staff**

Encourage staff to respond to requests for input and feedback on school meal issues  
Constructively suggest ideas to address problems identified in schools  
Be responsive and flexible to meet the changing needs of pupils and the school

## RMBC and partner response to the recommendations

An action plan to address the recommendations made in the report is being prepared by colleagues from NHS Rotherham Public Health Obesity team, Healthy Schools and Education Catering Services. A draft plan is attached in Appendix 2. Implementation of the final action plan will focus on communicating the health benefits of a school meal, addressing issues within schools that affect a child's selection of a school meal or alternative provision.

### **8. Finance**

The research was funded through Communities for Health funding. Specific actions requiring funds will be fully evaluated for cost to benefit prior to any implementation. A commitment to achieving the recommendations identified in the action plan and an increase in information and communication is required to deliver the positive messages about the benefits of receiving a school meal. Council and NHS partners will continue to discuss the resource requirements and how best to meet them.

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

In order for the recommendations to be fully engaged with, a multi agency approach to be adopted demonstrating continued support from a variety of organisations for the provision of school food and its contribution to being able to provide healthy nutritious food for all children, to reduce health inequalities and improve educational attainment.

Commitment is required from: schools to prioritise and allow time for school meals; from NHS Rotherham and Healthy Schools to educate parents and children about the benefits of healthy eating; and continued commitment from the Education Catering Service for capacity building of both staff and facility development.

The School Lunch Grant supports the price of a school meal and is only guaranteed until 2010-2011. If the grant is withdrawn the meal price would have to increase, impacting on the work of the school meals service and partners in improving meal take up.

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

The service makes a contribution to all of the themes of the Corporate Plan and the five outcomes of Every Child Matters.

Rotherham Proud: the communities will be proud of the modern facilities being provided for the youth of the borough.

Rotherham Learning: it is generally acknowledged that pupils who have access to a healthy school meal will benefit from greater educational achievement.

Rotherham Achieving: Greater educational achievement can lead to the creation of future access to economic opportunities, contributing both to developing the prosperity of Rotherham and also minimising inequalities.

Rotherham Alive: established links with NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC Healthy Schools help promote the impact school food and healthy eating can have on the lifestyles of young people in Rotherham.

Rotherham Safe: working with the schools to retain pupils on campus will help to ensure safety at lunchtime whilst the smartcard system reduces the opportunity for bullying or theft.

Sustainable Development: through the development in skills of front line catering staff improvements to economic and employment opportunities for the local community are increased. Improved take up in the number of pupils accessing a school meal will ultimately lead to a growth in service and benefit the school, families and the local economy.

Fairness: the service provides equality for all through ensuring all pupils in Rotherham have access to healthy school food.

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

NHS Rotherham Public Health  
Rotherham MBC Healthy Schools  
Rotherham School Meal Research Project, Final report: Sheffield Hallam University,  
Centre for Education Inclusion Research (CEIR), December 2009

**Contact Name** : Ron Parry, Principal Catering Officer, Ext 2300  
Ron.parry@rotherham.gov.uk  
Catherine Blakemore, NHS Rotherham,  
Public Health Obesity Team, 01709 302746  
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## School Meals Survey

### Introduction

We would like to know what you think about the school meals at your school and how they can be improved.

We are interested in your views, whether you have school meals or not. There are no right or wrong answers; we would just like to know what you think.

Please answer the questions below by filling in the circle using a blue or black pen.

e.g.

### About you

Name of your school

Your name

Your year group

### 1. At this school, what sort of meal do you have at lunchtime, and how often? Fill in one circle for each line

	Always	Usually (3+ days a week/most weeks)	Sometimes (1-2 days a week/some weeks)	Rarely (a few times a term)	Never
I have school meals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have packed lunches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I go home for lunch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I go out for lunch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I don't have a meal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### 2. Do you have Free School Meals?

Yes

No

Don't know

### 3. Who decides whether you have school meals or not? Fill in one circle

I decide on my own

I decide with my parents/carers

My parents/carers decide for me

I decide with my friends

### 4. Do you like the meals served at your school? Fill in one circle

Yes I like them a lot

I think they are ok

No I do not like them

I don't know/not sure

### 5. What are the two best things about school meals?



### 6. What are the two worst things about school meals?

7. How much do you agree or disagree with these sentences? Fill in one circle for each line

Strongly agree   Agree   Disagree   Strongly disagree   Not sure



The food tastes good	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The food looks nice	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The portion sizes are too small	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is a good choice of food I like	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I like the healthy options on offer (e.g. vegetables, salads, fruit)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I prefer foods like chips, pizzas and burgers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I always get my choice from the menu, even at last sittings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The school meals I choose are similar to the food I eat at home	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There are often long queues for school meals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is enough time to eat a school meal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The dining area is a pleasant place to eat	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get a chance to say what I think about the food	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The catering staff/dinner ladies are helpful and friendly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I can sit with my friends while I eat my lunch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
School meals are good value for money	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I have enough money to buy what I want	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. What sort of foods do you prefer for lunch?

9. What four things would make you choose school meals more often? Read through the list and tick your top four:

Fill in 4 only

- A wider choice of food
- Healthier food
- Shorter queues
- Bigger portions of food
- More of the food I like
- More options that suit my diet (e.g. vegetarian/halal/special diet)
- Being able to taste the food before choosing it
- A more pleasant dining area
- Being able to sit with my friends
- More time to eat and do other activities
- Lower prices
- More helpful staff
- More theme days e.g. Chinese, Spanish, fun foods linked to events or lessons (e.g. "football", "Romans")

11. If you have packed lunches (or go home or out), what sorts of foods do you have?

12. Do you have any other comments about school meals?

Thank you very much for your help

**School Meals Research Action Planning**

Action	Lead Officer / Accountable Leads	Timescale /completed by	Resource Implication	Success measured by	Link to School Meals Research report and comments on progress	Report on progress
<b>A. Aim: To maximise the health impact school meals can have for young people</b>						
<p>ECS to consult with catering staff to find popular and unpopular food choices</p> <p>Explore ways to increase nutritional value of these foods in primary and secondary schools</p> <p>Experiment and promote new menus through theme days and consult with parents and pupils on new options</p>	<p>ECS</p> <p>ECS</p> <p>ECS Primary and Secondary Schools through school councils and parent forums</p>	<p>June 2010</p> <p>September 2010</p>	<p>Time</p>	<p>Consultation completed and recommendations evident</p> <p>Proposal compiled and implemented through future menu planning</p> <p>Increase in school meal uptake on theme days and following weeks</p>	<p>Menu</p> <p>Lack of information / communication</p>	
<p>Establish current on site snack provision in secondary schools</p> <p>Explore other snack options available at break times in secondary schools. Promote and encourage students to take these options. Examples include; soups, toast, flap jacks</p> <p>Limit availability of un-healthy choices available at break times in secondary schools</p>	<p>ECS NHS Rotherham</p> <p>ECS for all secondary schools provided for</p> <p>NHS R and Healthy Schools to support externally provided school meals contracts Secondary School cooks</p>	<p>April 2010</p> <p>July 2010</p> <p>March 2011</p> <p>January 2011</p>		<p>Results from Young People's Health Survey</p> <p>Increased sales of healthy snacks at break times.</p> <p>Increased sales of healthy snacks at break times</p>	<p>Menu</p>	

Pilot availability of new options in one secondary school and consult with pupils	ECS NHR R Healthy Schools	September 2010		Pilot project		
Utilise 'top tips for top kids' and 'me size meals' resources from the Change 4 Life campaign to target all primary school children, parents and staff and raise awareness of appropriate portion sizes	School Nurses NHS R Healthy Schools ECS	June 2010  May 2010 (Information Booklet)		Top tips for top kids distributed via school nurses and NCMP information to Y6 and reception. Other years targeted	Portion Size Lack of information / communication	
Encourage all schools to be supporters of Change 4 Life campaign	Healthy Schools			Number of schools registered as supporters		
Consult with school councils to look at ways to educate pupils about portion sizes	Healthy Schools			Pilot school through small Steps project		
Raise awareness and knowledge of benefits of healthy school meals to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils</li> <li>• Parents</li> <li>• Staff</li> </ul> Through (but not inclusive to) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School displays / curriculum</li> <li>• Newsletters / tasting evenings to parents</li> <li>• Presentations to staff</li> </ul>	NHS R Healthy Schools ECS			Number of schools accessing SFT resources  Increased uptake of school meals and increased interest reported from parents around school food.	Menu Lack of information / communication Free School Meals	

### B. Aim: Utilise school catering staff as a vital resource for increasing school meal uptake

Establish a 2-way structured feedback process between front line catering staff and ECS to include; Operational issues and the ability to adopt the whole school food policy and recommendations as identified in the school meals research	ECS Schools	June 2010		Evidence that cooks and ECS feedback is acted upon	Untapped Resources	
Establish a 2-way structured feedback process between front line catering staff and school staff Operational issues and the ability to adopt the whole school food policy and recommendations as identified in the school meals research	ECS Schools	June 2010		Evidence that schools and cooks feedback is acted upon	Untapped Resources	

Deliver training to SMSA's to raise their skills and confidence in their role to include; nutritional content / healthy eating and how school meals can contribute to the overall aims of the school including behaviour at lunchtimes, the Every Child Matters agenda and obesity	ECS NHS R Healthy Schools Dietetic support	Dec 2010 & to all by March 2012		Encourage attendance at training sessions by at least one member of staff from all secondary and primary schools	Untapped Resources	
Ensure all school catering staff have received Nutrition training or attended an update within the last 12 months	ECS	Jan 2011		All catering staff to have attended training		
Provide termly feedback to school catering staff focusing on school meal numbers, school team of the month, most improved school meal numbers, theme day ideas to ensure they feel motivated, valued and as part of a bigger team	ECS	May 2010 and ongoing		Newsletters sent to all catering staff each term	Untapped resources	
Provide feedback that has been highlighted in the research regarding the value and positive comments pupils and heads have made about front line catering staff		March 2010		Letter sent		
Increase creativity and ownership through encouraging front line staff to develop theme days and new menu ideas	ECS			Number of theme days offered in primary and secondary schools	Untapped resources	

### C. Aim: Utilise school councils and pupils feedback to monitor and improve the school meals service

Regular consultation with pupils / school councils about the school meals service including menus and process of the school meal	Healthy Schools ECS	Annually Summer term			Untapped Resources	
Formalise school council roles for reporting about school meals and utilise the School Food Trust resources for working with school councils	Healthy Schools and primary and secondary Healthy Schools Coordinators	September 2010		Inclusion as a standing item on School Council agendas	Untapped Resources	

### D. Aim: To improve the school meal process

Ensure all schools have a method of reporting to voice feedback / ideas and opinions to improve school meals	Healthy Schools ECS	September 2010		School Council and annual survey reporting mechanisms in place	Un tapped Resources	
Consult with school staff / catering staff / pupils on queuing process and length of time pupils spend queuing for their school lunch.  Establish whether a better system could be adopted by each school e.g. staggered service and the impact queuing has on school meal numbers	Healthy Schools NHS R ECS	May 2010		School to pilot consultation identified through small steps project	Un tapped Resources	

Promote benefits of the band system to primary schools where appropriate to reduce queuing time and increase school meal uptake through disseminating a report to all heads which includes benefits, process of running system, and feedback from schools who have recently set up the system	ECS NHS R	June 2010		Circulate band system report and support schools with change in system Increase in number of primary schools using system	Queuing Choice Popular foods running out	
Queuing systems in some schools are compounded by pupils fearing their first choice will run out. Look at the possibility of banding system in primary schools and pre order system in secondary schools	ECS	May 2010		School to pilot small steps project	Queuing	
Explore possibility of pre-ordering system in secondary schools	ECS Secondary school head	September 2011		Confirm a pilot school	Popular foods running out Choice	
Undertake research on how short lunch breaks impact on the school meal experience and the number s of children taking school meals. Undertake research to establish the impacts shorter and later lunch breaks have on snacking, particularly where unhealthy options are available	NHS R Healthy Schools ECS Healthy Schools	March 2012	Additional Funding for research	Circulate report to relevant boards	Queuing	
Undertake research to establish the impact extracurricular / lunch time activities have on school meal uptake. Whilst these activities are vital, establish methods of encouraging pupils to take a school meal and still be able to participate.	ECS	March 2012	Additional Funding for research	Pilot changes in access to school meals when pupils are taking part in other activities through Small Steps project in primary schools	Queuing Time	
Improve social experience of the lunch break by exploring possibilities of pupils having school meals sitting with those taking a packed lunch where possible particularly in the primary school	Healthy Schools School heads	May 2010		Increase in school meal uptake Pilot schools identified through Small Steps project	Social time	
<b>E. Aim: Promote the school meal service as a providing value for money and increase the numbers of children accessing free school meals</b>						
Promote the band system to schools as a positive way to encourage uptake of school meals through parents having advance notice of the meal their child is guaranteed to receive	ECS NHS R	March 2010		Circulate band system report and support schools with change in system Increase in number of primary schools using system	Cost and value for money	

Promote benefits of accessing and taking a free school meal to those families who are eligible including nutritional and cost benefits over packed lunches	NHS R Healthy Schools	Ongoing		Increase in numbers taking a free school meal	Free School Meals	
Look at ways to inform parents on how to check to see if their child is eligible for a free school meal.	NHS R ECS Healthy Schools	September 2010		Increase in numbers taking a free school meal		
More research needs to be done to investigate why those eligible are not taking their free school meal.	NHS R ECS	March 2011		Establish reasons through piloting at Small Steps project	Cost and Value for money	
Encourage use of School Food Trust resources by other services that have contact with families to promote access to free school meals e.g. Parent Support Advisors, Extended Schools, School Nurses, Financial inclusion Strategy Team	NHS R Healthy Schools	September 2010		Resources accessed by schools	Free School Meals	

**F. Aim: Promote and ensure the dining environment is conducive to eating a school meal**

Where high noise levels are a problem they are often an off putting feature for pupils deciding to have a school meal. Aim to create a better dining ambience through better organisation of the lunch time process e.g. introducing the band system, more time allowed at lunch times, rescheduling sittings, improvements to dining environment	ECS NHS R Healthy Schools Primary / secondary heads	Ongoing		Circulate band system report and support schools with change in system Increase in number of primary schools using system  New facilities where funding allows	Dining Environment	
Dining environment of many schools is chaotic and overcrowded, where additional investment has been made on dining facilities lunch times improvements have been acknowledged in school meals research. Continue to source external funding to improve dining environments and facilities	ECS	Ongoing	External Funding	Circulate research report to relevant boards  New facilities where funding allows	Dining Environment	
Improvements to kitchen and serving facilities have been identified as improving efficiency and quality of meals. Where there are issues around kitchen and serving facilities continue to look for funding and short term improvements that can be made	ECS Schools where applicable	Ongoing		Improvements to facilities where funding allows	Dining Environment	



**G. Aim: Adopt a targeted marketing approach to improve uptake and promote the school meal as being the best meal option for young people**

Improve communication to parents of menus and their nutritional values, in particular highlighting vegetarian, halal options etc.	ECS	May 2010		Evaluate effectiveness of School Food Trust marketing project	Lack of information / communication	
Utilise school councils and set up termly competitions to encourage pupils to create innovative ways to promote new menus. Link menu design to curriculum activities i.e. Art and design lessons, Food Technology and Science	ECS Healthy Schools Schools			Entries to competitions Number of school meals Engagement of schools in promoting competitions / new designs and prioritising menu promotion	Menu	
Promote all menu options to secondary pupils so they are aware of full choices and costs, meal deals etc available at all serveries.	ECS Healthy Schools	September 2010		Increase in school meals	Lack of information / communication Menu	
Offer Y6 pupils visiting secondary schools the chance to sample a school meal	Schools ECS	Ongoing		Increase in school meal take up of Year 7 pupils	Lack of information / communication	
Identify and promote good practice and recently implemented changes made in individual schools that have benefited the school meals process	Healthy Schools ECS	Ongoing		Queuing		



1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People's Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2010
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring Report as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	Children and Young People's Services

## 5. Summary

This report provides details of expenditure, income and the net budget position for the Children and Young People's Service compared to the profiled budgets for the period ending on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 and the projected year end outturn position for 2009/10.

Currently the Directorate is forecasting an overspend of £4.008m.

## 6. Recommendations

**Members are asked to note:**

**The current forecast outturn position for the Directorate based on actual costs and income to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 and forecast costs and income to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

### **7.1.1 Strategic Management and Support Services and Management Costs – Forecast overspend £571k (offset by BSF capitalisation £688k)**

These budgets are insufficient to meet current costs relating to CYPS staffing and central support costs relating to the need to maintain performance in locality teams and business support.

Changes to accounting regulations, now confirmed, require PFI and similar capital schemes, e.g. Building Schools for the Future, to be brought onto the Council's balance sheet as an asset. This change has enabled the Council to charge development costs incurred in the course of creating such an asset to a capital budget. This has released £688k revenue funding to offset Strategic Management budget pressures and contribute £117k to mitigate the overall forecast pressure on the Children and Young People budget in the current year.

### **7.1.2 Access to Education – Forecast overspend £73k**

£50k of this forecast overspend relates to the provision of transport for looked after children due to the increase in numbers. The remainder is additional staff costs resulting from non-achievement of the vacancy factor.

### **7.1.3 Commissioning and Social Work – Forecast overspend £1.803m**

The forecast overspend on commissioning and social work is attributable to Section 17 payments (Prevention of Children Entering Care), Section 23 payments (expenses relating to Looked After Children), legal fees, Residence orders, Direct payments & special guardianship allowances, interpretation and agency costs:

#### **Section 17**

The number of children in need requiring a child protection plan at the start of the financial year was 1,933 this has now increased to 2,017. This was budgeted at £50 per child giving a total budget of £97K. This budget is forecast to be 87% overspent with a current forecast of £181K. Additionally there is a projected spend of £61k on payments to women with no recourse to public funds. Previously these costs were paid from the Section 17 as they don't have an allocated budget.

#### **Section 23**

The number of looked after children at the end of March 2009 was 407. This was budgeted at £81 per child giving a total budget of £33K. This budget is forecast to be 312% overspent with a current forecast of £136K. The number of out of authority placements results in higher travel costs for contact arrangements.

#### **Interpretation Costs**

This forecast overspend of £55k is a result of the increased EU migrant population and family assessments and care proceedings being communicated effectively. Failure to have accurate translation in child protection would leave children vulnerable and would lead to significantly increased court and legal costs. The case has to be thoroughly translated to allow all parties to be clear about the case being presented.

### **Legal Fees**

The increase in Looked After Children numbers this year has resulted in an increase in legal activity which is currently being projected at £254K overspend. This has been reduced by the agreement to appoint an additional solicitor instead of paying external fees. The request to appoint has been with Legal Services for 3 months and the Director of Resources, Planning & Performance is vigorously pursuing this.

### **Residence Order, Special Guardianship & Direct Payment Allowances**

These allowances help prevent a child from entering a more expensive care placement. The forecast overspend of £254K is due to an increase in new allowances over and above projected numbers.

### **Agency**

Due to the high level of care proceedings being undertaken by locality social work teams there has been a need to employ agency staff in order to ensure contact hours with clients are maintained. This includes costs for the additional administrative and Family Support Workers in response to the Contact and Referral Assessment inspection undertaken in August. The vacancy rate at Team Manager level is currently at 33.3% (5 FTE) and Social Workers is 35.3% (30.2 FTE). (+£380k). Further detail on agency spend is included in 7.1.7

There are also forecast overspends of £582k on recruitment (£40k), premises (£27k), transport (£32k), supplies & services (£154k) and non achievement of the vacancy factor (£329k).

#### **7.1.4 Children Looked After – Forecast overspend £1.769m**

The forecast overspend in this area of £3.225m has been offset by re-distribution of £1.456m of forecast underspends and additional grant funding from Special Education Provision (£394k), Specific Grant Support (£367k), Non Schools DSG (£30k), Student Support/Pensions (£53k), Delegated Services (£410k), Youth & Community (£42) and BSF Capitalisation (£160k).

The number of children in residential out of authority placements is 22. The budgeted number of 14 placements were set at a unit cost of £2,984 a week. The current unit cost of £3,552 per week and the 8 placements above budget has resulted in an additional cost of £1.158 m.(+53.2% above budget).

The number of children in Independent foster care is 100. The budgeted number of 77 placements were set at a unit cost of £446 a week. The current unit cost of £902 per week and the 23 placements above budget has resulted in an additional cost of £2.3m (+128.6% above budget). The forecast overspend in this area has been partially offset by anticipated savings in in-house fostering allowance costs (-£658k).

Plans continue to be progressed to recruit additional in-house foster carers. 18 new foster carers have been approved up to December (a net increase of 6 carers for the year to date). By March a net increase of 14 foster carers (35 approvals and 21 de-registrations) is expected. The current financial forecast reflects the assumptions about services to be provided by the new foster carers.

The number of looked after children requiring placements increased from 345 at the end of March 2008 to 407 at the end of March 2009. As at the end of December this number is 387, an increase of 42 (12%) since the end of March 2008.

As a result of increased costs since April 2009 compared to the reduction in Looked After Children numbers, a reassessment of unit costs is currently being undertaken.

### **Retainers**

During 2009/10 a number of court proceedings have resulted in the Judge directing CYPS to confirm that a placement has been secured for the children prior to the conclusion of the proceedings. Given the limited in-house provision this has led to an increasing number of retainers being paid to independent foster agencies and residential care providers. £18,394 has been paid to date to retain placements for 10 children, with only 2 of the placements actually taken up.

### **Potential Increase in forecast position**

A potential increase of £177k has been identified for the placement of 5 children in Out of Authority placements. This is subject to the outcome of imminent court proceedings and so would be out of our control.

### **Other Children Looked After Services £425k**

Other forecast overspends in this area include Residential Homes £308k mainly due to agency cover for residential social worker shortages, Additional Boarding Out payments £41k, Child Trust Fund payments £10K and the Fostering Team salaries £79k which is offset by £13k forecast savings across the service.

#### **7.1.6 Other Children & Families Services – Forecast overspend £301K**

There has been an increase in adoption activity resulting in additional costs of £410k. To date 18 children have been adopted with a further 34 placed with their prospective adopters. In addition, adoptive families are being sought for 51 children for who have a SHOBPA decision (i.e. should be placed for adoption approved). It is anticipated that 30 children will be adopted by 31 March 2010. This has been partially offset by underspends on the Supporting People budget (-£69k) and contributions to partners (-£40k)

### 7.1.7 Agency Savings

Members, through the Value for Money Review Panel, have requested that regular updates are provided on Agency spend within budget monitoring reports. The following table shows an analysis of Agency spend in 2009/10 to the end of December for the Directorate.

		2009/10									
	2008/09 Outturn	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	9 month cumulative
£'000	742	67	35	91	77	96	140	145	191	109	951

These costs are due to high sickness levels, high levels of vacancies, the increase in Looked After Children Numbers and action taken to respond to the Contact Referral Inspection

**7.1.8** The Directorate continues to make every effort to ensure continued strict budget management and monitoring is maintained to try to reduce the forecast outturn position. In addition to tight vacancy management the Directorate has implemented a moratorium on uncommitted, non-essential, non-pay expenditure. To the end of December an additional £105k of savings have been identified.

**7.1.9** Details of the revenue budget position for the Children and Young People's Directorate for the monitoring period ending on 31st December are shown in Appendix A attached.

**7.1.10** A simplified version of Appendix A is included at Appendix B.

## 8 Finance

The financial issues are discussed in section 7 above and included in Appendix A and B.

## 9 Risks and Uncertainties

Principal risks and uncertainties relate to the needs led budgets for looked after children.

The number of looked after children has increased since last year and we would hope that this growth will not continue.

The recruitment of in house foster and adoptive carers remains a challenge and we must always ensure a high quality of placements. 18 new foster carers have been recruited up to November and it is expected that an additional 18 will be approved by the end of March.

A Resource Panel has now reviewed all children's placements. To date 6 residential and 12 fostering placements have ended as a result of the reviews. It has been introduced that, any new placements are only authorised for a maximum of 4 weeks to ensure that ongoing quality of care planning takes place.

Our decisions to place children with independent fostering agencies and in residential out of authority establishments will always be in the context of the best interests of our children. The budget need can only be an estimate given its volatile nature. For example, one out of authority residential placement can cost up to £250,000 per annum.

Legal costs will also remain at a high level. If children assessed as being in need of protective care are not made subject to Interim Care Orders, and subsequently Care Orders, the local authority is leaving children potentially at risk of significant harm.

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

The delivery of the Council's Revenue Budget within the revised limits determined by Council in March 2009 is vital in achieving the objectives of the Council's Policy agenda. Financial performance is a key element within the assessment of the council's overall performance.

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

- Report to Cabinet on 25 February 2009 –Proposed Revenue Budget and Council Tax for 2009/10.
- The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2008 - 2011.

This report has been discussed with the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Service and the Strategic Director of Finance.

**Contact Name:**

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Financial Services

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ROTHERHAM MBC  
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES																		
EXPENDITURE/INCOME TO DATE (As at 31 December 2009)										NET PROJECTED OUT-TURN								
Last Reported Variance	Service Division	Expenditure			Income			Net			Annual Budget	Projected Out-turn	Current projected year end Variance Over (+)/ Under (-) spend	Current Financial RAG Status	Financial Impact of Management Action	Revised Projected Year end Variance Over(+)/Under(-) spend	Revised Financial RAG Status	* Note
		Profiled Budget	Actual Spending	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Spend)	Profiled Budget	Actual Income	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Recovered)	Profiled Budget	Actual Spend	Variance (Over (+) / Under (-) Spend)								
£000		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000		
0	Individual Schools Budget - Dedicated Schools Grant	141,924	141,924	0	(118,392)	(118,392)	0	23,532	23,532	0	0	0	0	Green				
0	Non-Schools - Dedicated Schools Grant	11,789	11,643	(146)	(3,924)	(3,732)	192	7,865	7,911	46	285	255	(30)	Green	30	0	Green	1
0	Strategic Management	3,776	3,614	(162)	(489)	(455)	34	3,287	3,159	(128)	5,352	5,192	(160)	Amber	160	0	Green	2
0	School Effectiveness	1,369	1,372	3	(541)	(321)	220	828	1,051	223	1,126	1,145	19	Green	0	19		
81	Access to Education	2,847	2,700	(147)	(156)	(95)	61	2,691	2,605	(86)	3,591	3,664	73	Amber	0	73	Amber	3
0	Special Education Provision	3,509	3,707	198	(1,945)	(1,806)	139	1,564	1,901	337	1,577	1,183	(394)	Green	394	0	Green	4
0	Specific Grant Support	9,021	8,806	(215)	(6,897)	(6,554)	343	2,124	2,252	128	25	(332)	(357)	Green	357	0	Green	5
8	Youth & Community	6,656	6,672	16	(3,256)	(3,196)	60	3,400	3,476	76	2,760	2,718	(42)	Amber	42	0	Green	6
0	Student Support / Pensions	4,035	3,974	(61)	(1,398)	(1,274)	124	2,637	2,700	63	1,670	1,617	(53)	Green	53	0	Green	7
0	Delegated Services	8,023	8,119	96	(6,978)	(7,099)	(121)	1,045	1,020	(25)	(23)	(433)	(410)	Green	410	0		8
1,731	Commissioning & Social Work	7,054	7,161	107	(425)	(418)	7	6,629	6,743	114	7,802	9,605	1,803	Red		1,803	Red	9
1,961	Children Looked After	8,092	10,431	2,339	(514)	(143)	371	7,578	10,288	2,710	10,105	13,330	3,225	Red	(1,456)	1,769	Red	10
0	Family Support Services	4	0	(4)	(4)	(3)	1	0	(3)	(3)	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Youth Justice	688	694	6	(292)	(314)	(22)	396	380	(16)	596	596	0	Green		0		
303	Other Children & Families Services	1,999	1,786	(213)	(11)	(21)	(10)	1,988	1,765	(223)	2,637	2,938	301	Amber	0	301	Amber	11
0	Support Services & Management Costs	502	559	57	(74)	(45)	29	428	514	86	571	614	43	Amber	0	43	Amber	12
0	Asylum Seekers	0	0	0	0	(40)	(40)	0	(40)	(40)	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Children & Families Grant	1,498	1,461	(37)	(1,393)	(1,198)	195	105	263	158	0	(10)	(10)	Green	10	0		
4,084	<b>Total for Service</b>	<b>212,786</b>	<b>214,623</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>(146,689)</b>	<b>(145,106)</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>66,097</b>	<b>69,517</b>	<b>3,420</b>	<b>38,074</b>	<b>42,082</b>	<b>4,008</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>4,008</b>		

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

NOTES Reasons for Variance(s) and Proposed Actions

Performance

Reasons for Variance	Proposed Actions to Address Variance
1 Additional income generation from Maltby Academy	
2 Overspend on central support charges & not being able to meet the Vacancy Factor offset by Capitalisation of Building Schools for the Future funding	
3 Overspend on transport costs for Looked After Children - needs led & unmet vacancy factors	
4 Reduced requirement for Complex Needs placements	
5 Underspend/redistribution of Grants	
6 Under recovery of income on Outdoor Education venues offset by underspends within the Youth service & redistribution of grant within Community Learning	
7 Underspend on Pensions	
8 Increase in Income Targets on traded services	
9 Overspend on Legal costs, staffing, agency, VPN costs & Section 17 & 23 spend - needs led	
10 Overspend on Out of Authority Fostering and Residential placements - needs led	
11 Supporting People reduced contribution confirmed but offset by an increase in adoption activity	
12 Increased accommodation costs & not being able to meet the vacancy factor	
1 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
2 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
3 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend	
4 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
5 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
6 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
7 Forecast underspend to be used to cover overspend elsewhere	
8 Additional Income to be used to offset overspends elsewhere	
9 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend	
10 Forecast overspend to be partially covered by underspend elsewhere & plans are in place to review all placements and increase foster care recruitment	
11 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend	
12 Spend to be continuously reviewed to try to reduce overspend	

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

**ROTHERHAM MBC  
REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING**

<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES</b>									
<b>EXPENDITURE/INCOME TO DATE (As at 31 Dec 2009)</b>		<b>NET PROJECTED OUT-TURN</b>							
Last Reported Projected Variance £000	Service Division	Annual Budget £000	Projected Out-turn £000	Current projected year end Variance Over (+)/ Under (-) spend £000	Current Financial RAG Status	Financial Impact of Management Action £000	Revised Projected Year end Variance Over(+)/Under(-) spend £000	Revised Financial RAG Status	* Note
0	Individual Schools Budget - Dedicated Schools Grant	0	0	0	Green				
0	Non-Schools - Dedicated Schools Grant	285	255	(30)	Green	30	0	Green	1
0	Strategic Management	5,352	5,192	(160)	Amber	160	0	Green	2
0	School Effectiveness	1,126	1,145	19	Green	0	19		
81	Access to Education	3,591	3,664	73	Amber	0	73	Amber	3
0	Special Education Provision	1,577	1,183	(394)	Green	394	0	Green	4
0	Specific Grant Support	25	(332)	(357)	Green	357	0	Green	5
8	Youth & Community	2,760	2,718	(42)	Amber	42	0	Green	6
0	Student Support / Pensions	1,670	1,617	(53)	Green	53	0	Green	7
0	Delegated Services	(23)	(433)	(410)	Green	410	0		8
1,731	Commissioning & Social Work	7,802	9,605	1,803	Red		1,803	Red	9
1,961	Children Looked After	10,105	13,330	3,225	Red	(1,456)	1,769	Red	10
0	Family Support Services	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Youth Justice	596	596	0	Green		0		
303	Other Children & Families Services	2,637	2,938	301	Amber	0	301	Amber	11
0	Support Services & Management Costs	571	614	43	Amber	0	43	Amber	12
0	Asylum Seekers	0	0	0	Green		0		
0	Children & Families Grant	0	(10)	(10)	Green	10	0		
<b>4,084</b>	<b>Total for Service</b>	<b>38,074</b>	<b>42,082</b>	<b>4,008</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>4,008</b>		



<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2010</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>The Potential Impact of the Revised Ofsted Inspection Framework 2009</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### **5 Summary**

On 1st September 2009, Ofsted introduced a new Inspection Framework which contains fundamental differences from the previous Framework. Several of these changes present increased challenges to schools particularly in relation to safeguarding and pupil attainment. The new Framework has received a controversial reception from schools, the professional associations and Local Authorities because of the perception that it is being applied unevenly across the school system to the particular disadvantage of schools serving underprivileged communities. Anecdotal evidence suggests an increase in the number of schools regionally and nationally receiving an Inadequate judgement in Autumn 2009.

### **6 Recommendations**

- **That the report be received.**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s Services note the implications for schools of the new Framework and its potential impact on the performance profile of the Local Authority**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s Services continue to assess the impact of the revised Framework and its effect on Rotherham schools and LA support services.**

## 7 Proposals and Details

The most important changes of focus and emphasis in the new Framework include:

- A sharper focus on attainment in relation to national averages, for example at KS2 L4+ in English and Maths combined or at GCSE 5A\*-C including English and Maths, in the judgement re Standards. Although Ofsted strongly deny this, schools perceive this as a downgrading of the weighting for progress and value-added measures and, therefore, an approach likely to discriminate against schools with pupils who have low prior attainment but who progress well during their school careers even if they remain short of national benchmarks – ie, very often those schools in the most vulnerable communities.
- Standards and Achievement are now measured over a three year timeframe with a focus on consistent and sustained performance. This broader-based assessment is designed to manage out year-on-year fluctuations in school profiles but is proving problematic where, for example, a school records very significant improvement on previous baselines for which it feels it receives poor recognition in the inspection
- The core emphasis on Standards is reinforced by an increased scrutiny of Learning and Teaching with a significant commitment to classroom observations and work scrutiny during the inspection. Moreover, inspection teams have deepened their analysis of the performance of key groups – especially vulnerable pupils and groups, including Looked after Children and Ethnic Minority children – where this is potentially an issue within the school's overall profile
- Inspection across the five Every Child Matters outcomes was underdeveloped in the previous Framework and Ofsted is now making a more concerted commitment to assessing each priority distinctly and interdependently
- Professional and public reaction to the Framework has identified the scrutiny of Safeguarding as particularly problematic and potentially unhelpful. Local experience suggests a heightened focus on this area with very uneven practice across inspection teams and some extreme behaviours (it might be useful to give an example)
- The importance of Safeguarding in the overall evaluation of the school is represented by its status as one of several 'limiting' judgements, ie the grade awarded, especially if Satisfactory or Inadequate, affects the summative school outcome. If, for example, Safeguarding or Equality of Opportunity is judged Inadequate then the school will be Inadequate overall
- The Framework has introduced a formal accountability in several new areas, for example, the effectiveness of school partnerships, and increased scrutiny in others, including, for example, community cohesion
- The scheduling of school inspections has been remodelled to concentrate scrutiny on schools which are Satisfactory or Inadequate. Good and Outstanding schools will be inspected less frequently. There has already been a local increase in the frequency of the monitoring of schools judged Satisfactory in their previous inspection. While this may be a rational approach, the increased intensity of pressure on schools where Satisfactory might be a very respectable outcome, given their community profile, is potentially destructive, for example, to recruiting and retaining strong Headteachers/staff or sustaining community confidence
- The delivery of inspections has been redesigned significantly to increase the participation of the Headteacher and senior colleagues in the process. The Headteacher, for example, may now expect to be invited to attend Ofsted team

meetings and to share joint lesson observations with inspectors. Headteachers are ambivalent in their response to this, some valuing the apparently increased transparency but others declining to be incorporated in a process they do not believe they can fairly influence

- A new Self Evaluation Form (SEF) has been introduced to complement the Framework structure and priorities. The emphasis is on a leaner and more strategic approach which schools are generally welcoming, despite the pressure to rewrite quickly where inspection is imminent
- During Autumn 2009, Rotherham received 11 inspections whose outcomes were :

Phase	Number of Inspections	% Outstanding	% Good	% Satisfactory	% Inadequate
<b>Primary</b>	8	13%	13%	75%	0%
<b>Secondary</b>	2	0%	0%	100%	0%
<b>Special / PRU</b>	1	100%	0%	0%	0%
<b>All</b>	11	18%	9%	73%	0%

School	Overall Judgement	Previous Judgement
<b>Primary</b>		
Coleridge Primary	Satisfactory	Good
East Dene J&I	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Rockingham J&I	Satisfactory	Good
Roughwood Primary	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
St Ann's J&I	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Swinton Brookfield Primary	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Trinity Croft CofE J&I	Good	Satisfactory
Wentworth CofE J&I	Outstanding	Outstanding
<b>Secondary</b>		
Dinnington Comprehensive	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Oakwood Technology College	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
<b>Special / PRU</b>		
The Willows School	Outstanding	Satisfactory

This is a very thin evidence base from which to draw conclusions. Points of interest would include the number of Satisfactory schools inspected in the sample; the Satisfactory outcomes in the two secondary schools which both recorded their best ever GCSE results in 2009 ( in Dinnington's case, one of the most improved nationally) under new Headteachers; and the superb success for Willows, the fifth of Rotherham's six Special Schools to achieve Outstanding. The decline in Coleridge's rating is definitive of the essential shift in inspection criteria rather than any deterioration in a school doing very well in extremely difficult circumstances.

## 8 Finance

Ofsted inspections are nationally funded and generate no costs to schools or the Local Authority. If, however, the number and proportion of Rotherham schools judged Inadequate increased, the cost to the LA in providing statutory support would also increase. The same principle applies to Satisfactory schools, where the LA is charged to ensure they become Good. The investment in the support of category

schools (currently only one - an exceptionally low percentage - now sustained over 3 years) is a very considerable demand on the resources of the School Effectiveness Service and broader LA teams.

## **9 Risks and Uncertainties**

The new Framework is only one term old and judgement of its impact, therefore, must be very provisional especially given the tendency historically for any new inspection regime to moderate its influence after an initial spasm of controversy. To date, the impact in Rotherham, with one exception, has been relatively predictable if still, on balance, uncomfortable because of the probable grade ceiling it imposes on many of our schools. Over the last three years, the local inspection profile – both in terms of the percentages of Outstanding and Category schools – has been excellent and an invaluable counterbalance to the relatively more fragile LA Standards profile.

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

The School Effectiveness Service has provided training re the new Framework for Headteachers and senior leaders across the school phases from summer 2009. It has adjusted its working practices and staffing deployment to address new national priorities and has proved successful in supporting several vulnerable schools through the inspection process. Other LA colleagues, notably those responsible for safeguarding, have provided strong assistance in this process. This pattern of adjustment will undoubtedly continue as the new Framework settles into routine and other related national policy requirements – especially as the demands re Primary School floor targets and the secondary National Challenge – become clearer.

## **11 Background Papers and Consultation**

‘A focus on improvement: proposals for maintained school inspections from September 2009’

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