

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Venue: Bailey House

Date: Wednesday, 7 April 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 23rd March 2010 and on 24th March 2010 (Pages 1 - 8)
5. Minutes of a meeting of the Children's Board held on 10th March, 2010 (Pages 9 - 13)
6. 'The Learning Revolution: Making It Happen' - Lead Accountable Body Status (Pages 14 - 17)

Helen Shaw, report author

7. Review of Direct Payments (Pages 18 - 45)

Peter Rennie and Richard Waring, report authors

8. Children and Young People's Services Notice to Improve and Action Plan - Progress Update (Pages 46 - 56)

Sue Wilson, report author

9. Children and Young People's Plan 2007 to 2010 - Progress Update (Pages 57 - 86)

Ruth Bastin, report author

10. Children and Young People's Plan 2010 to 2013 - Consultation and Emerging Priorities (Pages 87 - 141)

Jenny Lingrell, report author

11. Foundation Stage Assessment Results - Summer 2009 (Pages 142 - 151)

Frances Hunt, report author

12. Teenage Pregnancy Strategy - Update (Pages 152 - 166)

Simon Perry and Melanie Simmonds, report authors

13. Extension to Coleridge Children's Centre (Pages 167 - 170)

14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following items are likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under those paragraphs, indicated below, of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

15. Proposed Review of Youth Service Provision (Pages 171 - 174)

Christine Brodhurst-Brown, report author

(Exempt under:-

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

Paragraph 4 of the Act – information relating to consultations about labour relations matters)

16. Development of Services for Parents with Learning Disabilities in Children's Centre Reach Areas (Pages 175 - 176)

Mary Smith – report author

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

17. Minutes of a meeting of the Education Consultative Committee held on 4th March, 2010 (Pages 177 - 182)

(Exempt under Paragraph 4 of the Act – information relating to consultations about labour relations matters)

**Date of Next Meeting:-
Tuesday, 20 April 2010**

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

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
23rd March, 2010

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

D142. 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

Anston Park Infant	Mr. Dominic Beck	23.03.2010
Rawmarsh Sandhill Primary	Mrs. Avril Brasher	23.03.2010
Redscope Primary	Councillor Barry Kaye	23.03.2010
Wath Central Primary	Mrs. Louise Fisher	23.03.2010
West Melton Primary	Mrs. Phyllis Moran	23.03.2010

Re-appointments

Badsley Moor Infant	Mrs. Margaret Wheatley	25.04.2010
Catcliffe Primary	Mrs. Freda Green	06.06.2010
Swallownest Primary	Mr. William Richardson	06.06.2010
Woodsetts Primary	Councillor Simon Tweed	06.06.2010
Dinnington Comprehensive	Councillor Jacquie Falvey	04.04.2010
Dinnington Comprehensive	Councillor Simon Tweed	04.04.2010
Hilltop Special School	Councillor Amy Rushforth	04.04.2010
Newman Special School	Mrs. Pauline Hill	04.04.2010

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES
24th March, 2010

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

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Tweed.

D143. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH, 2010

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th March, 2010 be approved as a correct record.

D144. ABLE PROJECT - UPDATE

Further to Minute No. 110 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 20th January, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by Sue Budby, Education Co-ordinator for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Schools, concerning the current situation with the ABLE Rotherham Project. The report contained details of the proposal to build a version of the ABLE Project on the site of Swinton Community School - A Maths and Computing College and be managed by the School.

Swinton Community School, had the support of the Governing Body and were aware that the project would need to be staffed and maintained and they confirmed that this would be managed from within the school and the school budget. Running costs would need to be covered by sale of produce/training places as there was no additional funding to support this aspect. The project would be designed to have minimal running costs.

The students in the Autism Unit at Swinton were happy to donate photovoltaics (PV) won from British Gas if there were reciprocal benefits for the Unit. It was intended to build a "mini system" within the Unit's existing greenhouse and refurbish the raised beds, as part of the project development, for use by the unit. The school would also use the raised beds for alternative curriculum activities, bringing the current horticulture provision back on to the school site. Wormeries would be included in both areas and this would enable the school to reduce the £6,000 per year they spent on waste disposal, 30% of which was food waste from the kitchen.

Swinton confirmed that they would like to develop the project on site and create a structure which could move with the future building plans. For security reasons the project would be located in an enclosed area within the school building, in the inner courtyard, it was likely that a build in this area would require planning permission.

The Council had received a "Back on Track" grant from the Department for Children, Schools and Families to fund the capital costs of this project.

The staffing and operating costs would be managed from within the School and school budget. A bid would also be submitted to the Coalfield Regeneration Trust for a grant to finance the additional revenue costs.

Discussion ensued on the enterprise and business opportunity for this project to flourish and need for the Steering Group to be informed of developments prior to the move towards seeking planning permission.

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

(2) That the ABLE Rotherham Project, as now reported, be supported in principle and the proposed development on the site of Swinton Community School - A Maths and Computing College be noted.

(Councillor S. Wright declared a personal interest in this item on the basis that he was a Trustee of the Coalfield Regeneration Trust)

D145. EARLY EDUCATION - ENSURING QUALITY PROVISION

Consideration was given to a report presented by Aileen Chambers, Child Care Sustainability Manager, which sought approval on the process for ensuring quality provision in Nursery Education.

One hundred and twenty two providers delivered early education in Rotherham, 39% of which were private, voluntary or independent (PVI) organisations who were contracted on an annual basis.

Improving and maintaining high quality early education was a key propriety to ensure high outcomes for children. The current contract with private, voluntary or independent providers contained expectations for the level of delivery and the process to be followed if expected delivery levels were not being met.

The current position and processes that have been developed dealt with providers who consistently failed to meet required levels of quality.

An extensive range of support was provided to all early education providers in order to improve and maintain high levels of early education delivery, however, despite this a small number of providers remained unable to sustain an acceptable level of delivery.

The draft Code of Practice would come into force in September, 2010 and would provide more clarity on the distribution of early education funding.

Discussion ensued on the need to safeguard children, definition of corporal punishment, categorisation of "good" standards of care, commitment by providers to the Common Assessment Framework and the need to follow up persistent non-attendance.

Reference was also made to the appeals procedure and the reasons for the complaint being considered at Stage 3 by the Department of Children, Schools and Families.

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

(2) That the implementation of the strategy relating to ensuring quality provision be approved.

(3) That a further report be submitted to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services once the new Code of Practice comes into force in September, 2010.

D146. SCHOOL ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION - ANNUAL CONSULTATION FEEDBACK FOR 2011/12 ADMISSION

Consideration was given to a report presented by David Hill, School Organisation, Planning and Development Manager, concerning the admission arrangements which would apply for school admission in the 2011/2012 academic year which were considered by Governing Bodies during the Autumn Term, 2009.

The report summarised the issues which had arisen as a result of the annual consultation exercise with and between schools, other local authorities and with parents, which were set out in detail as part of the report. It was noted that all admission authorities must determine their arrangements by 15th April, 2010.

Discussion took place on the proposed changes to the 'In – Year Fair Access' protocol applying to community and controlled schools.

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

(2) That the proposed admission numbers contained within Annex 1 to the report submitted for community and controlled schools be confirmed for the 2011/2012 academic year, subject to the clarifications included at Annex 2 to the report submitted.

(3) That the proposed admissions criteria for community and controlled schools for the 2011/2012 academic year, be approved and adopted.

(4) That the proposed changes to the length of time the 'Waiting List' operates, as detailed below, be noted:-

- (i) Primary Schools – waiting list in operation for the whole of the academic year;
- (ii) Secondary Schools – waiting list in operation for the whole of the Autumn Term (in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Children, Schools and Families).

(5) That the changes relating to voluntary aided schools' admissions criteria, as outlined at Annex 2 to the report submitted, be noted.

(6) That the appropriate notice be published in respect of the proposed admission numbers for the schools named in Annex 2 to the report submitted, where the admission number will be less than that indicated by the current net capacity calculation.

(7) That the change to the co-ordinated schemes for Primary and Secondary preferences, which is extended to in-year admissions, be confirmed.

(8) That the revised 'In – Year Fair Access Protocol', as detailed in the report now submitted, be approved.

(9) That a copy of this report be published on the Council's website.

D147. ANNUAL DETERMINATION - THE LOCAL AUTHORITY (POST-COMPULSORY EDUCATION AWARDS) REGULATIONS 2000

Consideration was given to a report presented by Alison Leone, Principal Officer – Student and Business Support, which set out how under the Local Authority (Post-Compulsory Education Awards) Regulations, 2000, Local Authorities were required to make an annual determination on exercising powers to make financial awards to new Higher Education (HE) and Further Education (FE) students.

In parallel with the removal of the power to make discretionary awards, funding was withdrawn from the then Standard Spending Assessment (SSA) from 1999-2000.

From that date, the Local Authority determined not to make any new awards. New funding was available to students from a new Standards Fund (now Learning and Skills Council allocated grant) in the form of Learner Support Funds. Also, since September, 2004, the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) had been available to FE learners.

Authorities were, however, still required to make an annual determination for each financial year in regard to the revised power conferred in 1998. They have three main choices under the regulations:-

- To determine not to take up the power in any circumstances and not make any provision for considering applications.
- To decide to exercise the power only in respect of certain groups or categories of student.
- To decide to exercise the power generally and consider applications from all students - still in accordance with its policies on eligibility.

The Authority had to date determined each year not to make any

provision.

Discussion ensued on the signposting expertise within Children and Young People's Services that existed despite the responsibility having been taken away from the Local Authority.

Resolved:- That the continuation of the current policy be approved.

D148. THE CONTRIBUTION OF FEDERATIONS TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT IN ROTHERHAM

Consideration was given to a report presented by Catharine Kinsella, Senior Director Schools and Lifelong Learning, which set out how new forms of school leadership and governance were increasingly important in education nationally. Several were being driven explicitly by government policy, especially Academies and Trusts in the Secondary phase.

Others were a response to ensure the supply of good school leaders, prompting, for example, an increase in the number of Head Teachers leading more than one school particularly in the Primary phase, in rural communities and in the Faith sector.

It was essential that any form of school leadership and governance was determined by the needs of the particular school and its community not expedience or external policy. Rotherham currently had one school federation at Canklow Woods Primary School and Whiston Worrygoose Junior and Infant School led by an Executive Head Teacher. The federation was a response by the Local Authority (LA) to the systematic and sustained underperformance of Canklow Woods Primary School and had supported a transformation of the performance profile of the school at KS2 in 2008 and 2009 while the excellent outcomes at Whiston have been sustained. The federation was commended in Canklow's recent Ofsted inspection, where its strong improvement was recognised.

Other Rotherham schools were now actively exploring federal solutions both at their own initiative and at the recommendation of the Local Authority. Such arrangements were likely to become a permanent and growing feature of the local school system and necessitated a planned response from the Local Authority if they were to be supported successfully.

Discussion ensued on essential needs of schools and their communities and the exploration of federal solutions also being considered by Thrybergh Fullerton and Trinity Croft and Ferham and Thornhill schools.

It was suggested that in order to make this responsibility more effective training should be made available to all Governing Bodies.

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

(2) That the implications for the local school system of the increasing introduction of federations be noted.

(3) That further reports on the impact of federations on school performance be submitted to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services in due course.

(4) That reports be presented to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services to approve any proposed new federations.

D149. KEY STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT RESULTS 2009

Consideration was given to a report presented by Catharine Kinsella, Senior Director Schools and Lifelong Learning, which set out performance in Rotherham primary schools at the end of Key Stage 2, in 2009.

Details were provided on the positive and concerning features of performance, the effectiveness of the School Effectiveness Service, priorities for improvement and development activities.

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

(THE CHAIRMAN AUTHORISED CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING REPORT IN ORDER TO PROGRESS THE CONTRACT REFERRED TO)

D150. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

D151. ROTHERHAM GRID FOR LEARNING AND LEARNING PORTAL RENEGOTIATION

Consideration was given to a report presented by Sue Wilson, Performance, Information and Quality Manager, which set how the current three year contracts for Rotherham Grid for Learning (RGFL) and Rotherham Learning Portal (RLP) would expire on 31st July, 2010. The contract had been subject to re-negotiation for a further term with RBT, taking into account both BSF and Digital Region in Rotherham.

The current Rotherham Grid for Learning and Learning Portal provided Rotherham schools with a number of services including email, Internet and Intranet access, security and content filtering, connectivity to YHGfL and SuperJANET, the National Educational Network and secure connectivity to the Council's network.

A comprehensive six month procurement exercise had been conducted in partnership with RBT comparing a number of suppliers to drive down supplier costs. This exercise had been undertaken to renew these contracts for an additional three years, taking the renewed contract to 31st July, 2013. The procurement involved schools for scoping and requirements gathering, supplier and solution evaluations and technical direction.

Discussion ensued on the proposed new services, the pricing model for the cost of the services, proposed increase to individual schools and the benefits for all schools to sign up.

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

(2) That approval be given to the contract with RBT to be in place for a further three years.

**CHILDREN'S BOARD
WEDNESDAY, 10TH MARCH, 2010**

Present:- Councillor S. Wright (in the Chair); Andy Buck, Alan Hazell, Martin Kimber, Ann Lawrence, Joyce Thacker, Richard Tweed and Janet Wheatley.

Julie Westwood and Deborah Johnson attended in respect of specific agenda items.

Apologies for absence were submitted from Pat Ward and Russell Brynes, due to work commitments.

63. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE CHILDREN'S BOARD HELD ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Children's Board, held on 3rd February, 2010, were approved as a correct record.

Matters Arising

1. Minute No. 52(2) (Serious Case Reviews) - the Children's Board were informed that two evaluations were being challenged.
2. Minute No. 53(3) (Single Point of Contact Website) – it was noted that this had not been launched by VAR but by the Website Developers
3. Minute No. 54 (Safe and Well Guidance) – it was noted that the textual amendments had been made to the practice guide
4. Minute No. 55 (Resourcing the Children and Young People's Plan) – it was confirmed that the Working Group had been convened.

64. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was give to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services concerning the Children and Young People's Board Structure and Terms of Reference.

It was noted that this was the first draft of a discussion document, that was to be discussed with relevant partners.

Agreed:- (1) That consideration of this report be deferred.

(2) That any comments on the draft be supplied to the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services.

(3) That support be given to a review of linked groups and meetings with a view to streamlining arrangements.

(4) That any future proposals be in accordance with the relevant legislation.

(5) That support be given to a review of threads, accountabilities and responsibilities again with a view to streamlining organisational operations.

65. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD LOGO

The Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services suggested that there was value in this Board developing its own logo, letterhead and identity.

Agreed:- That suitable young people's groups be asked to design appropriate branding.

66. OFSTED INSPECTION PLANNING - SAFEGUARDING AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The Director of Resources, Planning and Performance advised that planning was in train, following the unannounced inspection last August, for an Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children, which could come at any time.

Full details were provided of the programme planning and the arrangements that would be swiftly put in place when the unannounced Inspection occurred.

Agreed:- That the preparations be noted.

67. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PANEL PERFORMANCE BRIEFING

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services concerning the Children and Young People's Services Improvement Panel Performance.

The current position was that 86% of the Notice to Improve Plan actions were rated green or amber risks, and 14% were rated red risks.

The current performance against the three social work Initial and Core Assessment national indicators was detailed in the report together with details relating to vacancy levels.

Since the last panel meeting Rotherham had received judgements on two serious case reviews; one being rated as adequate and the other as inadequate.

Rotherham's partners had concerns that the inadequate judgement was not a true reflection on the work undertaken locally. Following

discussions about the inadequate judgement the independent Chair of the Safeguarding Board had decided to challenge both the issues identified and the overall judgement itself.

It was noted that one of Rotherham's primary schools had been judged as being outstanding based on the new OFSTED criteria.

The stability of placements had improved and the number of looked after children with three or more placements during the year had reduced from the 2008/09 outturn of 13.3% to 10.6% as at Quarter 3 2009/10.

Core Assessments were not yet meeting their March 2010 target but a 10% improvement since the Notice to Improve was agreed represents excellent progress.

Agreed:- That the position be noted.

68. NOTICE TO IMPROVE PLAN

Consideration was given to the Notice to Improve Plan Action Plan presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services.

An update was given on the following:-

- Rating of Notice to Improve Plan actions
- Headline Performance Indicators
- Vacancy Levels
- Serious Case Reviews
- Exceptional Performance since the last Improvement Panel meeting

The Board reviewed the full range of risks and uncertainties and the activity taking place.

Agreed:- (1) That the risks and uncertainties be acknowledged.

(2) That quarterly updates be submitted to this Board.

(3) That work continue as a priority to meet the requirements of the Plan.

69. MONTHLY SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE BOOK - KEY PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Performance Manager concerning the Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Performance Book – January 2010.

The report and appendices outlined the developments regarding monthly monitoring of Safeguarding and Corporate Parenting Services through the

new "Performance Book" and provided examples of information contained within and its functionality.

The Board welcomed this new Initiative and the comprehensive information now available.

Agreed:- (1) That the report and accompanying appendices be received and developments noted.

(2) That everyone involved in the development of the Book be thanked for their hard work.

70. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - QUARTER 3

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Performance Manager, outlining the performance of the Children and Young People's Services' Directorate at the end of the third quarter 2009/10 (December 2009). The report and accompanying appendices provided analysis against targets, direction of travel against previous performance and where possible comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

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

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

(3) That reports to this Board generally contain Executive Summaries and performance analysis without the substantial data often provided.

71. CAF/EARLY INTERVENTION

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services concerning the Common Assessment Framework and Early Intervention.

The report laid out the progress made in developing a Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy for Rotherham having made full use of the Common Assessment Framework to ensure consistent and accurate assessment of need and level of response.

Work had taken place to draft the strategy, ensuring wide consultation and input from key partners and organisations. The final draft had been circulated for comments ready for sign off by Chief Officers and the Improvement Panel at the end of March. The strategy provided processes and tools which enabled services to work together to identify families at risk of poor outcomes and to provide support at the earliest opportunity. It was designed to provide the framework within which all partners could co-operate, prioritise and co-ordinate their collective

efforts. It required the involvement of a wide range of universal and targeted services working across all sectors working together to meet the full range of needs within each family. The launch date for the strategy had been arranged for the 22nd April 2010.

The Board emphasised the importance of this Strategy.

Agreed:- (1) That the Board note the progress made in the development of a prevention strategy for Rotherham.

(2) That support and commitment be given to the principle of prevention, early support and intervention as laid out in the draft strategy.

(3) That agreement and support be given to the programme of multi-agency training around CAF and support for its place in the provision of services.

72. MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PANEL - 29TH JANUARY AND 23RD FEBRUARY 2010

Key issues and concerns from the minutes of the meetings of the Children and Young People's Services Improvement Panel held on 29th January and 23rd February 2010 were discussed and noted.

73. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Children's Board be held at Bailey House on Wednesday 21st April, 2010 commencing at 5.00 pm.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services and Advisers
2.	Date:	Wednesday 7th April 2010
3.	Title:	The Learning Revolution: Making it Happen. Lead Accountable Body Status
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Service

5. Summary:

To inform the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services of the Learning and Skills Council and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills intention that from 2011/12, all the Learning and Skills Council funding, for informal adult learning, will be channelled through the Local Authority.

6. Recommendations:

- **That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services consider the requirements of The Learning Revolution and agree which service will become the Lead Accountable Body**
- **That a further report be presented to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services following the receipt of additional information on key leadership responsibilities of the lead accountable body**

7. Proposals and Details:

In March 2009 a White Paper, *the Learning Revolution* was published. The White Paper provides a new vision for the delivery of informal adult learning and focuses on the adult learning courses provided by most Local Authorities. It also includes adult learning that happens in other places such as libraries, museums, through self-organised activities, on-line, via broadcasting and in communities. The Learning Revolution identifies the £210 million Learning and Skills Council funds called Adult Safeguarded Learning (currently used for personal and community development learning, neighbourhood learning for deprived communities and family learning) and states its intention to join with other existing national and local lifelong learning budgets, for example, health, culture.

In April 2010 the Learning Skills Council will be abolished and adult learning will be managed by a new successor body called the Skills Funding Agency. Local Authorities will be invited to take responsibility for the local agenda and to provide local leadership and the infrastructure to create a joined up, innovative local learning offer. Consultation has clearly identified Local Authorities as the best place to co-ordinate informal learning activity. Local Authorities are uniquely placed to unlock the learning potential of many local services. Local Authority leadership will ensure informal learning plays a strong role in local strategies for community cohesion, active citizenship, health and well-being.

The government want Local Authorities to build on the best of what exists now and have the autonomy and tools to drive the creation of a new culture of informal learning. Local Authorities will work with others to provide five core elements to underpin a strong local offer of informal learning:

- Innovation: public funds used flexibly, complementing private and third sector investment effectively, enabling learning opportunities to thrive by building new partnerships and connections

- Universal access: all adults able to shape and access the learning activities they want for personal development and fulfilment wherever they live, whatever their qualifications and income

- Targeted support: those in most financial need given greatest support. In relation to taught courses, most adults should contribute in part or in full to the cost of their learning wherever it is provided, and local areas should actively use fee collection to reinvest in extending the reach of what's on offer

- Collaboration: a wide range of partners and services working in partnership, aligning funds where appropriate, to maximise the scope for offering high quality, inspiring learning opportunities, increasing choice and helping adults move from one learning opportunity to another

- Promotion: the maintenance of good, up-to-date information on informal learning opportunities to be freely and openly available to local communities.

The Government wants Local Authorities to create strong partnerships in order to implement their local vision of informal adult learning.

In Rotherham there are already strong existing partnerships which can be built on; the Adult Learning and Skills Strategy Group and the Rotherham Adult Learning Partnership already bring together representatives from statutory, public, private and voluntary and community sector organisations. RMBC's Community Learning team

already delivers a substantial amount of Adult Safeguarded Learning through sub contracted provision. These existing local arrangements already provide a joined up local strategic approach but with the Local Authority taking on the role of Lead Accountable Body that will provide even more of an opportunity to promote key agendas, such as: community wellbeing; using learning to keep older and young citizens healthy; learning for citizenship and engaging more people in local democracy; supporting people to gain skills to move into work; and providing economic and social wellbeing in communities and families.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (DBIS) will work with Local Authorities, Colleges of Further Education and a range of other stakeholders and partners over the next year to implement these proposals. Over the next few months they will initiate discussions with Local Authority nominees about funding allocations, partnership and good working practice, quality and inspection issues, data collection and developing a new National Indicator, and opportunities for teachers and facilitators. Following these discussions a further report will be prepared for the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services.

8. Finance:

The total LSC funded Adult Safeguarded Learning for 2010 /2011 has been confirmed as £641,024:20. The funding from mainstream C&YP's revenue for 2009/2010 is £59,267:00.

9. Risks and Uncertainties:

In the publication of 'The Learning Revolution' the Government makes clear its commitment to supporting this area of work as they recognise how it can transform lives and boost the nation's wellbeing. However there are still areas of concern:

- The possible reallocation of funding for First Steps learning to the Further Education colleges
- A reduction in the number of progression opportunities for learners
- Less stringent quality standards for Adult Safeguarded Learning
- An overall reduction in the amount of funding available for adult learning

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:

Adult and family learning delivery contributes to the learning and achieving theme of the Community Strategy. In particular to the priorities of 'Increasing the employability of working age adults by reducing the number of adults lacking essential skills around using computers, reading, writing and maths' and 'maximise participation in adult learning particularly in disadvantaged communities'.

The last Ofsted inspection report makes reference to the positive contribution of the adult and family learning provision to the cross cutting issues of sustainable development, equalities and diversity and regeneration.

'The current action plan takes a broad approach to the adult learning agenda by creating and building sustainable learning by a range of providers in the community'.

‘The service’s arrangements for promoting and managing equality of opportunity and diversity are outstanding...and RMBC is outstanding in meeting the needs and interests of learners’.

‘The plan addresses regional and sub-regional priorities to create enthusiasm for learning and improving basic skills and skills for everyday work...removing barriers to learning for many communities in areas of high social deprivation’.

11. Background Papers and Consultation:

DBIS letter 8th October 2009

DBIS letter 9th February 2010

LGA The Councillors’ concise guide to Informal Adult Learning and Lead Accountable Body status – 3 Feb 2010

White Paper ‘The Learning Revolution’ March 2009

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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1	Meeting:	Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
2	Date:	Wednesday 7 th April 2010
3	Title:	Review of Direct Payments
4	Directorate:	Children and Young People’s Services

5 Summary

Internal Audit Division review report on Children & Young People’s Services use of Direct Payments on September 7th 2009 made 10 recommendations. Of these recommendations, 8 were rated as significant priorities for which action is considered necessary to avoid exposure to a significant risk and 2 as meriting attention where action is desirable to enhance control or value for money.

An action plan (Annex 1) to address the review’s recommendations was prepared for implementation between November 2009 and July 2010. Essential to the success of the action plan was an immediate review of the criteria for direct payments and of current allocations against those criteria. This should be with regard to the latest statutory guidance, Community Care Services for Carers and Children’s Services [Direct Payments] [England] Regulations 2009 and using eligibility criteria in line with those used in RMBC Neighbourhoods and Adult Services. An essential action prior to conducting any review, however, will be to prepare practice guidance, based on those for Neighbourhoods and Adult Services (Annex 2) but related to risk assessment for Children in Need, so that the review, and future allocations, can be conducted consistently.

6 Recommendations

- **That development of practice guidance for assessing eligibility for direct payments allocations in Children & Young People’s Services is approved**
- **That the practice guidance for Children & Young People’s Services is consistent with that in Neighbourhoods & Adult Services in applying the “critical” and “substantial” criteria of risk in the Fair Access to Care guidance to the Children in Need framework in assessing eligibility for future Direct Payment allocations**
- **That a review of current Direct Payments allocations against the practice guidance is approved to be undertaken as soon as the guidance is in place**
- **That the outcome of the review is reported**

7 Proposals and Details

Internal Audit Division issued a review report on Children & Young People's Services use of Direct Payments on September 7th 2009. A three star priority scale was used to rate these recommendations:

- *** Fundamental = action considered necessary to avoid exposure to high risk
- ** Significant = action considered necessary to avoid exposure to a significant risk
- * Merits Attention = action desirable to enhance control or value for money

The report made the following 10 recommendations:

1. Priority ** The form of agreement / risk assessment criteria should be regularly reviewed i.e. on at least an annual basis and following any changes in policy to ensure it remains valid, any updates or changes should be subject to appropriate formal approval.
2. Priority ** A database of Direct Payment users should be implemented as a matter of priority. The database should include:
 - the DP users details
 - dates and changes to the user's needs requirements and payments
 - the date when periodic assessment reviews are required
 - the date the assessment was completed along with any action points raised by the review
 - the dates when financial audits are due
 - the date the financial audit was completed along with any action points raised by the audit
 - a reporting function that will allow various reports to be generated from the database i.e. a facility to run standard reports that may be needed on a regular basis but also ad hoc reports that may be needed to provide specific information for a particular purpose.

The database should be available for use by all appropriate RMBC stakeholders by use of passwords with enforced automatic password change on a regular timetabled basis with adequate and tailored access rights to the specific areas they need to access i.e. read only, amend, etc. The database must provide an audit trail of changes. The information held on the database and access to the database must be in accordance with data protection and security information policy guidelines.
3. Priority ** The assessments are undertaken at the required intervals, any backlogs should be cleared as a matter of priority. The database and the personal file should include details of monitoring undertaken and the completion and results and action points of assessments.

4. Priority ** The outstanding and outdated financial audits of all Direct Payment users are rectified and provision is made by the Direct Payments team to accommodate additional service output in order to achieve this recommendation.
5. Priority ** On completion of the audit review the procedure and detail for the contingency of unspent monies should be recorded and documented in the DP payments audit review process.
6. Priority ** A policy should be documented for the treatment of unspent monies in excess of four weeks provision; this should set out the procedure to be followed with an escalation of recovery action as deemed appropriate. The action to be taken or the reason why action is not to be taken should be recorded on the database and the DP user's personal file. Details of communications and copies of correspondence with the DP user and other departments/stakeholders (i.e. Social Services) should be recorded and the service user's personal file updated. Monitoring of the return of unspent monies should be undertaken on a structured
7. Priority * A record of training provided to the individual users should be maintained, along with a copy of all correspondence or updates issued.
8. Priority ** The Social Worker should be required to confirm on the DP user's personal file whether the DP user is in receipt of Independent Living Allowance Funding to ensure that duplicate applications are not made. This should also be recorded on the database.
9. Priority ** Providing that the information is updated on the database as required by recommendation 8, reports could be downloaded from the database to identify any changes to circumstances that could affect funding, the Social Worker should confirm that the Independent Living Fund organisation has been informed of changes that may affect the DP users entitlement to funding.
10. Priority * The completion of opinion surveys questionnaires should be sought from DP users, in order to evaluate the current service provision and to inform service improvement. The issue and return of the surveys should be recorded with the results analysed, monitored and reviewed.

An action plan (Annex 1) to address the review's recommendations was prepared for implementation between November 2009 and July 2010.

Essential to the success of the action plan is a review of all direct payments against the criteria set out in the latest statutory guidance Community Care Services for Carers and Children's Services [Direct Payments] [England] Regulations 2009. In order to be consistent with the approach used in Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, and to ensure consistency and accuracy of assessments in Children & Young People's Services, it will be essential that practice guidance is developed. The lack of such guidance is also a significant obstacle to a fair and transparent review of current allocations and guidance will need to be in place before a full review can be implemented.

8 Finance

Spend on Direct Payments in C&YPS has increased from £170,919 In 2007-2008 to £230,258 In 2008 – 2009. The 2009 – 2010 C&YPS budget allocation for Direct Payments is £203,909 which is projected to overspend by £111000.

Current allocations have, however, been made without the benefit of practice guidance and is not consistent with the approach used in Neighbourhoods and Adult Services. More robust guidance, consistent with new national guidance, will be followed for all new allocations and it is recommended that all current allocations are reviewed in light of the new guidance.

Initial indications are that application of practice guidance consistent with that used in Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, and using criteria set out within statutory guidance, could contribute significantly to bringing allocations back within budget.

9 Risks and Uncertainties

Demand for Direct Payments is expected to remain high. Practice guidance within Children & Young People's Services is urgently required in order to ensure consistent and appropriate assessments and decision making

10 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Implementation of the action plan in response to the Internal Audit Review of C&YPS Direct Payments will ensure compliance with national guidance and more efficient use of resources

11 Background Papers and Consultation

Internal Audit Review of C&YPS Direct Payments, 7.9.09
Guidance on Direct Payments – for Community Care, Services for Carers and Children's Services: England 2009, DoH / DCSF 3.9.09
Rotherham Fair Access to Care Practice Guidance 2005

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Annex 1

C&YPS Action Plan for Direct Payments

Priority	***	Fundamental	[Action considered necessary to avoid exposure to high risk]
	**	Significant	[Action considered necessary to avoid exposure to a significant risk]
	*	Merits Attention	[Action desirable to enhance control or value for money]

Recommendation		Priority	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date
1.	The form of agreement / risk assessment criteria should be regularly reviewed i.e. on at least an annual basis and following any changes in policy to ensure it remains valid, any updates or changes should be subject to appropriate formal approval.	**	Peter Rennie, Children and Families Special Needs Manager in consultation with Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager	Yes	Cabinet report to be completed to advise on impact of all direct payments to being reviewed in line with new national guidance. Report to include recommendation to use an independent reviewer.	30 Nov 09
					Letter to be sent to all Direct Payment Users to notify of new criteria and implications of review	31 Jan 10
					This action has been delayed due to the lack of Practice Guidance in C&YPS. This needs to be addressed prior to a review being undertaken	

Recommendation	Priority	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date
<p>2.</p> <p>A database of Direct Payment users should be implemented as a matter of priority. The database should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the DP users details • dates and changes to the user's needs requirements and payments • the date when periodic assessment reviews are required • the date the assessment was completed along with any action points raised by the review • the dates when financial audits are due • the date the financial audit was completed along with any action points raised by the audit • a reporting function that will allow various reports to be generated from the database i.e. a facility to run standard reports that may be needed on a regular basis but also ad hoc reports that may be needed to provide specific information for a particular purpose. <p>The database should be available for use by all appropriate RMBC stakeholders by use of passwords with</p>	<p>**</p>	<p>Diane Hyner, Business Manager, Provider Services in liaison with Neil Armstrong, CYPS Systems Development Officer</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Information from Children's Disability database to be transferred to SWIFT</p> <p>Reports to be developed to trigger reviews</p> <p>Resource implications of above actions to be considered</p>	<p>31 Mar 10</p>

Recommendation	Priority	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date
	enforced automatic password change on a regular timetabled basis with adequate and tailored access rights to the specific areas they need to access i.e. read only, amend, etc. The database must provide an audit trail of changes. The information held on the database and access to the database must be in accordance with data protection and security information policy guidelines.				
3.	It is recommended that the assessments are undertaken at the required intervals, any backlogs should be cleared as a matter of priority. The database and the personal file should include details of monitoring undertaken and the completion and results and action points of assessments.	**	Marie Noone, Team Manager Children's Disability Team In conjunction with with Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager	Yes Following acceptance of the report by Members (see rec.1) all reviews to be completed Details of 5 Direct Payments Users with no personal file to be request from Audit to enable remedial action to be taken	31 Mar 10 30 Nov 09
4.	It is recommended that the outstanding and outdated financial audits of all Direct Payment users are rectified and provision is made by the Direct Payments team to accommodate additional service output in order to achieve this recommendation.	**	Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager	Yes In progress,	TBA

Recommendation	Priority	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date
7.	*	Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager in liaison with School's First	Yes	System to record training / correspondence / updates to be developed	TBA
8.	**	Marie Noone, Team Manager Children's Disability Team	Yes	Procedure to be implemented and guidance to be given to Social Workers on other funding stream available.	31 Oct 09
9.	**	Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager In liaison with Marie Noone, Team Manager Children's Disability Team Marie Noone, Team Manager Children's Disability Team	Yes	Notifications to ILF to be included in Policy (see rec. 6) Recording to be implemented when Direct Payment records are on SWIFT	TBA 30 June 10
10.	*	Richard Waring, Direct Payments Manager	Yes	To be implemented	TBA

Recommendation	<u>Priority</u>	Responsibility	Agreed	Comments	Date	
	return of the surveys should be recorded with the results analysed, monitored and reviewed.					

Annex 2

Adult Services



**DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY
FOR
ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES
AND
CARER SERVICES
IN
ROTHERHAM**

FAIR ACCESS TO CARE SERVICES
PRACTICE GUIDANCE

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Health (DoH) requires Rotherham MBC to set its eligibility criteria for adult social care services in line with the ***Fair Access to Care Services*** (FACS) policy guidance. The aim of FACS is to create greater consistency in decision-making, so that people in similar circumstances receive services capable of achieving broadly similar outcomes.

SUMMARY

The way eligibility for help from Rotherham Adult Services is to be determined can be summarised as follows:

- The Council has a duty under S47 of the NHS & CC Act 1990 to assess people with chronic ill health and/or disabilities who appear to need community care services, and to decide on the basis of that assessment whether it is necessary for the Council to arrange or provide services to meet any identified need.
- The decision about whether someone is eligible for help from the Council is to be based on an evaluation of the risk to a person's independence posed by their needs and circumstances, following a community care assessment.
- The Council is expected to provide a low threshold for the assessment of presenting needs.
- The assessment should be proportionate to presenting needs and circumstances, and not unfairly discriminate on the basis of age, gender, ethnic group, religion, disability, personal relationships, or living/caring arrangements.
- There are to be no service based eligibility criteria. There is instead to be only one eligibility decision: Is the person eligible for help from Rotherham Adult Services or not?
- What form of help or how much is to be provided is a completely separate issue, to be addressed in the care planning process.
- An eligibility framework to enable the risks to a person's independence to be determined, identifies 4 key factors to maintaining a person's independence:
 - Autonomy
 - Physical and Mental Health and Safety
 - Management of Daily Routines
 - Involvement in Family and Community Life

- With the exception of life threatening circumstances, there is to be no hierarchy between these factors. Support to sustain education or employment is viewed as being just as important as support to meet personal care needs.
- The framework also identifies 4 levels of risk to a person if the issues relating to their independence are not addressed:
 - Critical
 - Substantial
 - Moderate
 - Low
- The eligibility decision is based on the assessed risk to a person's independence if help is not provided. For carer's, the decision is based on the assessed risk to the carer's ability to sustain a caring role (and thereby put the cared-for person's independence at risk) if help is not provided.
- Where the risk to the person's independence is judged to be Critical or Substantial then the person will be eligible for help from Rotherham Adult Services.
- The needs that are directly associated with these 2 levels of risk (taking account of support from carers, family, friends and neighbours) are therefore deemed to be "eligible needs", and the Council has a legal responsibility to address them.
- The Council must prioritise its support to people in a hierarchical way. People whose needs have immediate and longer term critical consequences for their independence and safety are to be supported ahead of those with needs that have substantial consequences and so on.
- Though the Council is required to demonstrate that appropriate provision is being made to meet eligible needs, there is no obligation to provide any particular type or volume of service, and neither is there an obligation to provide for people whose circumstances pose only a moderate or low risk to their independence.
- The Council is also required to review the circumstances of all people receiving social care services, arranged or provided by the Council, or purchased with direct payments, to ensure their continued eligibility for social care support.
- Initial reviews should take place within 3 months of help first being provided, or of major changes to current services. Reviews of continuing need and eligibility for service should then be scheduled annually or more often if a person's circumstances warrant it.

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1. SCOPE

- 1.1. Legislation requires that anyone “*appearing to be in need of community care services*” is entitled to a community care assessment. It includes anyone over 18 with needs arising from physical, sensory, learning or cognitive impairments, or from mental health difficulties. (*NHS & Community Care Act 1990*)
- 1.2. Adult Services also has a responsibility towards people who provide “*regular and substantial care*” to a disabled person. People outside this definition are not the responsibility of Adult Services. (*Carers & Disabled Children Act 2000*)
- 1.3. Decisions about eligibility using this framework, only apply to people who are referred to, or approach, Adult Services directly for help, and where a community care assessment is involved. FACS does not apply where the Council funds voluntary organisations to provide preventative services, where access is not governed by a community care assessment.
- 1.4. The needs of people waiting in hospital for discharge must be prioritised and therefore FACS does **not** apply to these people.
- 1.5. Adult Services is **only responsible for meeting social care needs** - other agencies are responsible for meeting housing, health or other needs.
- 1.6. Social care assessments of deaf-blind adults are exempt from FACS, due to the specialist high level needs of this service user group, and must be carried out by specially trained and equipped persons or teams. (LAC (2001)8)

2. OVERALL APPROACH TO ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 Adult Services intervention should be a “**last resort**”. Alternatives to help from Adult Services should always be explored, looking at the possible contributions from family, wider community, and voluntary organisations. The option of ‘*housing related support services*’ funded from the Supporting People grant should always be explored. People should always be given information to enable them to resolve their own problems, where appropriate.
- 2.2 A person is only eligible for help from Adult Services where:
 - their needs pose a **Critical** or **Substantial** risk to their independence
 - they do not wish, or are unable, to arrange their own care and support
 - there is no-one else willing, able or appropriate to help (eg: family, community, voluntary organisations etc.)
- 2.3 Eligibility framework will be applied equally across all adult service user groups.
- 2.4 A person’s ability to pay for their care will not be taken into account in assessing their entitlement to help from Adult Services.

3. ASSESSMENT

General Principles

3.1. Good assessment practice is vital. Assessment needs to incorporate the following principles:

- The person should be an active partner in the assessment of their needs. People are the experts on their own situation.
- The scope and complexity of the assessment should be proportionate to a person's presenting needs and circumstances.
- Assessment should be carried out in such a way, and be sufficiently transparent, for people to:
 - gain a better understanding of their situation
 - identify the options that are available for managing their own lives
 - identify the outcomes required from any help that is provided
 - understand the basis on which decisions are reached.

Purpose

3.2. The purpose of an assessment is to identify and evaluate a person's "*presenting needs*" (i.e. their problems and issues) and judge how they affect their ability to live independently. As well as basic personal details, information on the nature of the problems faced by the person should be gathered:

- the nature of the presenting problem
- the significance of the problem to the person
- the length of time the problem has been experienced
- potential solutions identified by the person
- other problems experienced by the person
- recent life events or changes relevant to the problem(s)
- the perceptions of family members and carers

3.3. Undertaking an assessment is not a commitment by Adult Services to provide or arrange social care services - some people will be deemed not eligible through the assessment process.

Race Equality

3.4. Care needs to be taken when assessing the needs of a person from a black or minority ethnic community. Assessments need to be culturally sensitive and staff need to consider how age, gender, needs and race combine in order to respond appropriately.

3.5. The assessment needs to consider these particular issues:

- recognition of the diverse range of needs and aspirations of people from black and minority ethnic communities
- not making assumptions about the abilities or willingness of other family members to provide support or care (particularly if the cared-for person lives with them).
- the provision of interpreters / translators for people whose first language is not English
- the need to provide copies of assessments (and care plans) in a format/medium that the user and carer understands

4. FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING RISK

4.1. Assessing risk is at the heart of determining a person's eligibility for services.

4.2. The person and the assessor should identify potential problems, and possible risks that could lead to increased dependency, harm or danger, if some form of help is not provided. Using the assessment information, assessors will need to predict how serious the risk is and how likely it is to occur. The following provides some guidance on this.

4.3. An assessment of risk needs to explore the interaction between a person's **needs** and **risks**. The assessor needs to work out the extent to which the person's problems and issues pose a risk to their independence, taking full account of how needs and risks might change over time. The assessor, in discussion with the person themselves, should consider:

- the **instability** and/or **unpredictability** of the needs
- the **intensity** of the needs and the **level of distress** they cause the person
- the **complexity** of the person's needs, in particular the number of different needs, how they interact, and how the person reacts to the difficulties facing them
- the impact of **external and environmental factors**
- the **sustainability of support** from family, community and other agencies.

4.4. Whilst these factors can interact in complex ways, some general characteristics can be outlined as follows:

CRITICAL & SUBSTANTIAL RISK	MODERATE & LOW RISK
Unstable - fluctuating needs resulting in changing circumstances that require frequent or regular support or intervention.	Stable - circumstances fairly un-changing and likely to remain so

CRITICAL & SUBSTANTIAL RISK	MODERATE & LOW RISK
Unpredictable - how the person responds to their circumstances cannot generally be anticipated and therefore requires ongoing assessment and care planning	Predictable - how person responds to their circumstances can be anticipated with some certainty
Complex - needs are many and various and are likely to interact in unstable or unpredictable ways	Simple - needs are few, relatively straightforward, and unlikely to change significantly in the foreseeable future

4.5 Risk assessments should identify where the risk to the person's independence, (if help is not provided), fits on the eligibility framework. (See section on "Determining Eligibility") In doing this it is important: that the assessor:

- explores the person's attitude and wishes concerning risk taking, and whether the risks are a normal part of independent living or ones that cause serious concern. (The person's and the assessor's views about this should be recorded as part of the assessment).
- does not unfairly discriminate against a person, or persons, on the grounds of their age, gender, ethnic group, religion, disabilities, personal relationships, or living and caring arrangements. However, these factors should be taken into account if they have a bearing on either the presenting needs or the type and intensity of any care that is provided.
- takes account of the risks faced not only by the person, but also those close to them, such as carers.

5. DETERMINING INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility Framework

- 5.1. Eligibility is worked out following an assessment, by matching the assessment of risk with the "Eligibility Framework" .
- 5.2. The eligibility framework is based on the impact of needs on factors that are key to maintaining a person's independence over time. The framework makes no reference to age, gender, ethnic group, religion, disabilities, impairments or similar difficulties, personal relationships, location, living and caring arrangements, and similar factors, as these do not threaten independence.
- 5.3. The eligibility framework is graded into 4 bands, describing the seriousness of risk to independence if needs are not addressed.

Rotherham's Threshold

- 5.4. Rotherham Council will provide social care services to any person where, following an assessment, the risk to their independence is judged to be **critical** or **substantial**.

Eligible Needs

- 5.5. Needs identified in the assessment process, which pose a **critical** or **substantial** risk to a person's independence, become **eligible needs** (taking account of the caring undertaken by family, friends and neighbours). The terminology is important, because the Council is then legally required to address eligible needs.
- 5.6. In Rotherham, only eligible needs will be met. Other needs, which may only pose a *moderate* or *low* risk to a person's independence, will only be addressed in exceptional circumstances.
- 5.7. Assessments may identify needs that other agencies are responsible for meeting. Adult Services should not provide social care services as an alternative to other agencies meeting their responsibilities.
- 5.8. The Eligibility Frameworks are designed to provide some assistance with making this judgement. They give some examples of indicators of risk - they are **not** however designed as a list of the only situations in which Adult Services will provide help. Professional judgement is still critical.

Support from Carers

- 5.9. The decision about eligibility should take account of the support from carers, family members, friends and neighbours which individuals can access to help them meet presenting needs. The DoH example from the FACS Practice Guidance:
- "Where a person cannot perform several personal care tasks, but can do so without difficulty with the help of a carer, and the carer is happy to continue caring in this way, both currently and in the longer-term, then the person should not be perceived as having needs calling for the provision of social care services. That is, they should not be perceived as having eligible needs."*
- 5.10. However, during the actual assessment, no assumptions should be made about the level and quality of carer support without discussion with, and between the carer and the person being cared for.
- 5.11. Even where carers and others are providing support to a person, the nature of the person's needs, and the level of care, could be such as to make them eligible for social care services.
- 5.12. Carers are entitled to their own assessment if they are providing a substantial amount of care on a regular basis to someone who would be eligible for social care services. (see Section 11 on Carers).

Recording of Needs

- 5.13 Once eligible needs, and associated risks to a person's independence, have been identified, they must be recorded, and agreed wherever possible, by that person or their representatives. (There are no legal dangers in recording needs that are not deemed to be "eligible needs" - assessors are encouraged record all needs uncovered in the assessment process).

Complaints

- 5.14 Complaints or disagreements about the eligibility decision may arise. In the first instance attempts should be made to resolve difficulties through informal discussion. If this does not lead to a resolution the complainant should be advised of their rights to use the normal complaints procedure.

6. PREVENTION

- 6.1 As well as addressing immediate needs, assessors should also assess future risks and make decisions about whether the provision of help to people currently below the eligibility threshold will prevent them from deteriorating to a point whereby they would become eligible in the future.
- 6.2 Preventative services should focus on people who may not require intensive care management but need support and services to live independently, and may be at risk of becoming more dependent, or of significantly reduced quality of life, if they do not receive those services
- 6.3 There are a number of 'triggers' to aid practitioners in identifying people where the assessed risks to their independence appear relatively low, but are likely to become more serious over time. They include:
- social isolation and its links with mental ill-health
 - risks associated within the home: danger of falling, other accidents (eg: scalding, burns), inadequate heating
 - treatable health conditions: malnutrition, depression
 - social exclusion
- 6.4. The most effective response to people in these kinds of situations is to focus on how best to promote the person's independence, rather than on the provision of services to help a person cope with their dependency. The Council funds a range of preventative services in the voluntary sector, which should be a first consideration for many people.
- 6.5. There will however continue to be people who are currently below the eligibility threshold but who are judged to be very likely to deteriorate to a point whereby they would become eligible in the future. Clearly the potential for deterioration needs to be set within a time frame, and in such cases the following approach should be used:

- Where it appears, at the time of assessment, that the risk posed by the person's current situation would only rate as being *moderate* or *low*, and therefore not eligible for help, assessors should assess whether the person's circumstances are **likely to significantly worsen for the lack of timely help**, to the extent that they would, in all likelihood, pose a *substantial* or *critical* risk to their independence **within the foreseeable future**.
- Where this is the case, there are three possible courses of action:
 - screen them into appropriate preventative services provided by the voluntary sector (including Supporting People services)
 - schedule a re-assessment within the next 3-6 months, and assess whether the person meets the threshold at that point
 - provide the help required to stabilise the situation or slow down the rate of deterioration. (In these circumstances however **help should be strictly time limited** and subject to regular review until they meet the normal threshold).

7. CARE PLANNING

- 7.1. If a person is eligible for help then a care plan should be developed. Care plans should be agreed with the service user, and with the carer if they are involved in providing support, and they should be provided with a written copy.
- 7.2. The content and scope of care plans should be proportionate to the person's needs and to the intensity and complexity of services to be provided. The written record should include as a minimum:
- a note of the eligible needs and associated risks;
 - the preferred outcomes of service provision;
 - contingency plans to manage emergency changes;
 - details of services to be provided, and any charges the person is assessed to pay, or if direct payments have been agreed;
 - contributions to care that carers or others are willing and able to make;
 - a review date.
- 7.3 Care planning is the process of establishing the kind of help that best addresses the person's *eligible needs*. In planning the care arrangements it is important to note:
- In Rotherham, only *eligible needs* will be met. Other needs will only be addressed in exceptional circumstances. Service users, their families or others may fund additional services by separately contracting with the same or another provider.
 - Adult Services should not provide social care as an alternative to other agencies meeting their responsibilities.

- The existence of *eligible needs* does not require the Council to provide any particular type or volume of service, though there is a requirement that the care plan supports natural justice, by demonstrating that *appropriate* provision is being made to meet the eligible needs (eg: where the gender of carers is integral to cultural norms and practices).
- The emphasis in care planning should be on arranging **short-term interventions** to enable people to remain independent or regain their independence. In general terms, the commitment to provide a service should only be until the date of next review, when needs and eligibility will be re-assessed.
- Where users are entitled to apply for support from the Independent Living Fund (ILF) they should be encouraged to do so.
- It is the responsibility of the Council to arrange services to **meet eligible needs in the most cost effective way possible**. The decision to provide services must always be based on the assessed risk to the person's independence being *critical* or *substantial*; how the person's needs will be met will be subject to Council policy on the operation of cost-ceilings.
- Where, for whatever reason, delays occur in providing or arranging services, this should be discussed with the service user and alternative arrangements made to meet the eligible needs.
- Wherever applicable Direct Payments must always be considered and encouraged.

Statements of Purpose

- 7.4 All services that the Council either directly provides or purchases must publish *Statements of Purpose*. These are designed to be used at the care planning stage to match services to eligible needs and desired outcomes. Their key function is to describe the types of circumstances and the people for whom the service is designed.
- 7.5 *Statements of Purpose* are **not** eligibility criteria; they do however give a succinct view of when, and when not, the provision of particular services would be appropriate.
- 7.6 In the care planning process, assessors should use *Statements of Purpose* to identify the services that might best meet the eligible needs which have been identified in the assessment.

Direct Payments

- 7.7. Where people have been assessed as eligible for help from social services they must always be given the choice of Direct Payments which involves receiving a cash payment to purchase care for themselves, if that enables their needs to be met more appropriately than through directly provided services, and providing they are able to meet the requirements for direct payments outlined in the *Direct Payments Policy & Practice Guidance*.

8. RESPONDING TO THOSE NOT ELIGIBLE

- 8.1. Where a person's needs and circumstances do not meet the eligibility threshold, the person must be offered advice and information about how their needs could be met from other support services available in the community, and they may need a benefits check to enable them to maximize their income, should they need to pay for any of these services.

9. REVIEWS

- 9.1 People's needs change, and therefore they need to be reviewed. First reviews should be done within 3 months of the start of a service, or within 3 months of a major change in service, with subsequent reviews at least annually. Reviews may also be considered on the request of service users, providers and other appropriate persons or agencies. (One-off pieces of equipment do not need reviewing, though the safety and suitability of major items of equipment should be reviewed annually.)

9.2 Reviews:

- should involve users, carers and providers as fully as possible
- should establish how far services have achieved agreed outcomes set out in the care plan, and confirm or amend it where appropriate
- should re-assess the person's needs and circumstances, and establish whether they continue to meet the Department's eligibility criteria.

10. WITHDRAWING OR REDUCING SERVICES

- 10.1 Where a review has established that a person no longer meets the Rotherham's eligibility criteria, then consideration should be given to withdrawing services. In some cases it may not be practicable or safe to do so. When deciding whether or not to withdraw or reduce services the following must apply:

- The service user must be made fully aware of what is happening and the consequences of the decision.
- The decision-maker must be satisfied that the person's needs will not significantly worsen or increase and thereby compromise their independence in the foreseeable future.
- Assumptions should not be made about the capacity of family members or close friends to offer support (although if they are willing and able to offer support then that needs to be taken into account).
- Particular caution must be exercised where the person has not had their circumstances reviewed.

- Any prior commitments given about the how long the service user could expect to receive services, need to be established and then taken into account in the decision-making.
- The outcome of any decision to significantly reduce or withdraw services must be put in writing and given to the service user. The written statement should tell the person:
 - the reasons for the decision;
 - that they may use the complaints procedure to challenge the decision;
 - that if their circumstances change they should contact Adult Services again so that their needs can be re-assessed.
- If a person needs other services (i.e. from other agencies or voluntary organisations) then advice and information must be given to them.

11. CARERS

The Impact of Support from Carers on the People's Eligibility for Help from Social Services

- 11.1. For many people the help and support of family members or other carers is essential to them remaining independent. The nature of the person's needs, and the level of care required, are such as to make that person eligible to help from Adult Services, and the person would face a *critical* or *substantial* risk to their independence if the carer was not providing them with support.
- 11.2. In these cases, carers need to be involved in the assessments and subsequent decisions about the help to be provided to the cared-for person. The way support provided by a carer is to be taken into account in assessing a person's eligibility for help from Adult Services is set out below:
- No assumptions must be made about the level and quality of support from carers without discussion between the cared-for person and their carer(s).
 - The decision about eligibility of the cared-for person for help must take account of the support that is available from carers:

If a person cannot perform several personal care tasks, but can do so without difficulty with the help of a carer, and the carer is willing and able to sustain their caring role in this way, then the person should not be judged as being eligible to help from Social Services. (FACS Policy Guidance – DoH 2001)
- 11.3. The critical issue is whether the carer is *willing* and *able* to carry on providing the care. If the carer is *willing* but not *able* without support, then a discussion is needed with the person being cared for and their carer about which is more appropriate - direct help

being provided to the cared-for person by Adult Services, or support being provided to the carer to enable them to provide the care required. A separate carer's assessment should be completed in these circumstances to determine the risk to the caring relationship of not providing support to the carer.

Assessing Carers' Support Needs

- 11.4. Carers' own needs will be assessed within the policy framework outlined in the DoH document: *Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000 – Carers and people with parental responsibility for disabled children – Policy Guidance (2001)*
- 11.5. Carers aged 16 or over are eligible for an assessment of their ability to provide care and continue to provide care:
 - Where they provide or intend to provide a substantial amount of care on a regular basis for someone aged 18 or over; and
 - Where the person being cared-for is someone to whom the Council may provide or arrange for the provision of community care services.
- 11.6. The carer's right to an assessment exists even when the person being cared-for has refused a community care assessment, or has refused to have services provided following an assessment.
- 11.7. Caring is defined not only as time spent actually caring, it can also include stress from *life-time commitment* (eg: caring for someone with a learning disability) or from intermittent demands (eg: from someone with mental health problem). The carer may not be physically caring at all times, but may be pro-actively supporting a person to prevent a crisis.
- 11.8. Caring responsibilities may also conflict with family responsibilities and work commitments, and any assessment of the carer's need for support must look at the impact of all these factors on the whole caring situation.
- 11.9. There is no definition in the Act of *substantial and regular care*. It will be the responsibility of assessors, in carrying out a holistic assessment of a person's eligibility for community care services, to identify all carers who provide help to that person, and determine which of those carers are caring on a regular and substantial basis.
- 11.10. The key questions for establishing whether the carer is eligible for help from social services in their own right, are:
 - Is their caring role sustainable?
 - How great is the risk of the caring role becoming unsustainable?
- 11.11. The focus is on *“establishing the degree to which a carer's ability to sustain that role is compromised, or is threatened, either in the present or in the foreseeable future, by the absence of appropriate support”*. (para.70 CDC Act 2000 Practice Guidance) The key factors to be taken into account are:

Health & Safety:	The risk to the carer's own health of maintaining their caring role at its current level, must be looked in the context of their own age and other commitments
Autonomy:	The carer's freedom to choose the nature of the tasks they will perform and how much time they will give to the caring role. Needs to be based on an acknowledgment of a sense of shared responsibility between the Council and the carer. Also refers to carer's ability to maintain their work commitments.
Managing Routines:	The extent to which carers can look after their own daily routines while sustaining their caring Daily role. The ability to cope with both the physical and emotional and mental pressures of daily life should be considered.
Involvement:	The extent to which carers have freedom to maintain their own relationships and other commitments alongside their caring responsibilities

11.9. The framework for establishing the threat to the ability of the carer to sustain their caring role is outlined in the Risk Framework for Carer Assessments, and when carrying out an assessment of a carer's support needs following must be considered:

- There should be no assumptions made about the causes of risk.
- All carers providing *regular and substantial* support to people who appear to need community care services are entitled to an assessment.
- If the carer is eligible for support, there must be a discussion about what kind of support would best help them maintain their caring role.
- There must be no blanket policies against providing certain services (shopping or cleaning for example may be what will help sustain a carer to continue to provide the personal care)
- In some cases, the Council may provide a service for the carer that is actually delivered to the person being cared for (eg: residential respite care), but this should only be arranged where both parties agree.

12. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CARING SITUATIONS

- 12.1. Where there are children in the family there are additional issues that may need to be addressed in the assessment of an adult's eligibility for social care services.
- 12.2. An assessment of the social care needs of adult service users, and an assessment of the support needs of their carer must always clarify whether either have a parenting role.

- 12.3. Sometimes children of the family may develop roles as *young carers* and/or become children in need as a result of the impact of a family member's disability or illness. In such cases Children Services staff should be involved and an assessment undertaken using the guidance: *Framework for Assessing Children in Need and their Families*.
- 12.4. Young carers should not be expected to undertake inappropriate levels of caring which impact adversely on their development and their ability to participate in education, normal; leisure activities and social interaction with their peer group. Children and young people under 18 should not assume similar levels of caring responsibilities to adults.
- 12.5. An assessment of family circumstances is essential and services should be provided to parents to enable them to fulfill their parenting responsibilities (eg: family support workers).
- 12.6. In most cases services should be able to be provided to prevent a young carer from undertaking a regular and substantial amount of caring responsibilities; but there are some circumstances where it is in the best interests of a young carer to be supported to carry out a substantial amount of care for a period (eg: if a parent is terminally ill), in which case their support needs would be assessed under the CDC Act 2000.

13. SERVICES FOR CARERS

- 13.1. Following a community care assessment the best outcomes for both a person being cared-for and their carer need to be discussed, and are likely to result from the provision of good quality community care services for the person being cared-for.
- 13.2. But an assessment of the carer's support needs may indicate the need to provide services for the carer. Services for carers are not defined under the CDC Act but the policy guidance advises that the provision of carer services should meet one of two tests:
- it will help the carer to care; or
 - it will help maintain the carer's own health and well-being.

These can be basic domestic services such as cleaning, laundry or gardening, where the carer is devoting most of their time to providing intimate personal care to the person being cared for.

- 13.3. Services for carers cannot include anything of an intimate nature; this is to prevent any such services being delivered to unwilling disabled or frail older people, as people assessed as needing community care services cannot be forced to accept services they do not wish to receive, as this would infringe their rights.
- 13.4. In certain circumstances, where a person has refused a community care assessment, but the carer's support needs have been assessed, and the outcome needed for the carer would normally be the provision of a community care service for the person being cared-for (eg: respite care sitting service), the service may be provided to the carer, as a carer service, under the

provisions of the CDC Act, and delivered to the person being cared-for, but only if the person being cared-for and their carer are in agreement.

14. OUT OF HOURS ASSESSMENTS AND EMERGENCIES

- 14.1 The Council is required to provide an immediate response to people who approach them, or are referred, outside office hours, for social care support in emergencies and who are initially assessed as facing a *critical* risk to their independence. After initial response, the person must be informed that a fuller assessment will follow, and that services may be withdrawn or changed as a result of the follow-on assessment.

Footnote: The Rotherham Practice Guidance on eligibility for service provision has been prepared for staff carrying out community care assessments for older people and disabled adults as part of the Single Assessment Process.

The guidance has been compiled from Department of Health guidance on: *Fair Access to Care Services LAC(2002)13* and the *Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000*.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Children & Young People's Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	Wednesday 7th April 2010
3.	Title:	Children and Young People's Services Notice to Improve - Progress Update
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

5. Summary

This report provides an overview of the progress made since the Notice to Improve was received in December, identifies a RAG rating and a direction of travel for the areas of improvement, some areas of good performance and key risks and issues to meeting the stretching targets set for the council and its strategic partners.

6. Recommendations

That Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services notes the progress being made against the targets set in the Notice to Improve.

7. Proposals and Details

This report, to be read in conjunction with the Notice to Improve Action Plan (Appendix A) highlights the RAG status of the actions, any areas for concern, what the barriers are and what is being done about them.

There are 43 individual actions covering the key performance measures (3 social care indicators and the LAA improvements) in addition to the operational targets around Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving, Leadership and Management, Performance Management, Finance, Recruitment and Retention and ICT.

Based on a RAG rating the following is the current position as at 19th March 2010.

Red: 5 (12%)

Amber : 22 (51%)

Green: 16 (37 %) (out of which 5 are now deemed as completed)

There has also been a direction of travel included within each the RAG status to establish where progress is being made on the ones that are not moving from red to amber or amber to green.

a) High Risk areas (red risks)

NI59 – initial assessments within 7 days

This stands at 74.12% which is less than the original December baseline. Focus has been on the quality and accuracy of recording and from the 1st March all initial assessments (instead of samples) are now being quality checked. February's figure for Initial Assessments done in timescale was 76% which was 4% higher than in January.

Children's Home inspections

St Edmunds is currently inadequate, however in relation to the actions plans from the OFSTED inspection all 15 actions have been addressed. Until OFSTED re-inspect and this judgement changed this will still continue to be a high risk area.

Improve the quality of serious case reviews

The results from the recent challenge submitted to OFSTED for both of the recent SCR judgements is still awaited. Until these are received from OFSTED it is considered that this is still a high risk.

Improve the outcomes of the satisfaction of CYPS surveys

Baselines are being agreed for the key surveys with the Employee Opinion Survey and the Audit Commission Schools Survey, however both of these are not due to be repeated until 2011, after the final milestone date of the Notice to Improve. The Family Placement survey has shown an increase in satisfaction levels from service users (foster carers and adopters) of the support they receive.

Social worker vacancy rate

The vacancy level is now 28.3% which is 8.9% better than the position when the Notice to Improve was agreed. There has been some movement around this area with 6 social workers offered posts with 6 more to be interviewed in the next 2

weeks. An ITT has been issued for the supply of both temporary and permanent workers.

b) Completed targets

- PDR guidance has been issued to managers for 2010 with a May deadline set for the completion of PDRs
- The Director of Children & Learners at GOYH is now a member of the improvement panel.
- Additional administration staff are now in place in the social care locality teams with the resources having a positive impact.
- The Portal development for sharing social care reports for social workers and managers is in place
- Social work staff now have access to the VPN home working solution with the roll out of laptops completed and SWIFT desk guides have been issued to localities.

c) areas of improvement

NI 60 – core assessments carried out within timeframes has reached the 80% target set for March, it however has been left as an Amber RAG rating hoping that this continues to improve and not fall back to previous levels, during January and February the figure has been 100%.

The CAF training re-commenced on the 24th February with 187 out of 490 staff trained, since the training commenced 94 CAFs have been received (only 3 had been submitted from the start of the year to the start of the training on the 24th February)

Since the 1st March all initial and core assessments are being audited with a bank of good practice being developed.

8. Finance

The DCSF has agreed up to £150,000 financial support to assist with recovery, a further £125,000 has been secured from the RIEP. This funding will be used to supplement social work staffing resources and to employ independent staff to assist in the review and further improvement of and service quality activities. (see reference above)

A review has been conducted of Children and Young People's placements; both Rotherham based and in out of authority facilities. This has focussed on whether the placements can end, in line with the care plan review, whether the council is getting the best value for money and that the placements are of the required quality.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

The 5 key performance risks (red) are identified in the report and there are service delivery risks associated with the Notice to Improve action plan. Where these are significant they are being fed into the CYPS risk register.

Planning has now commenced for an announced inspection of Looked After Children and Safeguarding services. It is uncertain at this stage when this will take place, self assessments have been developed, as are briefing notes for staff and the KLOEs being circulated to potential members of focus groups in addition to the continued collection of the library of key documents that inspectors expect to receive before they are on site.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Annual Performance Assessment 2008 result was the trigger for the CYPS Review, which was commissioned jointly by the Council and NHS Rotherham. A number of recommendations arose from this review which were included in an Improvement action plan.

On 4th and 5th August 2009, CYPS received an unannounced inspection of its Contact, Referral and Assessment service. The inspection confirmed many issues related to performance, caseload and capacity, quality assurance. Ofsted's recommendation was that we should take immediate action to address the issues raised in order to prevent further decline in service performance, quality and capacity. A notice to improve was issued in December 2009.

Failure to address these issues would impact further on the CYPS Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA), the Council's CAA and could lead to external intervention.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Notice To Improve

Ofsted Inspection - Contact, Referral and Assessment, 4th and 5th August 2009

Children First Review and Resource Benchmarking – January to June 2009

CYPS Improvement Plan

Comprehensive Area Assessment

CYP Directorate Performance reports

Appendix A – Notice to Improve action plan

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Performance Measures

Date of update 22nd March 2010

Objective	Key Actions	Measures			Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Current performance	Targets				
Staying Safe - Performance								
	NI 68 - Increase the % of referrals of children in need to children's social care going onto initial assessment in line with the current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (mid range is good performance)	57.6% (2008/09) (2270/3940)	59.38%	65% March 2010 68% October 2010 70% March 2011	Lyn Burns	→	This indicator is slightly higher than the December Baseline but has not met the 65% target. This indicator shows the level of shared understanding about thresholds of social care involvement. The Safe & Well Protocol has been revised and will be launched on 22nd April. The CAF Development Officer is in post and the CAF training commenced with 187 out of the 490 staff identified having received training since the 24th February 2010.	Social Work
Improvement Notice								
	NI 59 - Increase the % of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral from the 2008/09 baseline in line with current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (high is good performance)	77.8% (2008/09) (1767/2270)	74.12%	80% March 2010 85% October 2010 87% March 2011	Lyn Burns	→	2170 Initial Assessments undertaken during the year, with 1609 in time (74%) of the I.A.s completed in February 76% were completed in time, compared with 72% in January. Data checks are being undertaken to check accuracy in recording and from 1st March all initial assessments are being QA'd by the Practice Consultants. To date the audit has identified some I.A.s ended without completion and these have been retrieved by locality managers for action.	Social Work
Improvement Notice								
	NI 60 - Increase the % of core assessments for children's social care carried out within 35 working days of their commencement from the 2008/09 baseline in line with the current statistical neighbour average/top band performance (high is good performance)	84.9% (2008/09) (276/325)	80.00%	80% March 2010 84% October 2010 87% March 2011	Lyn Burns	↑	On target at 80%. Of the core assessments completed in January and February 100% were completed within timescales. From 1st March all core assessments are being QA'd by the Practice Consultants so that we can use findings to drive up quality.	Social Work
LAA 2008-2011 Being Healthy; Enjoying and Achieving; Achieving Economic Wellbeing; Making A Positive Contribution - Performance								
Overall improvements in LAA indicators relating to children's services and statutory attainment targets through the period of this Improvement Notice	Overall improvement to be made against all CYP related LAA measures	Baseline for measures is the agreed position when the LAA refresh was finished in March 2009	70% Improved from baseline as at Q2 2009/10	>65% improved from baseline March 2011	Rotherham MBC / LSP Partners	→	At the end of Q3 2009/10 5 of the indicators are on target to meet the 2009/10 milestone target with 3 components not performing as planned, the 2 breastfeeding indicators (prevalence and coverage) and Obesity prevalence.	Performance and all Workstreams

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures Baseline	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
1. Staying Safe - Social Work Practice and Process								
Establish and implement an effective policy on the auditing of assessment and referrals so as to ensure managerial involvement in quality assurance	Implement an improved quality assurance framework for assessments and referrals	Each Team Manager audits 3 files per month as per guidance. Locality Managers to audit 3 files per month and 5 NFA Audits	100% compliance with the policy	Ongoing	Lyn Burns	→	The previous monitoring system was not adequate. A new system has been put in place which provides monitoring and reporting on a locality by locality basis to the safeguarding and corporate parenting management team. In addition the 2 DCSF funded Team Managers will undertake QA work when they start.	Social Work
	Conduct a review on all NFA cases to quality assure the high level of 'no further action' decisions being taken	NFA Contacts and Referrals 1.4.2009 to 9.12.2009 33.18% Total Contacts 11.12% Total Referrals	10% reduction in overall contact and referrals which result in NFA by March 2010	November 2009	Lyn Burns	→	A second review has been completed and report discussed at SCPMT. The outcomes of the review are being fed into the review of fieldwork staffing and responsibilities and improved contact and referral processing. 920 contacts received with 265 NFA'd - 28.8% which is lower than the 1st Audit carried out on contacts NFA'd (33.18%). Information has been received from a another LA which has reported 50% of their contacts were NFA'd.	Social Work
	Conduct Business Process re-engineering exercise on current practices in relation to Assessments and Referrals in line with best practice to enhance performance	Practices in relation to Assessments and Referrals in need of review	Business process Re-engineering process completed	January 2010	John Dunn, RBT / Rebecca Wragg	→	No maps are yet implemented, 3 maps presented to Team Managers for roll out, 3 maps now signed off by SCPMT with identified improvements. 3 further maps scheduled for sign off by SCPMT 13th April. 5 further business areas underway. Progress is highly dependable on the availability of staff.	ICT
Embed use of the CAF in practice across children's services so that it is effectively used to inform early intervention	Improve quality and completion levels of CAFs	Between January 2006 and July 2009 there have been 976 CAFs completed in Rotherham.	Target for CAFs to be completed per year to be set in conjunction with partners	January 2010	Simon Perry / Sarah Whittle	↑	£20k has been sourced for CAF training. The Safe and Well protocol guidance has been updated and endorsed by The Policy and Procedure group and was approved by the CYP Board on the 3rd February 2010. This will be launched on the 22nd April 2010 as part of the early intervention improvement programme. A Pathway & Toolkit has been developed - Training Commenced on the 24th February and will consist of 14 sessions, 35 people per session = 490 staff to be trained. as at 19th March 187 staff have been trained, since the training started 94 CAFs have been submitted (only 3 were submitted from the beginning of the year to the start of the training)	Early Intervention
	Update Multi Agency Safe & Well Protocol and Practice Guidance	Original Safe and Well Protocol launched in 2006.	Update of Protocol Competed	January 2010	Lyn Burns/ Simon Perry	→	The Protocol has been updated and was endorsed by the RSCB Policy and Procedure Group on 13th November 2009. Continuum of Need Chart ratified by CYP Board on 9th December and issued to all staff/partner agencies.	Social Work
	High profile re-launch to ensure consistency in Thresholds for intervention across all agencies.	Original Safe and Well Protocol launched in 2006.	Protocol updated and relaunched	January 2010	Lyn Burns/ Simon Perry	→	There will be a high profile launch of the protocol on 22nd April 2010 to address inconsistencies in application of thresholds.	Social Work

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
1. Staying Safe - Social Work Practice and Process								
Monitor improvement in children's social care, by establishing a rigorous performance management system which delivers regular monitoring, scrutiny and quality assurance of social care performance	Ensure that all children's homes are compliant with regulatory requirements	1 - St Edmunds	No inadequate children's homes	December 2009	Lyn Burns	→	1 home is currently inadequate an improvement plan agreed with Ofsted on the 26-11-2009 is in place which is being closely monitored. The issue around the number of agency staff having to be used is being addressed by enhancing the level of permanent staff with the appropriate qualifications and the introduction of an additional social worker to monitor compliance and support improvement. in relation to the action plans from the OFSTED inspection, 15 of the 15 actions have been addressed	Social Work
	Introduce monthly safeguarding report card to CYP Directorate Leadership Team, Corporate Management Team, Safeguarding Board and Children and Young People's Board.	Safeguarding focused performance scorecard required	12 reports per year	November 2009	Julie Westwood	→	The Safeguarding report card has been approved and adopted by the Improvement Panel, CYP Board and Locality Teams and was presented at the Safeguarding Board on the 19th March 2010	Performance
	Conduct a self assessment using the Safeguarding Inspection Criteria to identify any areas for development prior to inspection	Initial work started	Assessment completed and approved	November 2009	Lyn Burns / All Managers / Performance and Quality	→	Initial Self Assessment completed which will be validated and updated on a monthly basis. A internal challenge session was undertaken on 4th March and 2 sessions on the 11th March involving the Asst Chief Exec in respect of the self assessment. The assessment will now be shared with partners via the Rotherham SCB to ensure a broader contribution.	Social Work
	Improve quality of serious case reviews to ensure all judged adequate or better	Two of Four judged inadequate	All future SCRs to be rated good or better	Ongoing	Catherine Hall	→	Since the last panel meeting Rotherham has received judgements on two serious case reviews; one being rated as adequate and one as inadequate. Rotherham's partners have concerns that the inadequate judgement is not a true reflection on the work undertaken locally. Following discussions about the judgements the independent chair of the Safeguarding Board has decided to challenge both SCRs in relation to the issues identified and the overall judgement itself. Still awaiting decisions from OFSTED	Social Work
	Ensure that all actions from recommendations from SCRs are implemented and that evidence is provided to ensure robust audit trail.	Baseline 37 Actions	Number of recommendations in red status = 0.	January 2010	Joyce Thacker Catherine Hall Phil Morris	→	Rotherham LSCB consitution signed off on 19th March 2010 including TOR of P&Q sub group. SCR sub committee to retain overall responsibility for SCR action plans and P&Q sub group will evaluate impact and outcomes. 1 action plan has now been signed off by GO on the 15th March and the remaining 4 actions will be reviewed with GO on the 14th April	Social Work
	Permanent Safeguarding Manager to be in post	1 individual working 2 days a week conducting safeguarding manager duties	Safeguarding Manager in post	February 2010	Joyce Thacker	→	Interviews for a permanent Safeguarding Manager were held on 18th March 2010, an appointment was not made but alternative action has been agreed with the RSCB independent chair.	Workforce
	Conduct robust quality assurance checks on information systems to ensure that contacts, referrals and the status of investigations, assessments and plans are up to date	Quality assurance and audits require improved performance framework	% of monthly supervision checks conducted - 100% Number and % of adequate data quality checks conducted - 100%	Ongoing	Lyn Burns	↑	A single QA/Audit Framework has been implemented which covers all aspects of this action. The overall data quality assurance strategy and monitoring and reporting policies and procedure has been signed off by the SCPMT. From the 1st March all initial and core assessments are being audited with a bank of good practice being developed.	Social Work
Review social workers' responsibilities to ensure that responsibilities are clearly and tightly defined so that no staff carry too wide a range of work. This will need to involve consideration of whether a restructure of children's social care services is necessary	Undertake Fieldwork Review and implement improved operational structure	The remaining priority action to be addressed	Fully reviewed social care infrastructure in place	Feb 2010	Lyn Burns	→	The fieldwork review will be completed by the end of March 2010.	Social Work / Workforce

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
2. Enjoying and Achieving - Practice and Process								
Improve Performance across primary schools with a particular focus on addressing the performance of schools below the floor targets	Submit a plan to the DCSF which addresses performance across primary schools with a particular focus on addressing the performance of schools below the floor targets	Existing plan in need of review	Plan Agreed With DCSF	End of January 2010	David Light	→	Performance against floor targets for individual schools needs to be improved in line with the overall performance trend. The plan that was submitted to DCSF related to World Class primaries has been approved and work is ongoing to address the issues contained within the action plan. Report being submitted to meeting Improvement Panel on 25th March 2010.	Enjoying and Achieving
	Implement this plan, as agreed with DCSF and National Strategies, to bring about demonstrable and sustained improvement in primary school standards throughout the term of the Improvement Notice.	13 Primary schools below floor targets	Primary schools below floor targets target to be agreed upon plan submission to DCSF	March 2010 October 2010 March 2011	David Light	→	Report to be submitted to Improvement Panel on 25th March 2010	Enjoying and Achieving

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
3. Leadership and Management / Capacity Building / Support								
Build capacity and capability to deliver and sustain improvement	Obtain external funding from Regional Improvement Efficiency Programme/DCSF including sector led expertise as required	No funding agreed	Funding obtained and apportioned	December 2009	Matthew Gladstone	→	£125k additional funding was agreed by the RIEP. DCSF allocated £150k (over two years) to support improvement. Additional social work resources have been selected from tenders using the DCSF funding and will focus on quality assurance and improvement work. We have yet to receive these monies and have followed up access to the funding with RIEP and DCSF.	Finance
Develop a comprehensive programme of training, mentoring and continuous professional development for all social care staff so that they have the skills to complete high quality and timely assessments	Director of Children's Services holds monthly 1:1 challenge meetings with each Service Director covering all aspects of performance	Monthly supervisions currently in place	12 challenge meetings per year per director	December 2009	Joyce Thacker	complete	PDR guidance issued to managers for 2010 with May deadline set for completion of PDRs	Workforce
	Improve induction process for CYPS	Induction process for CYPS inconsistent	Induction process for CYPS consistently adhered to and monitored	January 2010	Lyn Burns/ Warren Carratt	↑	CYPS Welcome Days now running. NQSW programme in place and running. All staff in CYPS are chased up re completion of e-induction, manager induction dates (for PDR/ Budget and Performance) in addition to ones for existing staff are being finalised.	Workforce
	Ensure that accountabilities for each individual are being reinforced through consistently applied PDR's to ensure staff have a satisfactory Performance Plan.	62%	90%	January 2010	Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt	↑	PDR guidance issued for 2010 with deadline set for the end of May for completion of PDRs. All managers are required to attend PDR/ supervision training	Workforce / Performance
Demonstrate improvements in staff satisfaction and in the satisfaction of children and families with the services they receive through the term of the Improvement Notice	Improve outcomes of CYPS satisfaction surveys	Employee Opinion Survey TBC LAC reviews TBC Audit Commission in Schools Survey TBC Social Worker Survey TBC	Employee Opinion Survey TBC LAC reviews TBC Audit Commission in Schools Survey TBC Social Worker Survey TBC	March 2010 Oct 2010 and March 2011	Julie Westwood/ Warren Carratt	↑	Baseline for EOS - 64% (CYPS) rest of Council 69% - target to be discussed 69%, however the next EOS is not until 2011. Baseline for AC schools survey response rate 2008 29% 2009 63%. Target 80%, next survey not now run until 2011 (now 2 yearly). The Family Placement Survey is a bi-annual survey of Foster Carers and Adopters, the response rate in November 09 was 29% lower than the 2006 survey - 52%. However, the rates of satisfaction have increased, particularly around the levels of support they receive. The next survey is scheduled for 2011.	Workforce and all Workstreams

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
4. Performance Management								
Improve Annual Children's Service Scores Profile to Performing well by 2011 through implementation of all outstanding recommendations and improvement of inspection scores to good or better	Continually assess the position in relation to all outstanding external inspection recommendations including all those listed in CAA Blocks A and B	Performing Poorly	90% of recommendations met in original timescale 12 reports per year	monthly	Julie Westwood	↑	Recommendations from key high risk inspections being input. Visits undertaken to Early Years and SES to examine recording systems already deployed. These have been found to be satisfactory. There will be on site visits to validate the implementation of recommendations and the state of readiness in terms of achieving a positive outcome in the next inspection. Action plan requested from service to shift proportion of services to good or better.	Performance
	Introduce robust monthly monitoring arrangements to ensure implementation of all outstanding inspection recommendations from all inspections in original timescales	Inspection recommendations from key inspections are being monitored but reports need to include all inspected services	90% of recommendations met in original timescale 12 reports per year	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	↑	All inspection recommendations (with the exception of schools and childminders which have an established monitoring system) are being entered into the reconfigured CYP inspections monitoring database. Monitoring reports will be presented quarterly to each Improvement Panel Meeting, reported to Improvement Panel on 9th March, changes requested and is being submitted again to the 25th March Improvement Panel focusing on the high risk area, children's homes, this will be developed further and submitted to a future Improvement Panel	Social Work / Performance
	Conduct a minimum of 2 mock unannounced inspections, in line with the Ofsted criteria per quarter	0	Minimum of 2 mock inspections per quarter to have been conducted	Quarterly	Julie Westwood/Lyn Burns	↑	Resources have been committed to commissioning this externally. The work will take place over 6 half days to allow "deep dive" focus on a number of areas but with a particular focus on those which have been highlighted in the self assessment work and challenge. work will take place with Team and Locality Managers in respect of "what does good look like". As Part of Gani Martin's induction she visited 2 of Rotherham's localities and will be producing a paper.	Social Work / Performance
	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block A by increasing % of inspected services rated "good or better"	Performing Poorly (bottom band for both PRU and Children's Homes) 54.9%	Performing Well (65% - 79% categorised as outstanding or good)	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→	As at the Ofsted Quarter 4 Profile (which does not correspond with our quarterly dates) the overall Inspected Services position is that 64% of judgements on providers are below the average for similar areas and 71.43% are below the national average. The accuracy of the Ofsted information in the Profile is currently being challenged as a number of inaccuracies have been found. Responses have been received back but the profile has not been amended the report will be submitted to a future Improvement Panel	Performance
	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block B by: Ensuring majority of inspected scores are rated "good or better" for safeguarding LAC and SCRs	Fostering - Satisfactory SCRs 2/4 judged inadequate	Fostering - Good All future SCRs rated adequate or better	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→	The overall Serious Case Review profile is now 1 Good, 2 Adequate and 3 Inadequate. As stated above, the last two SCRs are being challenged with Ofsted. Awaiting decision from OFSTED	Performance
	Improve CYP Performance Profile rating for Block C by improving NI performance	Not In line with or better than statistical neighbours and the national position	In line with or better than statistical neighbours and the national position	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	→	Improvement plans are in place for NIs and where targets are not being met performance clinics are held to identify areas where further improvement can be made. The latest profile shows NIs to be broadly in line with similar areas and national averages - see performance profile included in the panel documents. The accuracy of the Ofsted information in the Profile is currently being challenged as a number of inaccuracies have been found. A response has been received but the profile has not been amended a report will be submitted to a future Improvement Panel.	Performance
	Ensure quarterly reporting on the Children's Services Performance Profile on their release clearly outlining areas of risk and potential impact	Report on Quarter 2 profile prepared	4 reports per year and improvement in each service block	Quarterly	Julie Westwood	↑	Risks will be incorporated in more detail from the next report. The accuracy of the latest release of the Ofsted Profile is currently being challenged as a number of inaccuracies have been found. It is unwise to report anything until these inaccuracies have been corrected. A Response has been received but the profile has not been amended a report will be submitted to a future Improvement Panel	Performance
	Implement all the recommendations arising from the Children's First review undertaken using the DCSF Improvement Framework	67% when Improvement Notice Made	100% of recommendations implemented	March 2010	Julie Westwood	→	A report on progress and the overall completion of the actions with evidence will be submitted to the next Improvement Panel on the 9th April.	Performance
Ensure that the Panel, chaired by the Chief Executive, provides effective challenge, and drives swift and sustainable progress through overseeing a robust action plan	Appoint the Director of Children and Learners at GOYH as a member of the Improvement Panel	N/A	Director of Children and learners at GOYH to attend CYP Improvement Panel meetings	December 2009	Joyce Thacker	complete	Director of Children and Learners at GOYH attended panel meeting 14th December 2009	Performance

Objective	Key Actions	Measures	Targets	Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline						
6. Finance								
Strengthen financial management arrangements to ensure they are fit for purpose and financial targets 09/10 are met	Tackle the existing overspend in Directorate (particularly Social Care)	£4.5m overspend	Corporate Variance on target 2% +/-	March 2010	Joyce Thacker	→	The overspend has been addressed by reviewing budgets and the imposition of a moratorium on spending within the directorate. A review of the commissioning, quality and value for money of placements within Rotherham and in out of authority settings has commenced. The corporate SLT has agreed the reduction targets for agency staff and overtime working. The overspend projected at the end of January 2010 was £4.2m. As at end of February 2010, the overspend was projected at £4.377m, due to agency fees and continued high levels of children in care	Finance
	Address the under funding issues in Social Care and School Effectiveness Service	In 2008/09 the gap was £8.3m. In 2008/09 had narrowed to £6.8m.	Close the gap against statistical neighbours average spend for CYP Services	March 2010	Joyce Thacker	↑	Schools Forum agreed to £400K from April 2010 for School Effectiveness. VFM Panel considering Social Care under funding and the investment proposal for CYP as a whole has been considered by Full Council on 4th March 2010, an agreed investment of £3.1m was agreed into CYPs.	Finance

Operational Targets

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
7. Recruitment and Retention								
Increase the capacity of social carers to ensure effective services to safeguard vulnerable children	Reduce the vacancy rate of qualified social workers from the December 2009 baseline to meet the improvement notice target	37.2% 16th December 2009	20% vacancy rate by October 2010 10% vacancy rate by March 2011	October 2010	Lyn Burns	↑	Vacancy level of 28.3% which is 8.9% better than the position when the Notice to Improve was agreed and 1.5% better than was reported at the last Improvement Panel. 6 social workers have been interviewed and all offered posts, 2 are not yet qualified and so will commence as family support workers. 6 more interviews are scheduled for the next 2 weeks. An ITT has been issued for the supply of both permanent and temporary social workers to help speed up the process even further. Work is also due take place with North Yorkshire around some overseas recruitment.	Social Care / Workforce
	Reduce the vacancy rate of team managers from the December 2009 baseline to meet the improvement notice target	33% 16th December 2009	16% vacancy rate by October 2010 8% vacancy rate by March 2011	October 2010	Lyn Burns	↑	Vacancy level of 26.7% which is 6.3% better than the position when the Notice to Improve was agreed and the same as was reported at the last Improvement Panel. 2 permanent Team Managers have been recruited and will take up post in May, this will bring the Team Manager vacancy rate to 20% at the beginning of May 2010.	Social Care / Workforce
	Recruit 30 new Foster Carers	126 (January 2009)	156	March 2010	Lyn Burns	→	Since 1st April 2009 18 foster carers have been recruited, 5 more are going to panel on the 29th March and a further 7 on the 12th April	Social Care / Workforce
	Reduce the over reliance on agency staff	2009/10 spend to date = £494,737.55 (6 months)	Target to be determined	October 2010	Lyn Burns	→	The recruitment campaign for permanent social workers and team managers continues however, there is still expenditure against the agency staff budgets with £174k in January and £190k in February as a result of recruiting 10 additional agency social workers to cover the start of the permanent contracts commencing	Workforce / Finance
	Increase the number of additional administrative staff within the Directorate to free up time of social workers and assess impact to inform future budgets	7.9 FTE additional admin staff transferred into the Directorate to provide support and 7 admin agency staff.	Impact Assessment completed	December 2009	Julie Westwood	complete	7 additional Agency administrative staff have been allocated. Staff from other directorates have been allocated to supplement locality resources (4 EDS, 3 CEX, 4 CYPS - equating to 7.9 FTEs. The additional resource has had a positive impact and the budgetary impact of continuing with this additional resource on a permanent is contained in the business case for the VFM review. In terms of staff development this has also been a positive process and 2 EDS staff have now been appointed to CYP on a permanent basis. Approval to recruit another 8 WTE's permanent administration staff has been given from 1st April.	Workforce / Finance

Objective	Key Actions	Measures		Target Date	Lead	RAG	Performance Commentary	Lead Workstream(s)
		Baseline	Targets					
8. ICT								
Improve information systems to enable social workers/managers to process and access assessments and plans and transfer of case information on vulnerable children in a timely, accurate manner.	Increase email 'in box' capacity for managers	Inspectors recommendation	Resolve Issues raised	November 2009	Julie Westwood	complete	Portal developments in place to allow social workers and managers to access their reports more effectively.	Performance / ICT
	Revise and accelerate the implementation of the corporate agile working programme for social work staff	Social Work teams in a later phase of the council's agile working programme - Worksmart.	Prioritise Social Work teams in the Worksmart programme. 106 Laptops and VPN tokens to be issued	January 2009	RBT	complete	1. Remote access solution - Current volunteers raised to 110, approval for 106 - 66 issued, links with PC refresh programme - Review of current vpn usage within CYPS underway 2. Laptop roll-out / PC Refresh - Roll-out underway, successful deployment by locality - Roll-out completion by w/c 22/02 3. Swift System - 80 high level desk guides cascaded to localities	ICT

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1	Meeting:	Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
2	Date:	Wednesday 7 th April 2010
3	Title:	Children and Young People’s Plan 2007-2010 Progress Update Appendix A – Update on Children and Young People’s Plan
4	Directorate:	Children and Young People’s Services

5 Summary

This report summarises progress against the commitments within the Children and Young People’s Plan 2007-2010. Quarterly progress reports are collated for each commitment outlined in the Children and Young People’s Plan 2007-2010. Previous progress reports showed significant progress had been achieved across the Children and Young People’s Service and with our partners in relation to the commitments agreed within the Children and Young People’s Plan. This update (January 2010), covering the period September to December 2009, shows that this progress continues.

6 Recommendations

- **That Cabinet Member and Advisers receive this report and note progress**

7 Proposals and Details

The Appendix provides the details of the current progress, supporting data, and the status of each of the outstanding commitments within the Children and Young People’s Plan as at the end of December 2009. Previously completed commitments have not been included.

A summary of the status of the Children and Young People’s Plan commitments can be found below.

Progress Status Category	Number of Commitments in Category as at September 2009	Number of Commitments in Category as at December 2009
Green	22	18
Amber	13	14
Red	9	7
Completed	37	Newly complete - 4

Commitments that remain at red are;

- ❖ Continue to reduce the rate of women who smoke in pregnancy by 1% year on year
- ❖ Continue to increase the initiation and maintenance of breastfeeding by 2% year on year
- ❖ Continue to reduce the rate of under-18 conceptions by implementing of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy
- ❖ Improving advice on nutrition and reducing obesity
- ❖ Target attainment at Key Stage 2 on an ongoing basis
- ❖ Reduce the incidence of offending of Looked After Children by monitoring protocols of behaviour intervention in Children's Units and improve timeliness of multi-agency risk assessments
- ❖ Target service to enable families to develop effective communication and integration into the community

There is one further quarterly update of the Children and Young People's Plan 2001-2010 to cover the period January to March 2010. It is anticipated that this will be replaced by the new Children and Young People's Plan which will be monitored from this point.

8 Finance

Sources of funding for the Children and Young People's Plan commitments have already been identified within the plan.

9 Risks and Uncertainties

Regular monitoring of the Children and Young People's Plan commitments mitigates the risk that the high impact priorities for children and young people are not being delivered. Delivery against the Children and Young People's Plan is an item on the CMT Risgen Risk Register (ref. no. 22). There is a risk that at the final quarterly update, there will still be some commitments that are not categorised as complete.

10 Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

Consultation is currently ongoing with regard to the new Children and Young People's Plan, with the aim of a new Plan being in place from July 2010.

11 Background Papers and Consultation

Children and Young People's Plan Consultation Plan and Project Plan for Implementation.

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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2007-2010
PROGRESS UPDATE – September – December 2009**

All text in red is new since the last quarterly update.

BEING HEALTHY

Being Healthy	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Implement the infant mortality action plan (H01)	By December 2007 and then ongoing	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	Progress report sent to CSP in Feb 2008 2004/06: Rotherham 6.2 Eng Av'ge 5.0 2005/07 Rotherham 5.4 Eng Av'ge 4.9	↑ NST Infant Mortality action plan is being performance managed within the inequalities action plan. Successful LDP Bids see breastfeeding and smoking in pregnancy.	Green
Continue to reduce the rate of women who smoke in pregnancy by 1% year on year (H02)	Target for 2007/08 is 26.6% or lower.	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	Qtr 4 07/08- Actual- 24.66% Plan-26.6% Qtr 4 08/09- Actual- 28.02% Plan- 20.42% Qtr 1 09/10- Actual- 27.67% Plan- 19.52% Qtr 2 09/10- Actual- 27.63% Plan- 18.62%	↓ ↑ Successful LDP Bids – recruited 2 WTE Smoking in Pregnancy Advisor, Implement the Smokefree Homes scheme, Social Marketing campaigns on smoking in pregnancy and breastfeeding completed. Smoking in Pregnancy action plan updated. Smoking prevalence still high (27.67%) steering group developing further actions.	Red
Continue to increase the initiation and maintenance of breastfeeding by 2% year on year (H03)	Target for 2007/08 is 54% or higher Target for 2009/10 is 60% or higher	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	Up to Dec 08/09 (YTD)- Actual- 57.71% Plan- 56.12% Q4 08/09 Actual-57.82%; Plan-56.62%	Initiation - Rotherham underperformed against this target at the end of Q4 in 08/09 by 0.2% (57.8%). However, initiation rate has increased from 54.62% in 07/08 to 59% in Q1 09/10, exceeding the 2% year on year level.	Red

KEY: Arrows (where possible) demonstrate direction of performance - ↑ = better performance, ↓ = worse performance, → = performance maintained

Being Healthy					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			<p>Q1 09/10- Actual 59.13% Plan-57.12%</p> <p>Q2 09/10 Actual 59.81% Plan 57.62%</p> <p>Percentage Breastfeeding at 6-8 Weeks</p> <p>Qtr3 08/09 – Actual 19.66% Plan – 28%</p> <p>Qtr4 08/09 – Actual 24% Plan – 28%</p> <p>Qtr1 09/10 – Actual 27.6% Plan – 28%</p> <p>Completeness/Coverage Actual 88.9% Plan 90%</p> <p>Qtr 2 09/10 – Actual 23% Plan – 28%</p> <p>Completeness/Coverage Actual 75% Plan 90%</p>	<p>Coverage - Last year (08/09) was the first year that we have been asked to submit this data and to establish systems for data collection. The current method for data collection has improved from 37% in Quarter 1 (Child Health Data) to 89% in Quarter 1 09/10 (Practice Manual Reporting). 6-8 weeks - 08/09 data provided the necessary baseline from which to measure future performance. While breastfeeding rates at 6-8 weeks appear to be improving from 11% in Quarter 1 08/09 to 28% in Quarter 4 09/10, we recognise the impact of changing methods of data recording. It must be recognised that Rotherham has significantly lower rates of breastfeeding than the England and Wales average. This is likely to be due to Rotherham being one of the most deprived areas in England and Wales. We have made a significant investment in breastfeeding to address and improve breastfeeding across the borough. Initial reports suggest that a number of new local initiatives are starting to have an impact on the number of women breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks.</p>	
Ensure full uptake of immunisation programmes to	Ongoing – national target for immunisations is	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	Qtr3 08/09 Aged 2 MMR – actual 81.7%; plan 87%	Vaccination and Implementation Project Lead employed to drive vaccination and immunisation	Amber

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Being Healthy					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
women, babies, children and young people (H05)	95%, (90% for GP Payment.)		<p>Aged 5 DTP – actual 75.8%; plan 80%</p> <p>Aged 5 MMR – actual 74.8%; plan 80%</p> <p>Qtr4 (YTD) 08/09</p> <p>Aged 2 MMR – actual 83.6%; plan 87% ↑</p> <p>Aged 5 DTP – actual 79.8%; plan 80%</p> <p>Aged 5 MMR – actual 78.8%; plan 80%</p> <p>Qtr 1 09/10</p> <p>Aged 2 MMR – actual 87.6%; plan 88%</p> <p>Aged 5 DTP – actual 80.4%; plan 85%</p> <p>Aged 5 MMR – actual 79.9%; plan 85%</p> <p>Qtr 2 09/10</p> <p>Aged 2 MMR – actual 87.8%; plan 88%</p> <p>Aged 5 DTP – actual 85.8%; plan 85%</p> <p>Aged 5 MMR – actual 84.2%; plan 85%</p>	<p>agenda.</p> <p>Incentivised pay for completed vaccinations GP activity for this financial year only for primary immunisations and pre-school boosters.</p> <p>Working with Health Visiting teams to provide robust escalation and action plans for defaulters.</p> <p>Data cleanse in progress to marry Child Health data activities with those activities in Clinical Practice.</p> <p>GP practice visits and action plans for outlying surgeries to support improvements and streamline activities.</p> <p>HPV school based vaccinations implemented in staged approach with initial uptake successful.</p>	
Continue to reduce the rate of under-18 conceptions by	Public Service Agreement targets to be achieved by	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	Under 18 conception rate 54.0 (2006 data) Reduction in U18 Conceptions since	Quarter 3 has seen the restructure of the Teenage Pregnancy Partnership Board to enhance effective	Red

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Being Healthy									
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status				
implementing of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy - Teenage Pregnancy Strategy in Place 2006-2009 (H07)	2010. LAA indicators to be achieved by 2009		1998 baseline = -5.9% (2006 data) = -10.5 (unvalidated 2007 data) 2006- Actual- 53.9 Plan- 41.25 2007- Actual – 50.7 Plan- 37.9 % change from 1998 Baseline Actual -10.1% Plan -37.8%	partnership and joined up working. As part of our action to increase access to contraception, youth clinics, where possible, have had to work to create appropriate clinical space to offer implants. Recruitment for roll out of the Maltby Girls project took place and workers started end of January 2009, which forms part of the targeted prevention work. We have developed a Data Group to look at using local data to give a more up to date view of the teenage pregnancy rates to aid planning and delivery. This remains a very challenging target, with a final 2007 rate (per 1000 females aged 15-17) of 50.7 against a 2007 plan of 37.9. The Teenage Pregnancy Strategy is currently being implemented, Data Group set up to look at using local data to give a more up to date view of the teenage pregnancy rates to aid planning and delivery.					
Improving advice on nutrition and reducing obesity (H08)	Continue the National Child Measurement	Yvonne Weakley/Lisa Gash	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 12.5%;">05/6</td> <td style="width: 12.5%;">06/7</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Eng Ave</td> </tr> </table>		05/6	06/7	Eng Ave	NCMP data for 2007/8 became available Dec 08 (see table for comparisons with 2005/6 and 06/07	Obese in Reception – Red
	05/6	06/7	Eng Ave						

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Being Healthy									
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data				Progress	Status	
	Programme (NCMP)		% measured	89	82.9		data). This indicates a rise but coverage has increased which may affect this. All measures are higher than the England average. Childhood obesity strategy, model and action plan for prevention and treatment agreed by PCT, RMBC and partners. Additional funding for obesity initiatives (Community and more clinical approaches) in place from April 2008. Services procured, in place by April 2009. Tier 4 Childhood Obesity Service, Carnegie Residential Camp ran successfully in summer 08. 38 local children and young people supported to attend Carnegie Residential Camp for between 2-6 weeks with 15 week community club follow up programme (Carnegie Club) in Rotherham from Sept to Dec 08. Roll out of Carnegie Clubs (Tier 2) across the whole of the borough from Apr. Continued Work Through Public Health Team and Healthy Schools Team. Childhood and adult obesity strategies, models and action plans for prevention and treatment agreed by PCT, RMBC and partners.	Obese in Year 6 - Red	
% obese Yr R	10	10.3	9.9	% over weight Yr R	13	13.5			13
% obese Yr 6	18	18.4	17.5	% over weight Yr 6	15	15			14.2
07/08 Measured at reception- 90% (plan 85%) Obese at reception- 12% (plan 10%) Measured in Yr 6- 88% (plan 85%) Obese in Yr 6- 20.8% (plan 18%)									
08/09 Measured at reception- 94.1% (plan 86%) Obese at reception- 9.96% (plan 10%) Measured in Yr 6- 90.8% (plan 86%) Obese in Yr 6- 19% (plan 18%)									
BMI status on GP registered aged 16 and over: Qtr3 08/09 actual 36.54%; plan 38% Qtr1 09/10 actual 35.55% ; Plan 56%									

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Being Healthy					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			Of those recorded 12.68% have a BMI of 30+ Qtr 2 09/10 actual 38.5%; Plan 56% Of those recorded 13.09% have a BMI of 30+		
To develop co-ordinated planning through the use of Early Support and the Common Assessment Framework (H12)	To provide a lead worker and a flexible team around the child by April 2008	Helen Shaw Julie Friend Simon Perry	Not applicable	CAF Development Officer post appointed to take this forward. Integral part of Prevention and Early Support Strategy work currently being compiled as key workstream under Ofsted Notice to Improve. Launch date April 2010	Amber
Providing support in the community with equipment, palliative care, counselling, short break and respite care (H13)	Ongoing with review in March 2008	Yvonne Weakley Lisa Gash	Not applicable	Developments taking place with regard to short break provision as part of preparation for Aiming High for Disabled Children funding 2009 – 10, 2010- 11. Needs Assessment completed and Commissioning Strategy developed. Consultation events with stakeholders/parents/providers held. Full Service Offer met, now working towards staged progression framework for implementing strategy. PCT and LA currently working to develop community equipment services across the borough. Looking	Green

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Being Healthy					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
				at finances and process for purchasing equipment	

STAYING SAFE

Staying Safe					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Increasing the number of file audits using the quality and performance framework by 25% and using the results to inform staff mentoring and training needs (S02)	April 2008	Lynn Burns	Central register developed for File Audit activity	<p>Now that the Locality Managers are in place audit activity has increased. This has been thematic using benchmarking techniques e.g. qualification and experience of staff where the statutory interventions are the same. The audit tool has been updated and now covers the work of the Independent Reviewing Officers and Safeguard Unit. The audits have established skill gaps and training programmes have been developed as a response. The quality and performance framework continues to be used for the audit of Locality files and any issues identified have been fed back to Team Managers.</p> <p>A review of current activity has been undertaken (Dec 2009) and is being analysed to ensure that there is QA and audit across all aspects of safeguarding and corporate parenting and that the findings inform ongoing actions.</p>	Green (on basis that target now "ongoing activity")

Staying Safe					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Ensure that school councils and other student bodies are fully involved in the development and monitoring of school policies and 'whole school approaches' to tackling bullying (S08)	By September 2007	Cath Ratcliffe/Sue Horton	No. of complaints received about bullying has reduced by 50%	The Anti Bullying Guidance created by the Anti Bullying Steering Group has been sent out to all schools. The Anti Bullying Standard encourages the involvement of student councils in the development of school polices and whole school approaches. 49 schools are currently registered with the Standard, with 6 Schools awarded with Silver and 3 with Gold. Promotion of the Standard continues across all schools. All Rotherham schools have signed the Department for Children, Schools and Families Bullying – A Charter for Action. This charter encourages schools to enhance the involvement of school councils.	Complete
Review impact of the new inter-agency guidance and arrangements in respect of domestic violence (S12)	April 2008	Joyce Thacker Lyn Burns Annie Redmond	Not applicable	Rotherham MBC is fully compliant with the new inter-agency guidance in respect of domestic violence. The re-designation of the term domestic violence for 'domestic abuse' has resulted in a significant increase in the number of reported incidents and repeat incident rates together with an apparent reduction in sanction/ detection outcomes. Local performance however should be viewed in the context of an increase in reporting at both a regional and national level and is not indicative of a poor local practice.	Complete
Reduce repeat incidents of domestic violence (S13)	annually through to 2009	Joyce Thacker/Cheryl Henry	2008/2009 number of repeat incidents = 728 Repeat incidents reduced to	The new Domestic Violence Priority Group are driving the strategy forward. Targets have been set to reduce repeat incidents and homicides.	Amber

KEY: Arrows (where possible) demonstrate direction of performance - ↑ = better performance, ↓ = worse performance, → = performance maintained

Staying Safe					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
		Lyn Burns	28.5% from the previous year Jan - March 2009 number of repeat victims = 183 April-July 2009 repeat victims = 219 Repeat victims reviewed at MARAC April – 8 May – 5 June – 9 July - 4 August - 9	Change in indicator from repeat incidents to repeat victims reviewed at MARAC.	
Increasing awareness around Domestic Violence – its impact on children and their families. To identify signs of Domestic Violence to ensure safeguarding of the child and reporting of concerns (S15/17)	Ongoing/annual review April	Joyce Thacker Lyn Burns	Not applicable	There is continual training on domestic violence and its impact on children and families within the multi-agency Safeguarding Programme.	Complete
Working within locality teams with schools, police, neighbourhood and voluntary sector services to ensure effective action to help families suffering from domestic violence (S19)	Ongoing/annual review April	Joyce Thacker Lyn Burns	Not applicable	The multi-agency training course has been reviewed and revised. The CYPS Operational Safeguarding Manager has been identified as a Domestic Violence champion and will progress these issues across Localities and the broader CYPs. An action has been included in all Locality Plans “For Locality Teams to act on all Police referrals of Domestic Violence”.	Green

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Staying Safe					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
				<p>The remit of the CYPS Access Team is being renewed and this will involve consideration of how best to respond to domestic Violence referrals. Possible co-location of post with the police is being explored.</p>	

ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING

Enjoying and Achieving						
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status	
Target attainment at Key Stage 2 on an ongoing basis (E&A01)	Review annually in August/September	David Light	English L4+ = 76% (2007) English L4+ = 76% (2008) English L4+ = 76.3% (2009) English L5+ = 26% (2007) English L5+ = 24% (2008) English L5+ = 26.2% (2009) Maths L4+ = 72% (2007) Maths L4+ = 75% (2008) Maths L4+ = 75.8% (2009) Maths L5+ = 26% (2007) Maths L5+ = 26% (2008) Maths L5+ = 29.1% (2009)	↑ ↑ ↑ ↑	Overall performance has improved, notably in Maths in 2008 and L5+ in 2009, and we continue to reduce the gap with National. However, overall S&A remain too low and we compare poorly with Statistical Neighbours. To date improvement is too slow and incremental but was sustained in 2009 when the national profile was flat or fell slightly. DCSF have recently introduced the @World Class Primary Schools' programme which will focus, similarly to the National Challenge, on schools below the KS2 floor target. Rotherham is a priority LA for the WCP.	Red (on the basis that these are urgent areas for improvement where we are not yet succeeding sufficiently)
Target attainment of boys (0-19) on an ongoing basis (E&A02)	Review annually in August/September	David Light	Diff Girls & Boys KS1 L2+ Reading = 11.1% (2007) = 8.6% (2008) = 9.3% (2009) Writing = 14.1% (2007) = 10.4 (2008) = 10.7 (2009) Maths = 3.6% (2007) = 3.1% (2008) = 1.7(2009) Diff Girls & Boys KS2 L4+	↓ ↓ ↑	Some improvements have been achieved. This still remains a priority area for intervention and impact remains uneven. In general the improvements in attainment performance are due to the increase in boys' performance, which is particularly noticeable at the higher levels and in Maths and Science in 2009: gender differentials are wider at lower ability levels, ie the depressed progress of white working class boys. Girl's performance in many areas is above national but remains relatively static.	Green

KEY: Arrows (where possible) demonstrate direction of performance - ↑ = better performance, ↓ = worse performance, → = performance maintained

Enjoying and Achieving					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			English = 12.2% (2007) = 12.6% (2008) = 12.5% (2009) ↑ Maths = -2.1% (boys above girls) (07) = 0.1% (2008) = -0.9% (boys above girls) (2009) ↓ Science = 2.3% (2007) = 4.7% (2008) = 0.2% (2009) ↑ Diff Girls & Boys KS3 L5+ English No longer applicable Maths No longer applicable Science No longer applicable	The national emphasis on combined English/Maths performance at all levels has increased the drive around boys' English especially with some positive impact on this area in secondary results in 2008 and 2009. Early indications re GCSE 5A*-C English & Maths 2009 promising with well-above national increases in English and Maths and several schools reporting stronger male progress – NB, unvalidated at this stage. The improvement is considerably stronger in English than Maths.	
Raise levels of attendance and reduce exclusions on an ongoing basis (E&A04)	Review annually in November	Cath Ratcliffe/Katy Edmonson	Attendance Secondary Acad. Yr 06/07 = 91.68% (actual) ↑ Acad. Yr 07/08 = 91.97% (unverified data) Acad. Yr 08/09 = 92.41% National 92.85% Primary Acad. Yr 06/07 = 94.87% (actual) ↓	Performance continues to improve at Secondary level. Very low exclusion profile in 2007/8 supported by important new practice re integration of PRUs in secondary collaboratives. Performance on attendance continues to improve at Secondary level. While good progress has been made at secondary level, concern still exists as the national attendance level has also improved.	Green

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Enjoying and Achieving					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			Acad. Yr 07/08 = 94.78% (unverified data) Acad. Yr 08/09 = 94.76% National 94.72%	Primary attendance above the national average, but reduction in overall attendance. Significant reduction in the number of pupils who are Persistent Absentees by 438 pupils (- 40.41%). Rotherham is the 5 th most improved LA of the 42 Intensive LA's	
			Exclusions Permanent = 50 (06/07) = 4 (07/08) = 2 (08/09) 5+ days fixed = 653 (06/07) 5+ days fixed = 440 (07/08) 5+days fixed = 258 (08/09)	Permanent Exclusions: Significant reduction in number of permanent exclusions, top quartile performance. This is due to schools working in partnership and the implementation of Positive Progress Behaviour Strategy. Fixed term Exclusions: Significant reduction in the number of fixed term exclusions (33%) The number of pupils receiving over 5+ days exclusion has again reduced in 08/09, however the number of days lost to exclusion has remained static.	Green
Develop a wide range of additional sporting and cultural activities through the Extended Services offer on an ongoing basis (E&A06)	Review annually September/October NI88 08/09 = 42% 09/10 = 85% 10/11 = 100%	Sue Shelly	% schools offering extended services core offer = 43% (March 08) = 55% (June 08) = 70% (Dec. 08) =74% (Jan 09) = 79% (Mar 09) = 79% (Apr 09)	Pathfinder project for Dinnington and Brinsworth clusters worth £250,000 2008 - 09 academic year. This will fund access to activities for young people experiencing economic disadvantage This will be rolled out to 2 more cluster ins 2009 -10 and borough wide from April 2010.	Green (TDA judgement on progress towards achieving the full core offer by September 2010.)

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Enjoying and Achieving					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			=81% (May 09) =85% (June 09) = 89% (Sept 09) = 92% (Dec 09)		
Ensure the Town Centre Renaissance includes family friendly cultural centres (E&A08)	To review annually	Steve Hallsworth Chris Johnson Phil Gill	Not applicable	The £11m Town Centre Leisure Complex opened in October 2008. Clifton Park project is now partially operational (play areas have been operating over the summer) the rest of the project will be completed by the end of the year. There has been some delay to the completion of the Clifton Park project due to the insolvency of the main contractor. Steps are now being taken to identify alternative ways of completing the project in 2010.	Amber
Review the primary and secondary curriculum to create greater opportunities and improve the quality of learning for each child (E&A11)	Review in line with DfES requirements	David Light	Not applicable	Primary curriculum being reviewed in line with new DCSF central Children's Plan. Similar emphasis on KS3 and post-14 renewal led by SES through senior leader teams across all 16 comps – Rotherham now granted full Diploma pattern.	Green
Ensure all Looked After Children have a Personal Education Plan (E&A12)	Ongoing/review annually in September	Martin Smith	81.81% have a Pep with 30% in date and valid. [updated in September]	Monthly report provided to Service Managers and Team Manager identifying PEPs in date and those needing action. Training provided to Social Work team. Also support offered to Social Worker at	Amber

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Enjoying and Achieving					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			August 09 Data LAC for 12 months plus = 249 PEP under 6 months = 84 (33.7%) PEP under 12 months = 91 (36.5%) PEP over 1 year = 28 (11.2%) No PEP = 46 (18.5%) Position as of 25/01/2010. 33.1% with 6 month PEP 63.3% with 12 month PEP	PEP meetings. All PEPs are quality checked. The Status of PEP is now available on the internal internet portal. IRO are supporting the need for PEPS to be available for care review in line with new guidance.	
Ensure additional educational support is provided through the Get Real Team to all Looked After Children pupils, but with particular targeting of KS4 on an ongoing basis (E&A13)	Ongoing/review annually in September	Martin Smith	% of care leavers with at least 1 GCSE at A*-G = 63% ↓ % all LAC achieving at least 1 GCSE at A* - G = 56.52% % LAC (looked after for at least 1 yr) achieving; - 1+ A*-G = 100% (2007) ↓ 1+ A*-G = 79% (2008) 1+ A*-G= 76% (2009) 5+ A*-C = 16.67% (2007) 5+ A*-C = 9% (2008) 5+ A*-c = 12%(2009) ↓ % LAC (looked after for at least 1 yr) achieving: 5+A*-G = 48% (2008) ↑	The Get Real Team monitors the progress of KS4 pupils (three times a year), this commences in the spring term of year ten with a request to the school concerned to ascertain predicted results with follow up monitoring call three times in year 11 to ascertain whether individual young people are on target to achieve predicted grades or if support is required. All support to other Looked After Children is through a referral system. This can be made by any interested party who have a concern about the young person and their education. An assessment is undertaken to identify need and the best way to support. We undertake work with KS2 SATs to enhance results. We support where appropriate any transition with particular	Green

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Enjoying and Achieving					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
			5+A-G= 45% (2009) ↓	<p>support offered to Year 6 to 7. In Year 9 we undertake aspirations interviews to support/guide the young person in the right choices for their preferred Career/ future education.</p> <p>The early years PEP has been launched with the development of the post of a designated person in each early years setting.</p> <p>Multi agency training strategy across the authority providing training to Social Workers, Designated Teachers, carers and other relevant parties on Personal Educational Plans is continuing.</p> <p>The role of the Designated Teacher became statutory in September. Training is being delivered to support with this role.</p> <p>Also providing joint training with LAAC Team on Attachment issues to School staff.</p> <p>Development of the information system for the virtual school is ongoing.</p> <p>Links made with local college to support the smooth transition to Further education.</p>	
Ensure all Looked After Children pupils at risk of dis-engagement from school or through exclusion are closely	Ongoing/review termly	Martin Smith	Attendance % LAC (looked after for at least 1 yr) who missed 25 days or more of schooling = 16.06% (06/07)	All secondary schools report any absence on a daily bases to the Get Real Team. Any absences are checked with the parent/carer and reported on Swift to the relevant Social Worker.	Amber

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Enjoying and Achieving						
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status	
monitored by Education Welfare Service and Behaviour Support Service and school placement maintained at the earliest opportunity on an ongoing basis (E&A14)			<p>Attendance % LAC (looked after for at least 1 yr) who missed 25 days or more of schooling = 20.1% (07/08)</p> <p>Attendance % LAC (looked after for at least 1 yr) who missed 25 days or more of schooling = 15.76% (08/09)</p> <p>Attendance present position as of January 2010 = 4.8%</p> <p>Exclusions Total number of days of education for LAC lost due to exclusions (all types) = 514 (06/07 acad. Yr) = 197.5 (07/08 acad. Yr) = 99 (08/09 acad yr)</p> <p>Number of LAC who were permanently excluded = 4 (06/07 acad. Yr) = 1 (07/08 acad. Yr) = 0(08/09 acad yr)</p>	<p>↓</p> <p>↑</p> <p>↑</p> <p>↑</p>	<p>Primary schools share information on a termly basis.</p> <p>Support mechanisms are put in place. The Get Real Team will undertake an attendance assessment for any Looked After Child with increasing absences at 15 days absence. Letter sent at 10 day highlighting concerns.</p> <p>Work undertaken by Get Real where appropriate.</p>	
Ensure children with special and complex needs receive the highest	Ongoing/review annually in September	Esther Clifford	There are currently 44 children educated in independent and non maintained special	Through the work of "Machinery of Government" and "Transforming Rotherham Learning", we looking at ways	Green	

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Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
quality of education and maximise their achievement and opportunities post-16 (E&A16)		David Light/Martin Fittes	schools. 35 of these are solely funded by SEN. 9 pupils are jointly funded by Social Care and SEN.	in which more of the children and young people with complex needs can have their needs met in Rotherham and ensure this work is sustained.	

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Promote the use of the Praise Pod project in schools, early years centres and nurseries (M03)	By September 2007/ongoing	Cath Ratcliffe/Liz Galliver	Not applicable	The work is now being developed jointly by a parenting practitioner and EH and WB project officer. They are making links with Family SEAL to develop the role of parents within the project and are running training both for adults and pupils.	Amber
Increase accredited outcomes/evaluation (M07)	Ongoing with annual review in March	Christine Brodhurst Brown	%of YP 13-19 gaining an accredited outcome compared to target % of YP 13-19 participating in youth work'. (BVPI 221 b) 32% (2006/07) 32% (2007/08) 31.5% (2008/09)	This BVPI was established in 2005/06 with a target of 25%, RYPS achieved 24%. In the subsequent three years RYPS raised the target to 30% and has slightly exceeded the target each year. In that time it has become embedded in youth work practice, attention is now being paid to improving the quality and currency of the accreditation offered. RYS will continue to use all the Balanced Scorecard data for Quality Assurance, Service Planning and good practice. Each March we will continue to review	Amber

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Making a Positive Contribution					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
				<p>both the targets and outcomes for young people.</p> <p>Position at Quarter 3, 2009. We are currently off profile but on track for meeting the accreditation target this year. Overall target = 1077. Current Passed = 327. Awaiting External Moderation = 337. Projected Total to date for first three Quarters = 648. Work underway for q4 targets. The service requires 429 new accreditations to be fully processed and moderated in quarter 4.</p> <p>There are 559 new accreditations "in the pipeline" for completion in Q4.</p>	
<p>Reduce the incidence of offending of Looked After Children by monitoring protocols of behaviour intervention in Children's Units and improve timeliness of multi-agency risk assessments (M09)</p>	<p>September 2008 New target Jan 2010</p>	<p>Simon Perry/Paul Grimwood</p>	<p>No. LAC committing offences = 26 (2005/6) = 16 (2006/7) = 26 (2007/8) = 18 (2008/9) = 5 (Oct -Dec 09 figs)</p> <p>No. offences committed by LAC = not returned (2005/6) = 22 (2006/7) = 27 (2007/8) = 18 (2008/9) = 5 (Oct -Dec 09 figs)</p>	<p>Most recent DCSF data set indicates high comparative incidence of LAC offending. Review to be undertaken and report back to JLT in July 09.</p> <p>Figures have been updated to align with the reporting period for DCSF (1ST October to 30th September) for all years.</p>	<p>Red</p>
<p>Implement a comprehensive Parenting</p>	<p>By April 2008</p>	<p>Cath Ratcliffe</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Strategic lead for parenting identified as part of the wider service review. Audit of current range of parent</p>	<p>Amber</p>

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Making a Positive Contribution					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Strategy (M10)				<p>activities underway to inform comprehensive parenting strategy. The Parenting Strategy is to be implemented through the Parenting Strategy Steering Group.</p> <p>Parenting workforce now includes 4 Specialist Parenting Practitioners, 11 Parent Support Advisers a Family Intervention Team for Anti Social Behaviour. Rotherham is one of 69 LA's to have a Youth Crime Action FIP Team. 3 PSA's are being recruited as part of the Parenting Early Intervention Project to work with the 3 Enhanced Resource Units.</p>	
Ensure the targeted provision of parenting services at all stages of a child's life - Provide Training for all appropriate front-line staff in parenting assessment and programme delivery (M11)	From October 2007.	Cath Ratcliffe	Not applicable	<p>Rotherham's Parenting Strategy will have a 4 tier parenting delivery. Staff will be trained according to the type of parenting delivered.</p> <p>A model of 3 types of intervention is now in place, Engaging, Modelling and Training.</p> <p>There is a workforce development plan in place which aims to ensure that the parenting workforce are appropriately trained. A minimum requirement is NOS Working With Parents (WWP). All practitioners delivering the National Academy of Parenting approved evidence based courses must be trained to deliver the programmes; a quality monitoring system is being developed to ensure fidelity of the programmes.</p> <p>Rotherham will be the 3rd Local Authority to introduce FAST (Families and Schools Together) an evidence base universal parenting programme.</p>	Amber

Making a Positive Contribution					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status
Ensure that parents have a genuine voice through parenting programmes, parent contracts and the parents forum (M12)	September 2008/ongoing	Cath Ratcliffe	Not applicable	<p>Parenting Councils to be established in schools. Parents will be part of the Strategy Steering Group.</p> <p>There is a task group looking specifically at Parent Voice and Influence and the establishment of parent forums at a locality level with representation to a Local Authority Forum.</p> <p>The first Parent Voice Forum is being established in Wentworth Valley and will be the model for future developments.</p> <p>2 Parent Consultations held, plans in place for parent assemblies. FAST families to be linked to Rotherham Ready involving them in Community activities.</p>	Amber
Establish a data set to plan future resources and support (M14)	March 08	David Light		SES is developing an appropriate data base with schools	Green (based on revised target date of September 2010)
Target service to enable families to develop effective communication and integration into the community (M15)	Ongoing	David Light		<p>Literacy and language acquisition underpin SES's core strategy with schools, including those with higher ethnic minority populations. This is currently an area of major work, eg Inspire Rotherham and TRL.</p> <p>Urgent challenge in relation to the integration of EU migrant families remains.</p>	Red

ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
Develop the quantity, quality and scope of provision for young people not in education, employment and education (EW01)	Ongoing NI 117 – NEETs 08/09 = 8.5% 09/10 = 8.0% 10/11 = 7.1%	Collette Bailey	% YP NEET = 10.5% 6.9% January 2009 9.0 % (July 09) 9.9 % (August 09) 8.4% (Sept 09) 7.8 (Oct 09) 7.9%(Nov 09) 8.1% (Dec)	A significant and comprehensive approach for the improvement of NEETs has been drawn-up with contributions from all key agencies, led by the Widening Participation Strategy. The partnership has developed an action plan to address the January Guarantee for all NEET 2008 and 2009 school leavers who are NEET and additional E to E provision and the RMBC NEET response fund continue to create increased capacity for learning opportunities for NEET young people. To date 13 projects have been commissioned through six commissioning rounds resulting in provision for 498 young people. Connexions are working closely with JC plus to promote Future Jobs Fund placements for 18 year olds unemployed.	Green
Ensure all secondary schools work in collaborative partnership to provide more vocational pathways for pupils (EW06)	July 2008	Tom Kelly/Karen Borthwick		All schools, colleges, training providers and other partners are part of collaborative partnerships across the borough. Diploma development groups are in place to establish pathways in 16 out of the 17 diploma areas; at this stage, proposals have been made to deliver all Diplomas except Science. The Construction and Built Environment diploma	Green

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Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
				<p>started in Sept 08, Engineering and Creative and Media started in Sept 09 and the remaining diplomas will start between Sept 10 and Sept 13.</p> <p>Cluster groups are in place to support applied subjects and activity to support all aspects of the 14-19 entitlement is underway. The development of Foundation Learning provision is supported through a Foundation Learning Implementation Group and FL Practitioner Network and work to draw the Young Apprenticeship programme together with developments towards the post-16 Apprenticeship entitlement is underway.</p> <p>All secondary schools are part of Positive Progression Partnerships which focus on the provision for at risk young people. This includes vocational and applied learning opportunities.</p>	
Pupil Referral Units to develop as local Centres of Excellence (EW07)	By July 2009	Katy Edmonson	Not applicable	All 16 Secondary schools are now committed to working in partnership to address the needs of pupils with BESD. Three local authority provisions are being managed by partnerships of schools and Rotherham has secured Back on track funding to develop these provisions to enhance the offer given to these children.	Green
Implement a programme to bring all council housing up to decent standard (EW09)	2010	Robin Walker Joanne Crossley Michael		The £313 million programme of investment to ensure that the council housing meets the Government's Decent Homes Standard continues to be implemented and is progressing well in accordance with the scheduled programme. The quality of life for Council tenants has been	Amber

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Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
		Butler		improved through the programme, giving people modern bathrooms and kitchens. Through the Decent Homes programme, a total of, 16,352 properties have received refurbishment works up to 14 th December 2009. Through the 2009-10 Decent Homes programme, a total of 3555 properties are planned to receive Refurbishment works, of which 195 were originally non traditionally constructed properties identified as dis-investment properties; that have now, following approval through a Cabinet Report, been approved for investment. There is a further circa 800 properties planned for refurbishment works 2010-2011.	
Meet the decent homes target for public sector housing (EW10)	2010	Robin Walker Joanne Crossley Michael Butler		As at 1st April 2006, the percentage of non decent properties was 74.09%; this has reduced year on year to 63.91%, 45.52% and 18.60% for 2006/07, 2007/08 and 2008/09 respectively. For 2009/10 the year start figure for non decent homes is 18.14% and the year end target is set at 6.31% non decent homes; actual performance as of 14 th December was out turned at 10.10%, under target by a variance of -0.38%.	Amber
Demolish unsustainable private and public housing stock (EW11)	2010	Robin Walker/Paul Benson		Neighbourhood Investment Services have demolished a total of 140 public (135) and private (5) properties in 2008/09. In the first 2 quarters of 2009/10, Neighbourhood Investment Services have demolished 39 public sector and 6 private sector properties, which is	Green

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Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
				<p>equivalent to 75% of the anticipated target for the year.</p> <p>Third quarter activity has provided an additional 27 demolished properties (18 public and 9 private sector). The cumulative figure at 31st December 2009 being 72 properties demolished.</p>	
<p>Offer targeted loans to assist to homeowners and landlords to bring properties up to a decent standard (EW12)</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Robin Walker Paul Benson</p>		<p>An action with the Housing and Neighbourhood Strategy 2008-2011 is to develop and implement a range of schemes and initiatives to support vulnerable owner occupiers to improve their properties. Private sector landlords will continue to be encouraged to achieve decent homes standards through a programme of education and advice.</p> <p>There are a number of teams/agencies who are contributing towards improving decency in the private sector, namely Rotherham's Home Improvement Agency (Anchor Staying Put), Energy Efficiency Team, Community Protection Unit and the Quality Landlord Scheme. Neighbourhood Investment Services retain a local indicator, PSA7, that records vulnerable non-decent households made decent within each financial year. The target for 2008/09 is 420 vulnerable private sector householders now living in decent accommodation. The actual year end figure was 422.</p> <p>In addition to the PSA7 return, through combined</p>	<p>Green</p>

Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
				<p>activity from Enforcement, Rotherham's Quality Landlord Scheme, Energy Efficiency measures and the Council's Home Improvement Agency, 2051 properties have either been made decent or have received a major contribution towards making them decent.</p> <p>For the first half of the year, 329 individual households have benefited from measures to improve decency in the private sector. The annual target is 510 and the current performance is on target to achieve this annual figure.</p> <p>In addition to the first half year performance, 101 individual households received measures to assist in improving decency within the private sector in the 3rd quarter. This activity contributed to a cumulative end of 3rd quarter figure of 430 individual households assisted to date.</p>	
Continue to improve the basic skills of parents, carers and family members. (EW013)	Ongoing	Helen Shaw/Sue Mcdermott	<p>95% of adults successfully taking Level 1 and Level 2 Literacy and Numeracy qualifications.</p> <p>80% achievement in 'Speaking and Listening qualifications that support citizenship for ESOL learners.</p>	<p>RMBC continues to recruit new learners for Level 1 and 2 in Literacy and Numeracy qualifications and are working with a new partnership ie RCAT.</p> <p>Learners are predominantly parents, carers and school support staff, recruited mainly from schools and Children's Centres. Achievement success rate is very good – level maintained.</p> <p>ESOL provision has changed. A limited number of ESOL courses are offered to the wider Rotherham community to help improve language and achieve qualifications. These learners will be taking</p>	Amber

Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
				<p>qualifications in June 2010.</p> <p>In addition, we have continued to work on the Community Cohesion project (Living in My Community) that brings different communities together. Learners attending these courses are offered ESOL language classes as progression.</p>	
<p>Continue to increase the proportion of 16-19 year olds in employment, education or training. (EW015)</p>	<p>Ongoing/Review in Jan.</p>	<p>Collette Bailey</p>		<p>During 2009, 3520 young people from Rotherham year 11 leavers (94.0% of the cohort) achieved a positive outcome of employment, further education or work based learning on completing Year 11, an increase of 1.5% on the previous year.</p> <p>81.3% of 16-18 year olds were in EET as of December 2009 representing a 2.5% improvement at the same point last year.</p> <p>Data is showing a continued rising trend in numbers of NEET young people due to the economic downturn. December 2009 NEET stood at 8.1% (812 young people) representing a 17.7% rise on the position in December 2008 NEET of 7.0% (727 young people).</p> <p>Three month rolling average validated figures for September to December 2009 were 7.9% NEET representing an 11.3% rise on the position (7.1%) over the same period last year.</p> <p>Key to the rise in NEET is the reduced number of young people in employment –1207 young people</p>	<p>Green</p>

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Achieve Economic Well-Being					
Commitment	Target	Contact Officer	Supporting Data	Progress	Status (Red, Green, Amber)
				<p>in employment in comparison to the same position last year (1908 in employment) representing 37% reduction with a reciprocal reduction in apprenticeships vacancies from 616 to 423 (31% reduction).</p> <p>The partnership did exceed the LAA stretch NEET target of 7.1% achieving a three month rolling average (Nov 2008 –Jan 2009) for NEET of 6.9% but there is a medium risk of not achieving the target for 2009/10 of 8.0%.</p> <p>We are still optimistic regarding achieving the revised NEET target out turn for November to January</p>	
Attract quality jobs to the borough through Inward Investment and business development (EW16)	Ongoing	Tim O Connell/ Dean Hughes	<p><u>New jobs</u> 2098 (09/10 – 9 months) 1831 (08/09) 2797 (07/08)</p> <p>Copy of the cluster plan. Latest NOMIS & Job Centre Plus data & RiDO Business Development Team stats. Summary of latest 2007 sectoral data available on request from Environment & Development Services.</p>	<p>Rolls-Royce has chosen the Advanced Manufacturing Park in Rotherham as the base for one of two groundbreaking research and engineering plants coming to South Yorkshire, set to create around 300 jobs.</p> <p>US-based National Business Incubation Association (NBIA) has awarded the borough “Soft Landing Zone” status, giving it an “excellent” rating for helping overseas investor companies set up here, the UK’s only other zone is in Wales.</p> <p>In the first 9 months of 09/10 we have been notified of 2032 jobs safeguarded.</p>	Complete

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People’s Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	Wednesday 7th April 2010
3.	Title:	Children and Young People’s Plan 2010-2013 Consultation and Emerging Priorities
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People’s Services

5. Summary:

In 2010 The Children’s Trust Board will publish a new Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP). This will replace the existing CYPP, which runs until June 2010. The new plan will continue to set the strategic priorities for the work of partners on the Children’s Trust Board. It will now also be a requirement for the CYPP to be prepared and owned by the Children’s Trust Board.

The guidance, issued by the Department for Children, School and Families (DCSF), is also explicit in its requirement for broad consultation on the CYPP.

The findings of the consultation have been considered in the context of other factors affecting the Children and Young People’s Service, including the Notice to Improve, and the annual Audit of Need; a draft of the CYPP 2010-2013 has been prepared for the purpose of further consultation.

6. Recommendations:

That Cabinet Member receives this report and recommends it for consideration at Children and Young People’s Board meeting on 21st April 2010.

7. Proposals and Details:

Background

In January 2009 the Department for Children, School and Families (DCSF) issued new guidance regarding the development of a new Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). By April 2011 we are required to have a joint CYPP prepared and owned by the Children's Trust Board. It is intended that the new Rotherham CYPP (2010-2013) will be approved and operational by June 2010, when the existing plan finishes.

Context

The CYPP 2010-2013 will set the strategic priorities for the work of partners on the Children's Trust Board. These priorities will be established in the context of several factors:

- National and local policy frameworks, including; the existing Every Child Matters outcomes, Lord Laming's recommendations, an emphasis on all aspects of safeguarding and an increased focus on early intervention and prevention;
- The Action Plans and the work of the Improvement Panel that are responding quickly to findings of the Children and Young People's Services Review (April 2009) and the Comprehensive Area Assessment (December 2009);
- The transformational projects already underway in Rotherham including 'Transforming Rotherham Learning' and 'Inspire Rotherham';
- The annual 'Audit of Need' and, specifically, our performance against LAA indicators;
- Consultation feedback from our service users, including children and young people, their parents and carers, members of the communities in which they live and the professionals who work with them.

Details of the consultation

The consultation used a combination of face-to-face interviews and meetings, focus groups, local media and postal surveys; it was structured around the seventeen priorities in the existing CYPP. A leaflet was produced and an article with a response form was published in Rotherham News. Participants were asked to choose five priorities that were most important to them and rank these.

Consultation work with children used a simplified version of this approach where the priorities were printed on cards in more straightforward language and children were asked to sort these out into those that seemed more important and less important.

Focus groups were conducted with Youth Cabinet, Young Carers, Looked After Children (and their carers), Looked After Children living in Rotherham's residential units and Young Offenders. In addition an event took place with senior leaders from across Children and Young People's Services.

Interviews took place at Community Engagement Events in Maltby, Dinnington and Rawmarsh.

Meetings were arranged with leaders of the Fire Service and Police Service, 14-19 Partnership Board, Rotherham Ethnic Minority Network, the Mosque Liaison

Group and Risky Business. The proposed structure of the CYPP has been considered by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, the Learning without Limits Partnership Executive, the Joint Headteachers' Meeting and with colleagues across RMBC, including Culture and Leisure. A draft of the CYPP has been considered by the Local Safeguarding Children Board.,

An article was placed in Rotherham News, distributed to all households in Rotherham, and we wrote to all Looked After Children, Councillors and GPs. A postal survey was also conducted with Foster Carers and Adoptive Parents.

The consultation also drew on the extensive body of work that has taken place with schools and learners through Transforming Rotherham Learning, the Connexions commissioning process and Neighbourhood Partnership work.

Consultation Results

Although each individual's response to the existing priorities was different, a body of opinion formed behind five of the existing priorities:

- To improve the safety and security of vulnerable children and young people;
- To reduce the impact of Domestic Violence;
- To halt the rise in infant mortalities;
- To ensure that all children and young people have the opportunity to live healthy lifestyles;
- Ensuring higher quality education / learning for all children and young people.

Features of the Plan

A. The Four Big Things

The concept of the four big things is that they will guide our activity in the next three years. The four big things are:

- Keeping Children and Young People Safe
- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Tackling Inequalities
- Transforming Rotherham Learning

What these 'big things' have in common is that their impact will be felt in every aspect of how we deliver services to children and young people; they will run through all the key priorities and activities outlined in this plan and require the involvement of every partner.

They are 'big things' because they are all equally important but have different characteristics (a corporate priority to which we contribute, an approach, a delivery vehicle).

The intention is to allocate an icon to each one which will be displayed wherever appropriate across priorities and action plans. Early discussions have indicated that this might extend beyond the CYPP itself, into other related strategies (14-19 Plan, Learning without Limits), learning community plans etc.

B. Emerging Areas of Focus

There are some areas of work that will be highlighted in the new Children and Young People's Plan. These are:
Communication, language and learning;

Domestic abuse;
 Looked After Children;
 Obesity;
 The 14-19 offer;
 Post-16 options for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities;
 Giving babies a healthy start;
 Understanding and responding to the needs of migrant communities.

The purpose of these areas of focus is to draw attention to work that may need significant investment of resource, forensic attention and / or change management in order to change the direction of travel or significantly accelerate along a chosen path. Clearly, a vast amount of work will take place during this period that is not related to the priorities that are under the spotlight through the CYPP (although everything we do is likely to be linked to at least one of the four big things).

Next Steps

A draft of the Plan is attached for consideration. The consultation and approval process has been scheduled to proceed as follows:

MEETING	DATE	
Safeguarding Board	19 th March	Consultation
Cabinet Member	7 th April	Consultation
Scrutiny Board	9 th April	Consultation
Children & Young People’s Board	21 st April	Consultation
Learning Theme Board	29 th April	Consultation
Cabinet Member	9 th June	Approval
Children & Young People’s Board	16 th June	Approval
Cabinet	23 rd June	Approval
Full Council – to receive recommendation of Cabinet (for approval)	N/A	Approval

8. Finance

The financial costs for conducting the consultation exercise are largely made up of staff time to attend events and meetings. Additional costs are:

Design and print of CYPP ‘Have Your Say’ leaflet (1000)	£381.71
Mailout to all Looked After Children	£226.20
Mailout to all Councillors	£37.80
Advert in Rotherham News	£750.00
Total	£1395.71

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Although, at each consultation event, it has been made clear that individual feedback must be taken in the context of the consultation as a whole, as well as other factors including national and local policy, there is still a risk that individuals and groups may not feel that their views and suggestions are reflected in the new CYPP and might be resistant to becoming involved in consultation activities in the future.

The Children and Young People's Plan must include a section to show that all strategic priorities will be adequately resourced. In the current financial climate it may not be possible to commit resources to the level of activity that service users have suggested during the consultation.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The Children and Young People's Plan is the overarching plan for Children and Young People's Services and all other strategies, the CYPS Directorate Plan and Learning Community Plans should reflect the strategic priorities expressed in the CYPP. In turn, the CYPP is informed by the Community Strategy and Corporate Plan priorities.

In 2010 Rotherham will publish its first Child Poverty Strategy. Links between this agenda and the CYPP will be explicit.

11. Background Papers

CYPP 2010-2013, Fourth draft 17.3.10.

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Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013

Need more information?

Printed copies of this plan are being kept to a minimum but it is available electronically. You can access and download it from our website:
<http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/>

If you have any queries please contact the Policy and Planning Team at Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham or by telephone on 01709 254836. Alternatively you can email jenny.ingrell@rotherham.gov.uk

If you would like to make comments or suggestions, or you would like to be involved in further developments, let us know by sending an email to consultation.cyps@rotherham.gov.uk or using the feedback form at the back of the plan.

If you would like this document in another format or language please contact us and we will do our best to accommodate your needs.

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FOREWORD

*'Setting the scene' – Joyce Thacker & Cllr. Wright
Draft to be written by Jenny Lingrell following discussion of concept.*

Shouldn't I feel a difference?

INTRODUCTION

This is Rotherham's third Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) – the strategic overarching single plan for all the services delivered to Rotherham's children and young people. The intention of the plan is to show how all the partners who make up the Children's Trust are working together to provide services that will improve children's lives. We continue to be guided by the outcomes, chosen by children and young people themselves in Every Child Matters, there are to stay safe, be healthy, to enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being.

If you are a child or young person in or from Rotherham, aged 0-19, or up to 20 if you are leaving care, this plan is for you. If you are a child or young person with learning difficulties or disabilities, aged 0-25, this plan is for you. If you are a parent, carer or professional working with Rotherham's children and young people, this plan is for you.

A successful Children and Young People's Plan links clearly to wider plans for the borough, especially the Local Strategic Partnership Plan and the Local Area Agreement. In turn, it will connect and inform the important strategies and operational plans that drive delivery of care and services to our children and young people. The intention of the Children and Young People's Plan is to provide honest analysis of our progress, to identify our successes but also the more stubborn problems so that we can re-focus our attention where it is most needed for the next three years. This plan will state clearly our vision and identify the things we must do to realise this vision. It will explain how we are organised, who is accountable and how we will measure our progress.

Writing and, in particular talking to people during the consultation for this CYPP, there have been several recurring themes. These are the things that are shaping our thinking and influencing our direction of travel and, as such, they are likely to appear throughout this plan, either implicitly or explicitly.

Balancing universal and targeted services: we will seek to ensure that our universal services are nothing less than excellent, but at the same time we recognise that some children and young people need targeted provision to help with a specific need or problem. If we get our planning right we will direct resources to where they are most effective.

Personalised, child focused services: we will provide and deliver services based on the identified needs of individual children and young people and not around traditional structures and organisational boundaries. We will aim to be flexible in our approach, listen to the views of parents and children and respond to them when we design and deliver services. We will adopt the 'team around the child' approach.

Localised, child focused services: wherever possible we will deliver integrated services locally where they are most easily accessed by children and young people and their families and carers.

Tackling inequality: we will never be complacent about inequality. we will not be afraid to ask difficult questions about race, gender, religion, health and social inequalities in our borough.

Integration: the success of our 'team around the child' approach will rely on an integrated workforce that is committed to working in partnership to put the needs of children, young people and families first. We will talk to each other, and share information and expertise to make this happen.

SECTION 1: ABOUT ROTHERHAM

Rotherham in Context

Area Assemblies and Wards

There are seven Area Assemblies across the Borough covering an average of 36,000 people. Rotherham's Area Assemblies are geographical groupings of three wards, used as the basis for local partnerships made of Councillors, residents and other relevant organisations (PCT, police etc).

Between 1980 and 2004 there were 22 wards in Rotherham, these areas had populations ranging from 8,000 to 17,500. In 2004 these wards were replaced by 21 new wards with an average population of 12,000.

Population

At the most recent population estimates (2006) there were approximately 78,600 Children and Young People living in Rotherham which still represents 31% of the borough's total population as it did at the 2003 estimate. The gender split for children and young people (0-24 years old) in Rotherham has also remained constant since the model was produced in 2003. The figures for 2005 were 51% male, and 49% female.

Some age groups have reduced as a percentage of the 0-24 population (i.e. 1-4, 5-9 and 10-14) while other groups have increased (15-19 and 20-24) which reflects the general national trend of an aging population with less younger people, however we do know from local birth statistics that Rotherham's birth numbers have been increasing slightly each year since 2000, from 2527 in the 2000/01 academic year to 3381 in 2006/07.

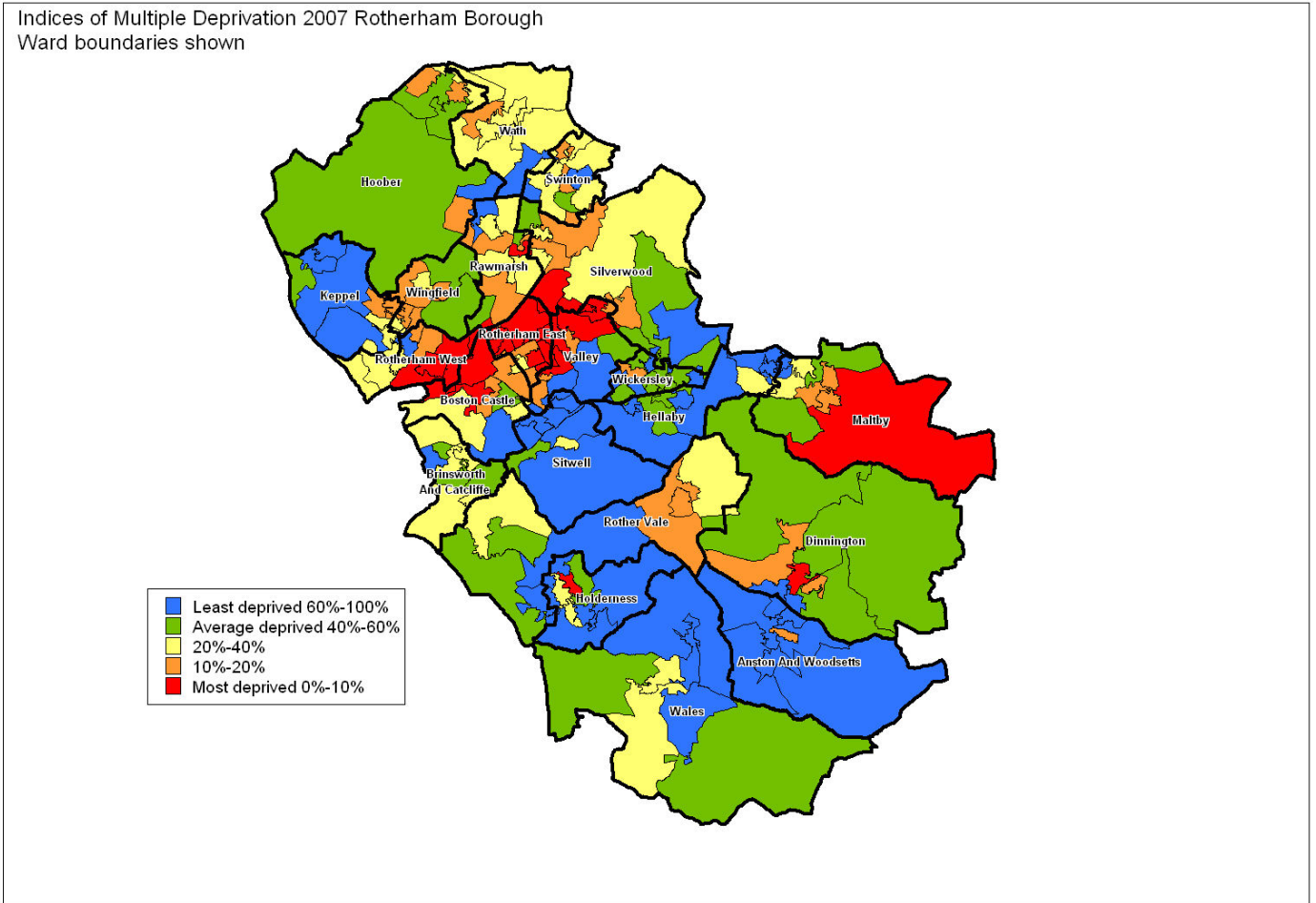
Ethnicity

The majority of Rotherham's BME population is concentrated in four central wards; Boston Castle, Rotherham East, Rotherham West and Sitwell, this has not altered between 2005 and 2007. In Rotherham South there is a large and growing BME population, based on school pupil data (2005 compared to 2008). The link between an increase in the birth rate and the growth of the BME population is also shown in 2001 Census data, where Rotherham South has the highest number of people living in families with two or more dependant children, with Rotherham East and Boston Castle wards being the two highest wards overall in terms of both families with two or more children and BME school pupils. More recently, there has been a significant increase in the arrival of EU migrants to the borough. In the school year beginning in September 2008 there were 375 new arrivals of school-age children, 58% (204) were of Roma heritage. In the school year beginning September 2009 there were 375 new arrivals, 69% (259) were of Roma heritage.

Areas of Deprivation

Deprivation in Rotherham is decreasing according to Communities for Local Government. Rotherham was ranked 48th most deprived district in England in the 2000 Index, and is now ranked 68th in the 2007 index; however this is still amongst the top 20% most deprived districts in the United Kingdom.

Within Rotherham there is a great deal of geographical variation to the levels of deprivation. This map shows the areas of greatest deprivation shaded in red.

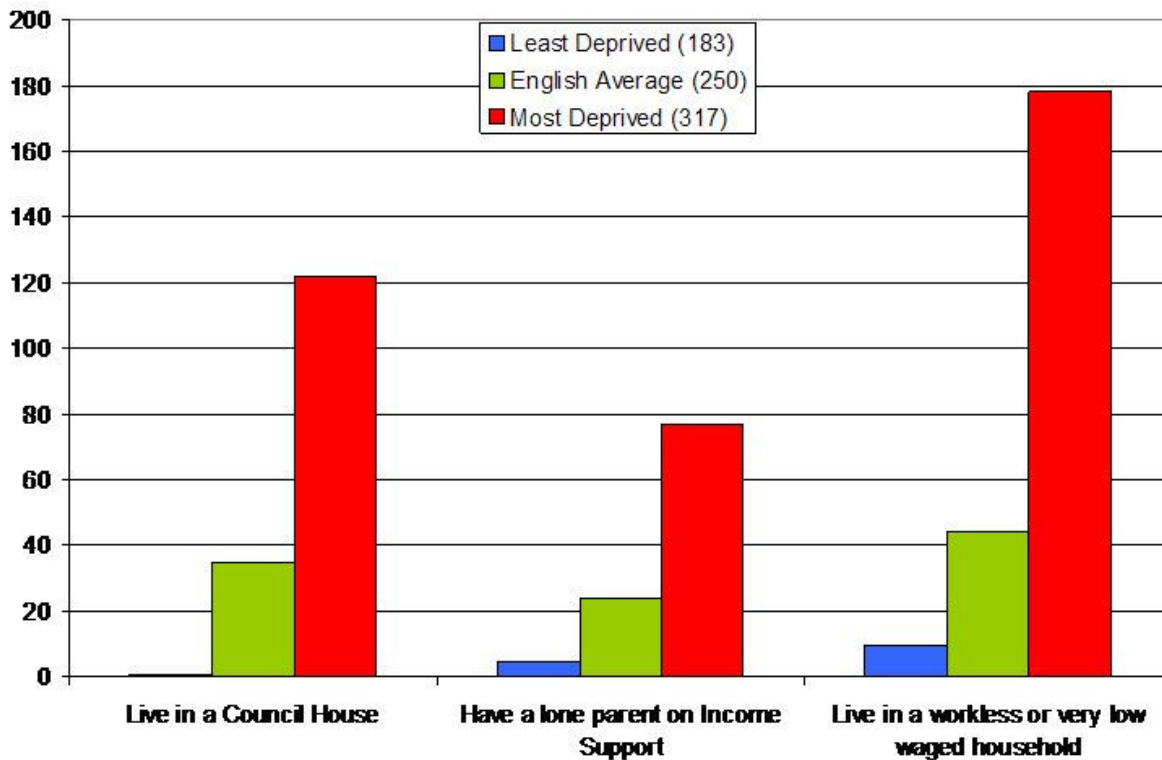


Rotherham, like many areas across the UK, has a significant number of children and young people living in deprived areas; 14.2% of all Rotherham children live in areas which are within the 10% most deprived nationally (using the Index of Deprivation Affecting Children (IDAC) 2007) and 31% of children who live in low income households live in the most 10% deprived areas nationally.

There is a striking variation in life chances for a child who grows up in one Rotherham's most deprived areas compared to one of the least deprived.

As a conceptual way to demonstrate the levels of inequality in the borough we have used the hypothesis of 500 Rotherham babies, and the assumption that 'nothing changes'. For the purposes of this illustration it is as if each baby experiences its life in the course of a single day, with 317 babies in the ten most deprived areas and 183 in the least ten deprived. This split reflects the younger aged structure of the most deprived areas.

(Example of layout to replace table)



Of the 500 babies	183 live in the least deprived areas	317 live in the most deprived areas
Are boys	93	161
Are girls	90	156
Are minority ethnic	10	105
Live in Christian families	144	198
Live in Muslim families	5	72
Are disabled	5	15
Live in a council house	1	122
Grow up in a lone parent family on Income Support	5	77
Will be classed as a 'Child in Need'	2	20
Grow up in a workless or very low waged household	10	178
Eligible for free school meals	7	138
Gain at least 5 GCSEs A-C (including English and Maths)	113	75
Stay on at school or college after 16	152	159
Become NEETs	4	34
Live in a household where highest qualification is NVQ 4/5 or degree	33	23
Will experience (annually)		
Violent crime	1	15
Deliberate fire	1	5
Anti-social behaviour	4	38
Become a professional or manager	31	16
Earn £30k+	193	79
Claim housing / council tax benefit	15	159
Qualify for a means tested DWP benefit	9	143
Become pregnant before 18 (123 girls)	3	11
Experience low birth weight or still birth	13	33
Can expect to live until age (males)	80.8	72.4
Can expect to live until age	87.2	78.1

Population of Children by Category of Risk

The table below details the population of children by category of risk and provides comparison between National and Rotherham percentage breakdowns. From this we can determine that Rotherham is in line with the National average in most categories but has a greater percentage of children classed as "Children in Need".

<u>Populations of Children by Category of Risk</u>		National		Rotherham	
Key to Diagram	Category	Number	% of All Children	Number	% of All Children
	All Children <i>(Ons Mid Year Population Estimates)</i>	13,186,100		63,159	
	Vulnerable Children <i>(Children aged under 9yrs - Ons Mid Year Population Estimates)</i>	6,334,000	48%	28,369	44.9%
	Children in Need <i>(National DFES Children in Need Census Feb 2005)</i>	385,300	2.9%	2,345	3.7%
	Looked After Children <i>(National DFES 903 Looked After Children Return (2006))</i>	60,300	0.5%	310	0.5%
	Children on Child Protection Register <i>(National DFES CPR3 Child Protection Return 2004-08)</i>	34,000	0.3%	225	0.4%

Communities in context

This section will map some (headline) local characteristics by learning community e.g. KS2 achievement, KS4 achievement, post-16 progression rates, rates of obesity, CAHMS referrals (as appropriate)





The planning context

This is Rotherham's third 'single' Children and Young People's Plan. It is written in the context of both additional demands on our services and a new, more intense level of scrutiny.

In 2010, as this plan begins, we are nearing the end of a severe economic recession; this has undoubtedly had an impact on the well-being of Children and Young People. Like many authorities, Rotherham has experienced a significant growth in its number of Looked After Children - between 2008 and 2009 this increased by 25%. The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan has increased by 35% in the same period. This increase makes additional demands on children's social care in particular.

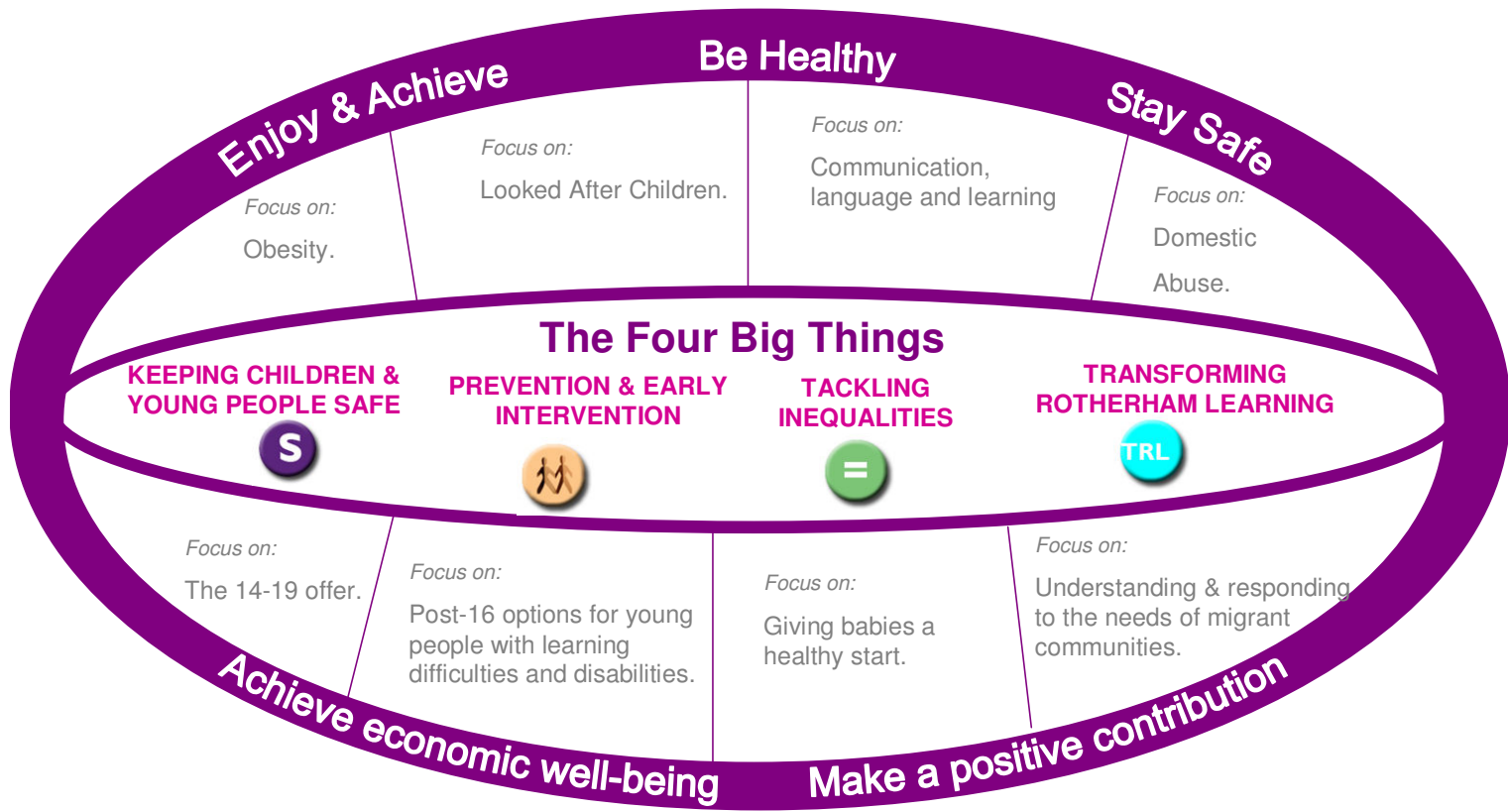
At the same time, since the Lord Laming report into the death of Baby P, the focus on safeguarding has increased and the recommendations make additional demands of our services; these include new inspection arrangements that will focus on leadership, recruitment, training, learning from experiences, partnership working and the availability of resources.

Children and Young People's services are inspected annually as part of the wider local authority inspection framework. Recent inspections, and an internally commissioned review (completed by Children First in 2008) and an Improvement Notice from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) have all commended the work that we do well, but also identified specific issues that we must tackle quickly. The next section will show how these issues will influence our planning framework for the next three years. We intend to make swift progress to improve our service but we recognise that, to embed systematic change will take time.

SECTION 2 – OUR VISION AND THE FOUR BIG THINGS

Children & Young People’s Plan 2010-2013

“Working together to improve the lives of all Rotherham’s children and young people.”



Our Vision

‘Working together to improve the lives of all Rotherham’s children and young people.’

This vision has been subtly changed since the last Children and Young People’s Plan to make it more inclusive and realistic. We recognise that our responsibility is for all the children who are in Rotherham, but also for Rotherham children who go to live or learn elsewhere. We will work to ‘improve’ their lives but we do not seek to ‘change’ them. We continue to use the outcomes identified by children and young people when ‘Every Child Matters’ was developed; we want Rotherham’s children and young people to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, achieve economic well-being and make a positive contribution.

Our Statement on Prevention and Early Intervention

Pending approval by the Children's Trust Board

The four big things

We have set out our vision and we know we must respond constructively to the findings of recent inspections and reviews. All these things have led us to identify four big things that will guide our activity in the next three years

What these 'big things' have in common is that their impact will be felt across our partnership in every aspect of how we deliver services to children and young people; they will run through all activities and areas of focus outlined in this plan and require the involvement of every partner.

For the purposes of clarity in this plan, we have allocated an icon to each one which will be displayed wherever appropriate to demonstrate where one of the four big things is linked to an areas of focus or action plan.

The following descriptions are intended to provide an overview of each 'big thing' and make it clear that, although each one will have an impact across outcomes, this will be in different ways and for distinct reasons.



Keeping Children & Young People Safe

Integral to the activity of all partners; specific arrangements put in place to keep the most vulnerable safe from harm.



Prevention and Early Intervention

A new focus to help us target our activity effectively; underpinned by the early support and prevention strategy.



Tacking Inequality

The work we will do to narrow the gap between the life experience and all five Every Child Matters outcomes for the least and most deprived children in our borough



Transforming Rotherham Learning:

A delivery vehicle that will support us to achieve our vision by developing 16 multi-agency learning communities with child-focused integrated teams and state of the art facilities.

These things may begin as distinct projects but ultimately, they will all become part of the way that we deliver children's services. A commitment to **integrated children's services** and a focus on **workforce development** will be a central factor to making these approaches a reality of our daily work and this will also be highlighted throughout the plan.

The links between the four big things we've identified is plain. The prevention and early intervention strategy will ensure more children and young people are safeguarded from harm and that their experience of inequality is minimised. The strategy relies on the partnership structures and innovative leadership skills that will be put in place through Transforming Rotherham Learning.

Keeping children and young people safe



We all have a responsibility to keep Rotherham's children and young people safe. This applies to the partners in the Children's Trust as well as organisations, institutions, families and individuals.

We will strengthen our approach to safeguarding and ensure that our arrangements are robust enough to keep all Rotherham's children safe.

Since the Lord Laming report into the death of Baby P, the focus on safeguarding has increased and the recommendations make additional demands on our services including new inspection and scrutiny arrangements. Our approach to safeguarding will be determined at many different levels, including the way we structure and lead our organisations, recruitment and training practice, how effectively we work in partnership and our decisions about how to allocate resources.

We need to ensure that robust arrangements are in place to assess and respond to risk. This applies in universal settings, for example, the National Health Service in Rotherham now has named doctors and named nurses who take a lead and provide advice and support on child protection. In our schools travel and access arrangements are made with safeguarding in mind. Targeted that provides a response that is specific to the needs of an individual child or young person.

We can never be complacent about the safety of our children; it is our responsibility to question, assess, analyse and make changes when they are necessary.

Rotherham's Safeguarding Children Board provides support and challenge. Its main objective is to ensure the effectiveness of all work done to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Rotherham. The board works through a structure of sub groups that ensure the children and families workforce have robust procedures and good quality training. The board also undertakes serious case reviews where there is a need for professionals to examine and, crucially, learn from situations of abuse or neglect that have resulted in the death or serious to a child or young person.

A partnership approach to keeping children and young people safe is central to its success. We will continue to improve our integrated children's services with safeguarding in mind.

Prevention and early intervention



Rotherham's Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy outlines the strategic approach that will underpin frontline delivery of coordinated services; it is central to realising the vision of improving the lives of Rotherham's children and young people.

The strategy recognises that outcomes will only be improved effectively if the focus is shifted from dealing with the consequences of difficulties in the lives of children and young people, to preventing things from going wrong.

The strategic objectives of the strategy are to:

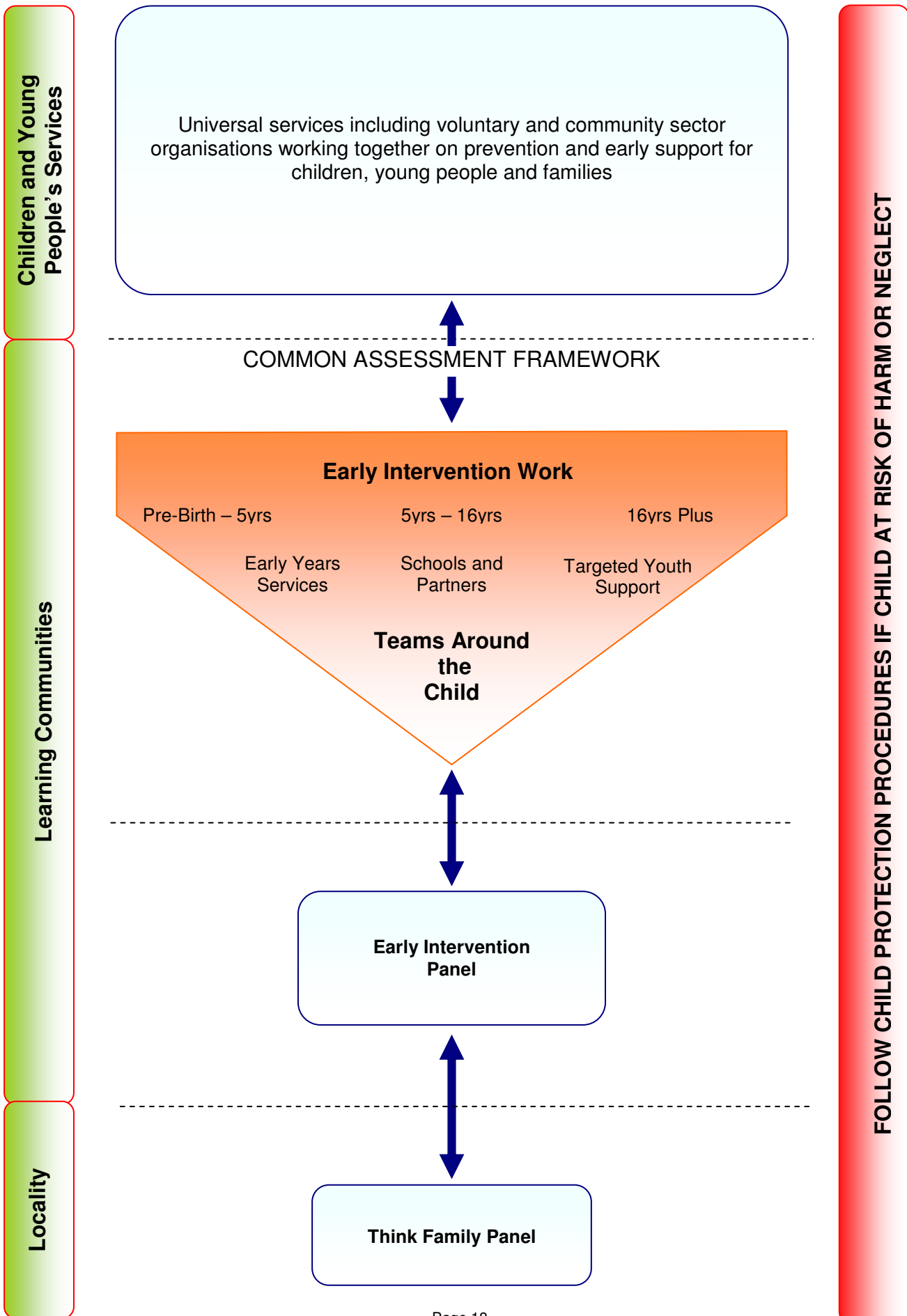
- Create multi-agency partnerships that work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families;
- Support the re-focusing of resources from crisis intervention to prevention;
- Identify need at the earliest opportunity;
- Provide swift and easy access to support;
- Develop personalised, family focused action plans for individual children, young people and families;
- Ensure clear accountability for the delivery of agreed outcomes;
- Provide the tools and process to enable services to work together;
- Deliver learning and development opportunities across all sectors to equip staff to work together
- Develop agreements that enable children and young people's services to work with adult services
- Ensure families are actively involved in planning and agreeing the support offered.

Too many of our children and young people are moving out of reach of the universal services provided by early years settings like Children's Centres or schools and, as a result, our resources are increasingly thinly spread. The model of preventative and early intervention uses universal settings to identify problems early, using an agreed basket of indicators, so that the need for an increasing scale of potentially intrusive support does not arise. The structures to support the model are identified in the diagram on page 15.

The 'Strengthening Families' approach is an important feature of this strategy; it includes specific actions to ensure that services provided to children and adults are integrated – allowing us to deliver effective support to the whole family.

The Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy includes the details of what we are going to do to achieve our objectives. It is available to download from Appendix 5 of this Plan.

Prevention and Early intervention Framework



Tackling inequalities



Addressing areas of inequality is a theme which runs throughout the Children and Young People's Plan. The new Equalities Bill (due to become law in 2010) has strengthened the existing legislation and introduced an Equality Duty. This will mean that the Council as a whole will need to think about the needs of everyone who uses their services or works for them. It has also introduced a duty for local authorities to consider reducing inequalities which result from socio-economic disadvantage.

As a Council, the commitment to reducing inequalities can be seen by the recent accreditation as an Excellent Authority under the Equality Framework for Local Government - the first council in the country to attain excellent level.

However, tackling inequality in its broadest sense remains a challenging and complex issue. This has been recognised in the Corporate Plan where the over-arching intent is to narrow the gap between the most and least deprived communities in the borough. All too often, inequality of experience is evident in the chaotic lives of our children and young people; this can manifest itself in low aspirations, low attainment, health inequalities and, potentially, social exclusion. These are the same factors that are inextricably linked with child poverty. We will seek, through our work with families, and in learning communities, to break these links so that a child who lives in poverty can still be a child who is happy, healthy, safe and successful.

If we make an impact on the lives of children today, we will also make an impact on reducing child poverty and tackling inequality for children in the future.

Our 14-19 Plan will set out the ways in which we can better prepare young people to be happy and successful adults by delivering access to the right skills, qualifications and high quality information, advice and guidance for whole families to ensure they can take advantage of the right opportunities.

Clearly the aspiration of tackling inequality is an ambitious and broad agenda. To tackle such a complex agenda requires 'joined up' effort across the Local Strategic Partnership and the Council. In 2010 Rotherham, like all local authorities, will be required to develop a local Child Poverty Strategy which will draw attention to the broad approach we will take to tackle Child Poverty. Where we feel that the activities we identify in this plan, contribute to this over-arching agenda we will signal this with an icon.

Transforming Rotherham Learning



Transforming Rotherham Learning is the project name of Rotherham's Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme, it is also the delivery vehicle that will make it possible for us to tackle the other 'big things' we have identified.

BSF will deliver significant investment into the borough to re-build our secondary schools. In Rotherham we have responded to this investment with ambitious and far-reaching plans to transform each of our secondary schools into the hub of a vibrant learning community.

Each of the 16 multi-agency learning communities will incorporate integrated service provision built around local needs and aspirations. The analysis of our "communities in context" demonstrates that we have already begun to think about our borough in a local context so that we can deliver innovative personalisation, based on the needs of individual children, young people and their families.

The Transforming Rotherham Learning vision identifies much more than refreshed school estates, it sees:

- Learning communities where people want to work and learn because they have access to greater personalisation and choice;
- Personalised learning spaces which will raise levels of attainment and engagement at all ages;
- A seamless 0-19 pathway with more effective and engaging transition programmes and, ultimately, 100% progression;
- Support for parents, schools and communities to raise aspirations, particularly in areas of deeply embedded disadvantage;
- Provision of comprehensive, integrated childcare and education and local delivery points for inter-agency family support;
- A way to address the skills shortage, particularly in higher skill sectors;
- More local people involved in learning;
- More comprehensive sport, leisure and community learning provision;
- Cutting edge technologies across all of this provision.

The learning communities created by Transforming Rotherham Learning will be at the heart of how we keep children safe and area able to identify problems early and respond with appropriate support. It will provide the structure and space to work with whole families. And, crucially, by driving down the number of working age adults who lack essential skills and driving up the number of young people who are prepared to be the workforce of the future, it will contribute significantly towards tackling inequality throughout the borough.

Transforming Rotherham Learning will also have a role in delivering specific outcomes linked with the priorities identified in this plan.

SECTION 3: PROGRESS & PRIORITIES

Taking stock – a progress report

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Plan is to provide strategic direction and galvanise us into action to ensure we all work together to achieve the vision for children and young people.

We have chosen our course for the next three years following a process of careful and honest analysis to take stock and identify how far we have travelled since the last Children and Young People's Plan was written in 2007. We will continue to be guided by the national 'Every Child Matters' framework and organise our thinking according to the five outcomes it identifies:

- Being healthy;
- Staying safe;
- Enjoying and achieving;
- Achieving economic well-being;
- Making a positive contribution.

This progress report will:

- Review the commitments we made in 2007;
- Identify the activities that we are most proud of;
- Analyse the impact we have made on outcomes and how these are linked to wider frameworks of accountability, such as the Local Area Agreement;
- Overlay what you have told us is important during the consultation process. The full details of the consultation are available in Appendix 1 – the consultation report;
- Feed in any other factors that we are aware of, including relevant findings from recent inspections and reviews;
- Seek to draw together this information and assess where we need to focus in the next three years.

There are some key questions that are central to this self-assessment process. Are we happy with the current direction and speed of travel? Do we need to persist with our current plans and activities or make fundamental changes? Is a significant investment of energy, attention or resources required for us to achieve our goals?

In this plan, we intend to draw attention to the areas where significant change and investment is needed, whilst continuing to monitor closely the impact of the plans we have already put in place.

Being Healthy

In 2007 our commitments were:

- To halt the rise in infant mortalities
- To improve the sexual health of all children and young people
- To ensure that all children and young people have the opportunity to live healthy lifestyles
- To support children and young people with complex needs and continuing health and care needs.

The things that have gone well and made a positive impact on outcomes are:

- The Infant Mortality Action Plan has been implemented to reduce smoking during pregnancy, increase rates of breastfeeding and improve ante-natal care.
- The Teenage Pregnancy Strategy has been implemented to provide a more localised approach to data and improve access to contraception. The Maltby Girls project has been successful and will be rolled out to other areas.
- Sexual health is now part of the PSHE curriculum and work to raise awareness of sexually transmitted diseases has been successful. Chlamydia screening has been introduced.
- Obesity continues to be an issue both nationally and locally. A national child measurement programme has been introduced to help monitor the rates of children who are obese or overweight.
- 98% of schools have been accredited in the Healthy Schools programme.
- Access to child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) has improved by providing additional capacity through single point of access teams.
- We have commissioned more places for children and young people to receive treatment for alcohol and drug misuse; the percentage of those with a problem who receive treatment has increased.
- An integrated SEN and Disability Team has been created with strong links into adult services to provide excellent transition planning.

Being Healthy

You've told us that:

- Infant mortality is a very emotive issue and many of the people who took part in our consultation reacted strongly to the thought of babies dying in the 21st century. 18% of respondents chose this as their highest priority.
- Enabling children and young people to have healthy lifestyles is also an issue that is important to you and was ranked in the top five priorities in the consultation. Parents and carers are more likely to rank this as an important issue than children and young people.
- In 2009, 11% of those secondary pupils who completed the survey said that they eat fast food or takeaways every or most days; 71% said that they have fast food or takeaways every week.
- Improving sexual health was the least chosen priority during the consultation.

Other factors, including recent inspections and reviews tell us that:

- It is a requirement of the LAC self assessment that health priorities for looked after children are reflected in the Children and Young People's Plan and monitored by the Children's Trust Board.
- We need to do more work to embed the use of the Common Assessment Framework in practice across Children's Services.
- Awareness of the emotional health and well-being of children and young people is an emerging issue that cuts across many issues including obesity, bullying and being or becoming at risk of sexual exploitation.
- The Child Death Overview Panel identifies a safe sleeping campaign as a priority action to reduce the number of child deaths, and a campaign to raise awareness of the risks of alcohol use.

Our assessment is that:

The Infant Mortality Action Plan is in place and work continues to address the issues identified in the plan. Low birth weight is considered to be a more sensitive indicator of infant and mother's health than infant mortality – this is a less emotive issue than infant mortality that would alter the balance of response in the consultation.

Teenage pregnancy and, in particular the under-18 conception rate, continues to be a concern. However, the direction of travel is positive and plans are in place to continue making an impact in this area.

Healthy lifestyles – in particular tackling the rise in obesity – and improving emotional health and well-being both continue to be under the spotlight – both locally and nationally.

There are areas of concern related to the health of Looked After Children.

Staying Safe

In 2007 our commitments were:

- To improve the safety and security of vulnerable children and young people;
- To reduce bullying by implementing robust protocols, systems and through sharing good practice;
- Reduce the impact of Domestic Violence.

The things that have gone well and made a positive impact on outcomes are:

- The Local Safeguarding Children's Board has been strengthened with the appointment of a new independent Chair and revised representation (including a local Headteacher and the lead member for Children's Services).
- A local Councillor for Safeguarding has been identified in each area of the Borough.
- A new Serious Case Review process is in place to ensure robust partnerships are in place.
- 36 new foster carers were recruited in 2009.
- A new performance reporting system has been introduced to monitor individual cases and worker caseloads.
- Common standards around safe recruitment practices are in place across all partner agencies.
- Dedicated children and young people police officers are now placed with locality teams and this has helped early intervention work.
- The Safeguarding Unit works closely with the Police to monitor individuals assessed as presenting high risks to young people.
- New inter-agency guidance is in place to ensure that we respond appropriately to Domestic Abuse and the new Domestic Violence Priority Group are driving this forward.
- All Rotherham schools have signed the Department for Children, Schools and Families Bullying – A Charter for Action. There is an Anti Bullying Strategy and an Anti Bullying Toolkit in place.

Staying Safe

You've told us that:

- To improve the safety and security of vulnerable children and young people was the priority that received the highest response in the consultation; both children and adults believe that keeping children safe must come first.
- Domestic Violence was also an issue that many people who responded to the consultation felt strongly about. Vulnerable groups of young people are particularly concerned about this issue.
- The Lifestyle Survey asks young people to consider how safe they feel in certain environments. In 2009, 23% of pupils who responded to the secondary survey said they never feel safe in the town centre, 23% say they never feel safe out alone and 19% never feel safe 'on local buses and trains'.
- The Secondary Lifestyle Survey shows an increase in the percentage of pupils reporting incidents of bullying from 48% in 2008 to 53% in 2009. There has also been an increase in the percentage of pupils who said they go help and support with bullying from 37% in 2008 to 49% in 2009.
- The Looked After Children that we talked to had particular concerns about how they interact with their social workers, including how often they see their social worker, whether they keep their appointments reliably and how often the social worker who is allocated to them changes.

Other factors, including recent inspections and reviews tell us that:

- We need more social workers, social work managers and health visitors to work with children and young people in Rotherham. We have launched a new social worker recruitment website and are hoping that early interest in the website will be sustained.
- We need to improve the percentage of initial assessments that are carried out within seven working days, and core assessments carried out within 35 working days at the same time as maintaining and improving the quality of assessments.
- We need to do more work to embed the use of the Common Assessment Framework in practice across Children's Services.

Our assessment is that:

Safeguarding children and young people is a priority for every partner and individual and plans for each institution need to be in place. We need to ensure that our response is fully coordinated with appropriate multi-agency protocols for action and information-sharing; embedding the use of the Common Assessment Framework will be central to this.

Recruiting foster carers, particularly from black and minority ethnic backgrounds continues to be a priority.

E-safety is an emerging issue.

Enjoying and Achieving

In 2007 our commitments were:

- To raise attainment across the borough for all children and young people;
- To improve children and young people's chances of taking part in sporting and cultural activities;
- Ensuring higher quality education / learning for all children and young people (0-19 years old);
- To raise the attainment of Looked After Children, children from BME backgrounds and those with special and complex needs.

The things that have gone well and made a positive impact on outcomes are:

- The focus of the 'National Challenge' and 'World Class Primary Schools' programmes introduced by the Department for Children, Families and Schools has had an impact, particularly at Key Stage 4. Schools that are seeing performance improve have focused on excellent leadership and management including forensic use of information. Schools are encouraged to share good practice and there have been positive examples of successful partnerships between successful and less successful schools. The focus of developing learning communities will be to improve these trends with a continuing relentless focus on performance. The School Effectiveness Service has been structured to support this work.
- Major initiatives have been implemented to develop Communication, Language and Literacy (English) 0-19, including the Imagination Library (0-5 age) and Inspire Rotherham.
- Work by the Get Real Team has supported Looked After Children to improve their educational outcomes. In 2008/9 11 young people increased their predicted grade by one in core subjects, and by two grades in different subjects. An early years PEP has been launched and early years settings now designate a post to focus on Looked After Children.
- Work by schools to implement the Positive Progress Behaviour Strategy has been successful in improving attendance and reducing both fixed term and permanent exclusions significantly.
- An integrated SEN and Disability Team has been created to provide more co-ordinated holistic services. The development of the overarching strand 'Closer the Better' is looking at ways in which children and young people with complex needs will have their needs met in Rotherham.
- An £11 million Town Centre Leisure Complex opened in October 2008. The play areas in Clifton Park opened in summer 2009 and have received local praise and national plaudits.

Enjoying and Achieving

You've told us that:

- Improving the attainment of ALL children and young people in Rotherham is one of your biggest priorities. During the consultation many people told us it was difficult to choose between priorities – they hoped that by making the drive for improvement universal, vulnerable groups would benefit too.
- The national Tellus3 Survey includes a question about which activities children and young people have participated in during the last four weeks (not including things as part of school lessons). Only 40% of Rotherham children and young people went swimming (compared to 46% nationally) and only 50% went to a sports club or class to participate in sport (compared to 58% nationally).
- The Lifestyle Survey suggests that having access to sports and leisure facilities in the local community and the cost and convenience of transport links make a difference to their use.

Other factors, including recent inspections and reviews tell us that:

- All our early years settings have been awarded 'Good' or 'Outstanding' status by Ofsted. There has been a significant rise in the number of schools achieving Outstanding Ofsted inspections. There is concern that there are some primary schools where the rate of improvement is static and standards are at risk of falling.

Our assessment is that:

There is an urgent need to focus on performance in Primary Schools to ensure that the rate of improvement is much faster and more widely spread across all schools.

We recognise that there is a need to focus on vulnerable groups of children and young people and to include whole family support in that work. Looked After Children, Children with Special Needs, children from black and minority ethnic backgrounds and boys (especially working class boys) need focussed support to fulfil their potential.

Making a Positive Contribution

In 2007 our commitments were:

- To promote positive images of young people in their communities;
- To reduce the number of children and young people who offend and re-offend;
- Support parents and carers and families to promote positive behaviour;
- To support children and young people of families coming to Rotherham as economic migrants.

The things that have gone well and made a positive impact on outcomes are:

- Schools are working to promote community cohesion as part of the Self Evaluation Framework. A dedicated officer has been appointed to monitor and support this work in schools.
- The Respect Strategy and Action Plan has been implemented. Public perception is a key element of this and a weekly media digest has been established to measure the percentage of positive images of children in local and national media. The number of positive articles outweighs negative articles and this trend has increased during 2009.
- The Family Intervention Project has been developed with key partners and has had positive outcomes. For example, one intervention has resulted in the young person not going through criminal justice system.
- Early Intervention teams are now co-located in localities to target positive activities in areas of high crime. These teams consist of Youth Offending Service Early Intervention workers, Connexions personal advisers, substance misuse worker and in some areas teenage pregnancy workers and dedicated police officers.
- The Police Service are piloting a triage system with the Youth Offending Teams which aims to offer restorative youth justice as an alternative young people who have committed low level, low risk offences entering the criminal justice system.
- Rotherham now has a dedicated Parenting Strategy, a Parenting Strategy and a Parenting Workforce including 4 specialist parenting practitioners, 11 parent support advisers and a family intervention team for anti social behaviour.
- A local police officer won a national award for his work with Swinton and Wath comprehensive schools that have reduced the rate of youth offending.
- The first Parent Voice Forum is being established in Wentworth Valley and will be the model for future developments.
- The 'welcome offer' for children newly arrived in Rotherham has been enhanced and refined to embed support in schools; staff with Eastern European language skills have been recruited.

Making a Positive Contribution

You've told us that:

- In The Place Survey Rotherham performed poorly for National Indicators 1 and 4. All the respondents to The Place Survey are adults, however, this is an indication of how communities feel about themselves and their relationship to government.
- A consultation event with black and minority ethnic young people revealed that: (Quote from Mr Mohammed – Yemeni Centre).

Other factors, including recent inspections and reviews tell us that:

- The Department for Children, Schools and Families are promoting the 'Think Family' approach to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Our assessment is that:

It is evident that partners from South Yorkshire Police and South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have made a significant impact on reducing crime, youth offending and anti-social behaviour, and in raising self-esteem and educating young people about specific issues. To continue to positive impact of this work we need to promote and embed partnership working.

Equally, the work that has begun to support parents to be a positive influence, is demonstrating that it can have a significant impact on outcomes for children and young people. We need to broaden the reach of this work to realise its full potential.

We need to ensure that our services are responsive to the needs of families, newly arrived in Rotherham, particularly from Eastern European countries, and ensure that community cohesion is maintained and improved.

Achieving Economic Well-being

In 2007 our commitments were:

- Increase the number of young people in education, employment and training;
- Ensure that all children and young people live in Decent Homes
- Assisting economically inactive parents, carers and family members, including those on Incapacity Benefit and lone parents, back into work;
- Improve process for adaptations to housing for children and young people with special needs.

The things that have gone well and made a positive impact on outcomes are:

- The Connexions Services was re-commissioned and the new provider, Prospects, began delivery on 1st October 2009. This includes a developed targeted Information, Advice and Guidance service providing individualised information and support to young people who are NEET.
- Rotherham continues to increase the number of young people with enterprise skills through its enterprise flagship programme Rotherham Ready which has been identified regionally, nationally and internationally as good practice. In 2008/9 Rotherham Young Enterprise supported 51 new business start ups by young people aged 18-30 years.
- Diploma development groups are in place for 14 of the 17 Diploma areas. The Construction and Built Environment diploma started in September 2008, Engineering and Creative and Media started in September 2009.
- All secondary schools are part of Positive Progression Partnerships which focus on the provision for at risk young people. This includes vocational and applied learning opportunities.
- 2010 – the Arms Length Management Organisation continues to work to increase the percentage of home that are decent.
- The percentage of care leavers at 19 who are in education, employment and training has increased.
- A Transition Plan for children with complex physical and / or learning difficulties was established in 2006 and is now well embedded.
- The Early Years Service have been successful in promoting the take-up of childcare and tax credits. 230 additional families are now accessing the childcare element, an increase of 16.8% compared to a national increase of 8%.

Achieving Economic Well-being

You've told us that:

- The Looked After Children that we talked to had lots of comments about their transition to adulthood and felt that more could be done to support them with the 'leaving care' process.
- *Additional comments from Connexions consultation*

Other factors, including recent inspections and reviews tell us that:

- The Child Poverty Bill enshrines in legislation the commitment to eradicate child poverty by 2020.
- The economic climate in the UK has made it more difficult to fulfil our goals of attracting new jobs to the borough and decreasing the number of young people Not in Employment, Education or Training.
- The Education and Skills Bill includes legislation that will require all young people (to the age of 17) to remain in full time education or training until 2013, and, by 2015 the participation age will be increased to 18. To ensure that the right preparations are made for this change in legislation, all local authorities are required to have in place a 14-19 Plan to ensure that adequate preparations are made.
- The 14-19 Plan also makes provision for the planning and funding of post-16 learning and training opportunities to be led by the local authority from April 2010 when the Learning and Skills Council will be replaced with the Young People's Learning agency (with slimmed down responsibilities), the National Apprenticeship Service and the Skills Funding Agency (for adult learning opportunities).

Our assessment is that:

The raised participation age for education and training is a significant change that will require additional planning to ensure we have the right opportunities in place. Information, advice and guidance for young people and their families will also be crucial to ensuring we meet the challenge of this new legislation. We want to use the change in legislation to kick-start a programme of activity that will enable young people to become the valued workforce of the future.

The complexity of this challenge is even more acute for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities. More work needs to be done to ensure their transition to adulthood is positive and properly supported.

Although Rotherham has made a significant investment to improve accommodation for care leavers we still provide suitable accommodation for fewer care leavers than our statistical neighbours.

SECTION 4 - Areas of focus 2010-2013

There are several areas where we feel we must provide additional focus during the next three years. The purpose of this focus is to draw attention to areas where we may need to place under forensic scrutiny, invest significant resource or apply change management processes in order to alter the direction of travel or significantly accelerate along a chosen path.

Focus on Obesity

Why do we need to focus on obesity?

What are we going to do?

- Implement the Childhood Obesity Strategy, model and action plan for prevention and treatment agreed by the NHS, the local authority and its partners.
- Obtain additional funding for obesity initiatives in the community and to enable more clinical approaches to be undertaken.
- Roll out Carnegie Cub (Tier 2) across the whole of the Borough from April 2010 and young people supported to attend.
- Improving the access to health care and health checks for Looked After Children.
- To Improve children and young people's chances of taking part in sport and physical activities.
- Supporting the Play Strategy developments and maintain a strong and effective play partnership to enable good quality, sustainable play.
- Increase the number of young people in treatment for substance misuse.
- Increase awareness of substance misuse treatment available.
- Fully embed services within the Early Intervention Team arrangements to enable referrals from these sources to increase.

Speak to Paul Theaker about new measure and what to add in here please.

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on communication, language and learning

Why do we need to focus on communication, language and learning?

What are we going to do?

- Targeting attainment at Key Stage 1 in Reading, Writing and Maths.
- Targeting attainment at Key Stage 2 in English and Maths.
- Targeting attainment for pupils achieving five or more GCSE passes at grades A* - C (and equivalent).
- Ensure all looked after children have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) and achieve at least 1 GCSE at A*-C.
- Target the attainment of boys (0-19).
- Targeting the development of Communication, Language and Literacy (English) 0-19.
- Implement the third phase of the restructure of School Effectiveness Service to address the changing agenda and management capacity within schools to enable them to support the number of young people with English as an additional language and the increasing number of Asylum Seeking and Migrant Worker families.

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on domestic abuse

Why do we need to focus on domestic abuse?

What are we going to do?

- Continue to raise awareness on Domestic Abuse and its impact on children
- Work in partnership within locality teams with schools, police, neighbourhood and voluntary sector services to ensure effective action to help families suffering from Domestic Abuse.
- The Operational Safeguarding Manager will be the Domestic Abuse champion and will progress these issues across Localities and the broader services for children and young people.

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on understanding and responding to the needs of migrant communities

Why do we need to focus on understanding and responding to the needs of migrant communities?

What are we going to do?

- Improve the integration, learning and achievements for looked after children and children from ethnic minority backgrounds.

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on Looked After Children

Why do we need to focus on Looked After Children?

What are we going to do?

- The early years Personal Education Plan will be rolled out with the development of the post of a designated person in each early years setting.

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on the 14-19 offer

Why do we need to focus on the 14-19 offer?

What are we going to do?

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

Focus on post-16 options for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities

Why do we need to focus on post-16 options for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities?

What are we going to do?

How will we measure if we've been successful?

Linked plans and strategies

SECTION 4:

How we are organised to deliver this Plan

This section of the Children and Young People's Plan will explain how we are organised in Rotherham to respond to the needs of children and young people. It will show how each organisation is involved in the partnership that holds overall responsibility for the well-being of the borough's children and young people. It offers a clear picture of how we are structured today, in June 2010. However, we recognise that change is often an essential component of improvement. We have identified some of the changes we would like to make in the action plan for delivering excellent, integrated Children's Services.

The Children and Young People's Trust Board (the Board) is a manifestation of our partnership arrangements and will remove any constraints or barriers to progress by developing more integrated services and pursuing better and better outcomes for children and young people. The work of the Board is to develop strong understanding of issues from different perspectives and identify those areas we must improve. This will, in turn, feed into joint planning and commissioning, a joint workforce development strategy and joint ownership of the strategic framework provided by this plan.

The Board also has a wider role – to ensure that the interests of children and families are embedded in planning and delivery across the Local Strategic Partnership, including plans for economic development, community regeneration and tackling worklessness. The Board also monitors the work of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board to ensure that it is effective in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people.

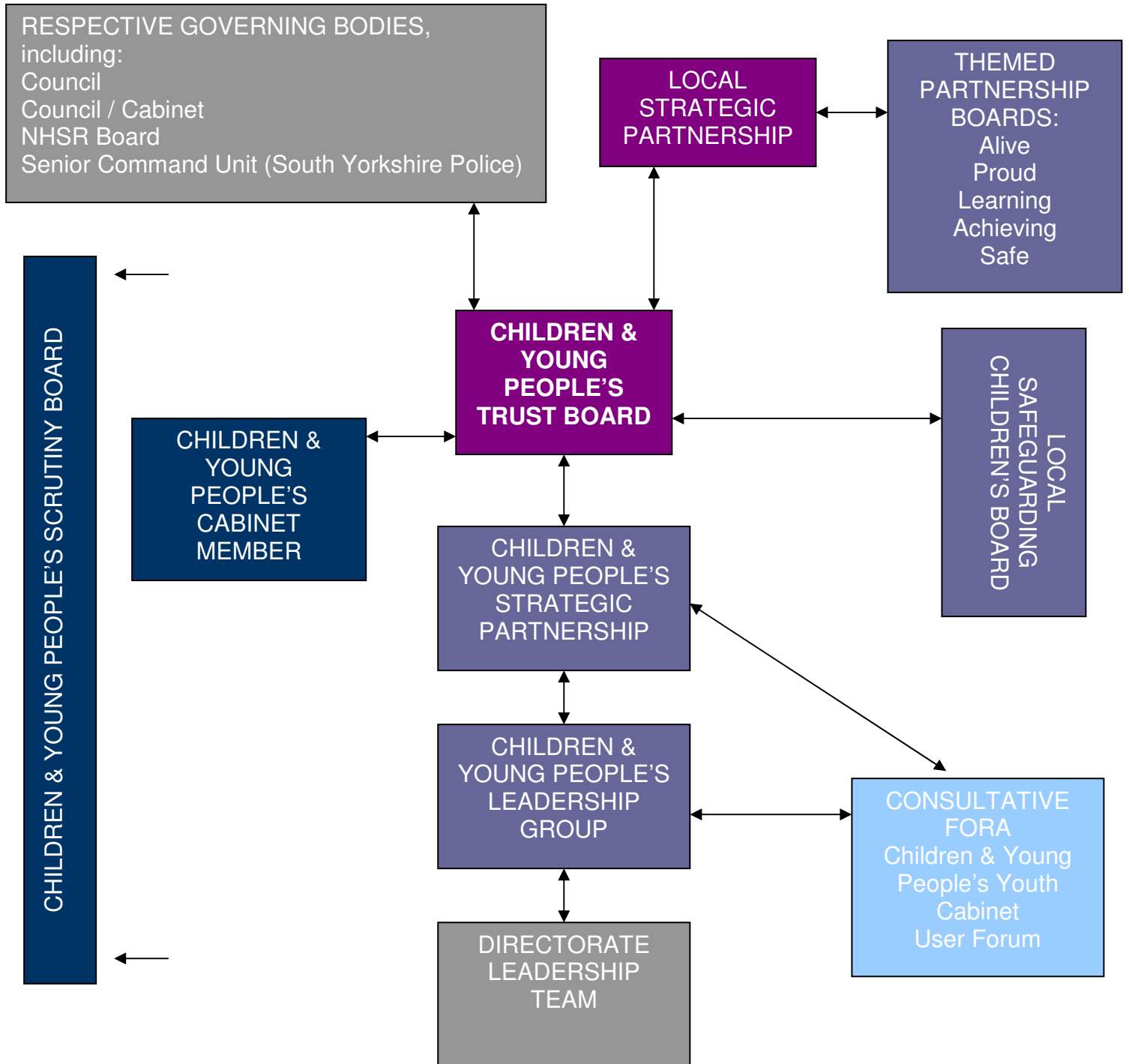
In Rotherham, the Board is currently chaired by the councillor with lead responsibility for Children's Services and the membership is the Chief Executive of RMBC, Chief Executive of NHS Rotherham, Rotherham Police District Commander, Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Rotherham, Non Executive Member of NHS Rotherham, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, Independent Chair of Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board, Chair of the Secondary Heads Association and a Rotherham GP.

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) in Rotherham is well established and has been further strengthened in response to the Lord Laming Review. The purpose of the LSCB is to ensure the effectiveness of all work done to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Rotherham. The board members are senior managers in their agencies which include statutory, community, voluntary and faith organisations. The board has an independent chair who was appointed in September 2009 for a period of three years.

The RSCB has responsibility for core inter-agency child protection work whilst embracing the wider safeguarding duties established in the Children Act 2004; it works through a structure of sub groups that ensure staff in agencies have procedures and good quality training. The board also undertakes serious case reviews where there is a need for professionals to examine situations of abuse or neglect that have resulted in the death or serious to a child or young person.

The **Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership and Children & Young People's Leadership Group** represent our wider partnership working at a strategic and more operation level respectively. The Fire Service, primary, secondary and special schools and the voluntary sector are all crucial to this partnership working, alongside the council, South Yorkshire Police, the National Health Service for Rotherham and Rotherham's NHS Foundation Trust.

The connections between the Children and Young People's Trust Board and the wider governance and operational structures that operate in Rotherham are shown in this simplified diagram, (correct when published in March 2010).



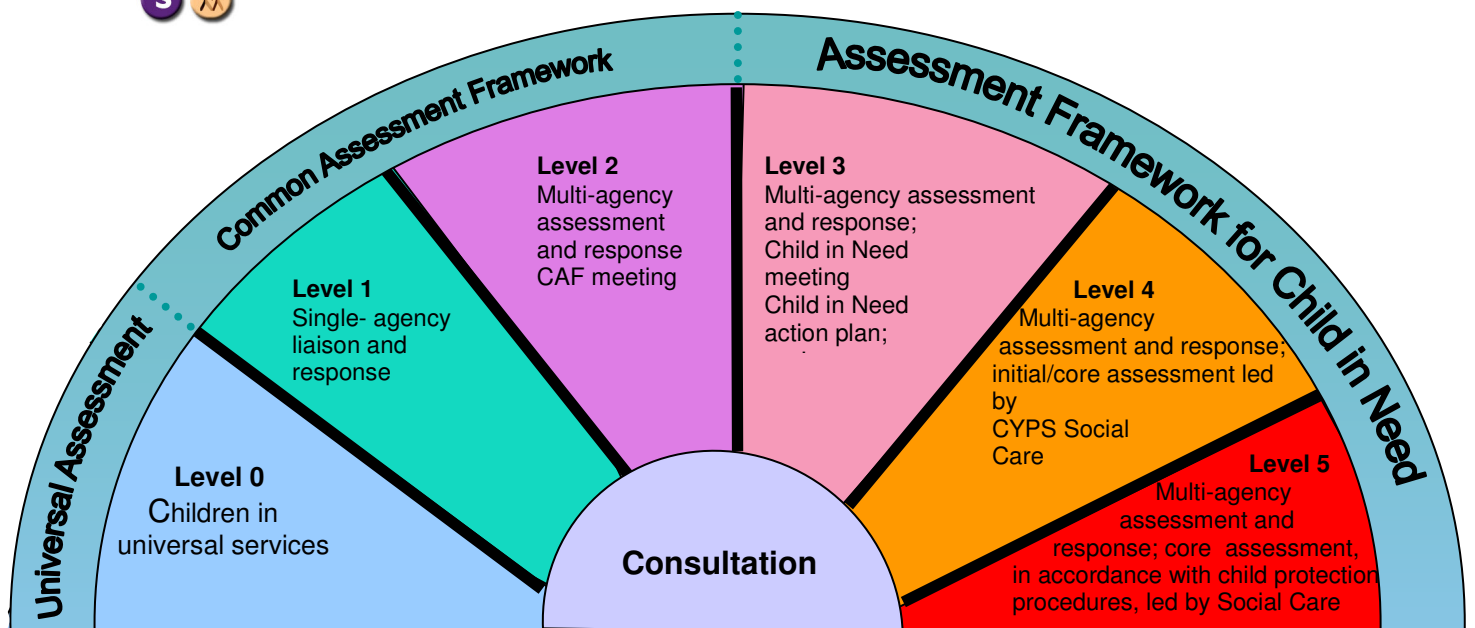
The local authority's **Children & Young People's Services** is organised around five areas of responsibility, each led by a director who reports to the Strategic Director of Children's Services.

Locally based integrated services

At the beginning of 2008, the Children and Young People's Service re-organised the way that frontline services are delivered, according to the need for locally based, integrated teams of professionals as outlined in the Children Act (2004). We currently have seven locality teams, based around the Rotherham area assembly boundaries. The locality teams are in Wentworth North, Wentworth South, Rotherham North, Rotherham South, Wentworth Valley, Rother Valley West and Rother Valley South. Co-located services are social care teams, family support and early intervention teams, health visiting, school nursing, education welfare and extended services partnerships. These multi-agency teams share accommodation and working practices making them well-placed to respond, in partnership, to the needs of children and families.

Working with partners in each locality is critical to our success. Each locality engages with the Police, Area Partnership Managers, GPs, schools, voluntary and community agencies, Fire and Rescue services and all other providers to plan and prioritise services for children, young people and their families.

The processes and systems that we use across multi-agency teams underpin the success of our work. The use of the Common Assessment Framework and the role of the Lead Professional are critical to the success of a partnership approach. Our joint information sharing protocols are well established and we will continue to use and develop these along with Electronic Social Care Records. This work is strongly linked with the four big things, safeguarding and early intervention and prevention in particular.



Developing multi-agency learning communities

To describe the current structures in localities, the progress to date in learning communities and the work that will be done to integrate the two.

Performance management arrangements

This section requires more work to make the ownership and accountability clear.

Well established performance management arrangements exist within the Local Authority and performance is monitored and reported on a quarterly basis. All the national performance indicators in relation to children and young people services are monitored by the Local Authority and its partners and exception reports highlighting areas of concerns across all the partners are presented to the Joint Leadership Team meetings on a quarterly basis.

It is recognised, however, that good performance management and reporting does not necessarily result in good performance on the front line as often actual performance is influenced by many contributory factors such as staff vacancies, different working practices, differing priorities, insufficient budget or just too many priorities.

Integrated workforce development strategy

In 2009, Rotherham published its first Children and Young People's Partnership Workforce Development Strategy. This strategy is a live document updated annually which plans the short, medium and long term workforce development activities over a rolling three year period, driven by the strategic direction outlined for all Children and Young People's Services in the 2020 strategy.

The Workforce Development Strategy is part of the delivery mechanism for Rotherham's Children and Young People's Plan, and all partners in Rotherham's Children Trust arrangements were involved in its formulation. Whilst full integration of all partners who make up the Children's Trust is still being worked towards, Rotherham's Workforce Development Strategy sets out high ambitions for developing the One Children's Workforce across the borough. Supporting this ambition is the roll out of a common induction for all staff working with children and young people irrespective of employer: The Children & Young People's Partnership Welcome Day will map out where roles and responsibilities fit in the Children's trust arrangements, as well as introducing staff to the common core of knowledge and skills expected of all staff across the partnership. To support the planning of future workforce development needs, CWDC grant funding is being used in the Local Authority to employ a lead officer for utilising the One Children's Workforce Framework Tool, and activity is being planned to populate this online resource with the information needed to draw out activity plans. Rotherham's' Workforce Development Strategy will then be updated in line with these findings.

Another key area in the Workforce Development Strategy is the roll out of Commissioning Skills training, and attendance at the Commissioning Support Programme (CSP) "Train the Trainer" event is already planned for a senior officer within the Local Authority, with a commitment to then roll out a four day training programme across the borough, in partnership with a CSP representative. This will not only provide commissioners with the skills to ensure value for money and excellent service delivery is achieved, but this should also fall in line with partner moves towards provider/commissioner splits, such as the NHS World Class Commissioning framework, and help achieve competence to meet these specific projects whilst also perpetuating uniformity of practice across the partnership.

A joint venture between the Local Authority and the voluntary and community sector to procure an e-Learning platform and develop e-Learning content will help increase capacity in the third sector in Rotherham, and open new routes for staff development and the sharing of best practice. In addition to this work, the development of an Every Child Matters outcomes focused Leadership and Management programme is currently in its infancy, and discussions with HEI are planned for late 2009 early 2010, with the aim of formulating a development pathway to raise the standard of all HR management across the workforce by ensuring managers and leaders are equipped with the appropriate levels of knowledge and skills around specific areas such as recruitment, continuous development of staff, services and a shared leadership philosophy beyond line management structures, with the underpinning return on investment being a service focused squarely on the needs of Rotherham's children, young people and families. Having leadership like this throughout the partnership means we have a much better chance of maintaining a workforce which is highly motivated and responsive to change, as all leaders will have the transformational skills set to drive forward emergent demands for service modernisation and service improvement.

To reflect the evolving nature of service needs, it is expected that Rotherham's Workforce Development Strategy will go through many incarnations to reflect the requirements of

both central government and the local partnership, whilst maintaining a consistency of long term planning for those developments which will remain prevalent regardless. If we are to expect the workforce to be flexible and responsive, then the strategy which drives workforce development must and will mirror this.

Joint Commissioning Strategy

Effective commissioning processes are essential to successful delivery of this Plan. The Commissioning of our services involves working with all our partners including the voluntary and community sector to secure services that meet the needs of children and young people in Rotherham. We aim to improve the outcomes of children and young people by directing resources towards early intervention and prevention which will help us reduce the costs of specialist or intensive support or services. 🙌

We pride ourselves on the meaningful engagement of service users and specifically children and young people and their families through the process. Our understanding of local need has enabled us to prioritise our investment in commissioned services. Some examples of where we have successful commissioned services include:-

- Significant investment of both time and resources has resulted in the successful re-commissioning and procurement of Connexions Services. Three elements of the Connexions Services were procured with Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham, which were Universal Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), Targeted Information, Advice and Guidance Service and the Client Information System (CCIS). Young people have taken a significant role in the commissioning for Connexions, including writing specifications and interviewing potential providers.
- The first year of commissioning resources in line with the objectives of Aiming High for Disabled children has commenced with the short breaks commissioning strategy having been developed and implemented. Further work will continue until 2011.
- Social care placements have been commissioned in line with assessed needs and a Care Placement Strategy is being developed to improve the planning of provision and negotiate improved care packages for our young people and to optimise value for money over the next couple of years.















Contract management is robust, fair, consistent and appropriate to ensure that Children and Young People's Services are securing required outcomes and value for money. All contracts are routinely monitored, revised and renewed. The safeguarding of children and young people is always considered in any commissioning and contracting activity and work continues to embed safeguarding in the work of our partners. 📄

One of the most significant changes in commissioning began in April 2010, when responsibility for commissioning and funding 16 -19 education transferred from the Learning and Skills Council to local authorities. Work is ongoing to make sure we are in a position to lead this process effectively. Commissioning will be guided by our 14-19 Plan.

We will continue to identify opportunities to improve the outcomes and efficiencies through further Joint Commissioning over the next three years and a Joint Strategic Commissioning Group with NHS Rotherham and the voluntary and community sector has been established to identify these needs in line with the four big things and areas of focus we have identified.

SECTION FIVE: DRAFT Action plans and performance indicators

STAY SAFE


	Key Actions	Lead Director / Organisation	Milestones / Targets	NI	LAA
 	Embed the use of the CAF	Simon Perry			
 	Ensure that information that can help to identify fire setters is collected, analysed and shared across agencies.				
	Increase the % of referrals to children's social care that go on to initial assessment.	Lynn Burns	68% by October 2010 70% by March 2011		
	Increase the % of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral.	Lynn Burns	85% by October 2010 87% by March 2011		
	Increase the % of core assessments for children's social care carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.	Lynn Burns	84% by October 2010 87% by March 2011		
	Reduce social worker vacancies		20% by October 2010 10% by March 2011		
	Reduce social work team leader vacancies from 33% (Dec 09)		16% by October 2010 8% by March 2011		
	Increase the number and range of foster carers		185 by March 2013		
	Aim for all schools to be registered for the Anti-Bullying Standard				
 	Raise awareness of Domestic Abuse, including how to respond to honour based violence		Number of children		
	Increase the number of Independent Domestic Violence Advocates				


Linked Plans and Strategies


EXCELLENT INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SERVICES


	Key Actions	Lead Director / Organisation	Milestones / Targets	NI	LAA
S	Co-locate the Police Service's Child Abuse Team with the Local Authority's operational Safeguarding Team	Lynn Burns / SYPolice			

SECTION SIX: Resourcing the Four Big Things

	Keeping Children and Young People Safe	Funding Source	£'000s
		Local Authority	
		South Yorkshire Police	
		NHSR (Primary Care Trust)	
		NHS (Hospital Trust)	
		Probation	
		Youth Justice Board	
		CAFCASS	
		Area Based Grant	
		Individual Schools Budget	
		Dedicated Schools Grant	
		LSP – LAA Reward Grant	
		Carers Grant	

	Early Intervention and Prevention	Funding Source	£'000s
		Local Authority	
		South Yorkshire Police	
		NHSR (Primary Care Trust)	
		NHS (Hospital Trust)	
		Probation	
		Youth Justice Board	
		Standards Fund	
		Area Based Grant	
		Individual Schools Budget	
		Dedicated Schools Grant	

	Tackling Inequalities	Funding Source	£'000s
		Local Authority	
		South Yorkshire Police	
		NHSR (Primary Care Trust)	
		NHS (Hospital Trust)	
		Probation	
		Youth Justice Board	
		Standards Fund - FSM	
		Area Based Grant	
		Individual Schools Budget	
		Dedicated Schools Grant	

	Transform Rotherham Learning	Funding Source	£'000s
		Local Authority	
		South Yorkshire Police	
		NHSR (Primary Care Trust)	
		NHS (Hospital Trust) –Hospital Ed?	
		BSF Capital	
		Primary Capital	
		Standards Fund	
		Area Based Grant	
		Individual Schools Budget	
		Dedicated Schools Grant	
		Choice Advice	
		LSC	
		ESF	

Warning about funding source and amount uncertainty from March 2011 due to Comprehensive Spending Review and Grant Funding continuation.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	7th April 2010
3.	Title:	Foundation Stage Assessment Results: Summer 2009
4.	Directorate	Children & Young People’s Services

5. Summary:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People’s Services about the performance of Rotherham children in the Foundation Stage in 2009.

6. Recommendations:

- **That the report be received.**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People’s Services and Advisers note the marked increases in the outcomes as reported through the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People’s Services and Advisers endorse the drive to encourage all schools to continue to improve their results, and strive to reflect outcomes more in line with national averages.**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People’s Services and Advisers endorse the drive to improve standards, particularly in Communication, Language and Literacy, (CLLD) throughout the Early Years Foundation Stage together with the attainment of boys and other vulnerable and underachieving groups.**
- **That the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People’s Services and Advisers endorse the drive to narrow the gap between the average for the lowest 20% band and the Local Authority median.**

7. Proposals and Details:

All schools must conduct a form of statutory assessment at the end of each Key Stage (at age 5, 7, 11, 14 and 16). The Early Years Foundation Stage Profile is assessed when children reach the end of the Early Foundation Stage (age 5) through ongoing and summative teacher assessment.

a) Overall Early Years Foundation Stage Results

The national assessment profile for pupils at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Early Years Foundation Stage Profile [EYFSP]) has been in place for seven years. Increased confidence and security in the assessments made has meant that, over recent years, the EYFSP is judged to be a more valid and reliable indicator than those undertaken in 2003 and 2004. This has been achieved by extensive moderation activities undertaken by the majority of schools across Rotherham and led by members of the School Effectiveness Consultant workforce.

Assessments continue to be made against the thirteen assessment scales that cover the strands of the six Areas of Learning. However, new national measures, referred to as Early Years Outcome Duties (EYOD), have been introduced and each Local Authority is required to set targets against these. They now form the key reporting indicators both locally and nationally.

Each assessment scale comprises of nine stages, identified through a point system of 1 to 9. The national expected level for pupils at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) is point 6+, which is the equivalent to secure good attainment within the Early Learning Goals. Assessment scores of points 0 to 3 are judged to illustrate performance below the Early Learning Goals, points 4 to 7 illustrate performance within the Early Learning Goals, point 8 illustrates performance in reaching the Early Learning Goals and 9 illustrate performance above the Early Learning Goals.

The particular features of the new Early Years Outcome Duty (EYOD) measures place an emphasis on pupils reaching the national expected level of point 6+ and focus on their development in six key aspects. These are:

- 1) Personal Social and Emotional Development (6+ PSED)
- 2) Communication, Language and Literacy (6+ CLLD)
- 3) All Areas of Learning (78 points and above)
- 4) Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy combined (6+ PSED and CLLD)
- 5) All Areas of Learning, plus both Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy (78 points and 6+ in PSED and CLLD combined)

A further key feature of the EYOD measures is linked to improving the outcomes for the lowest performing pupils at the end of Foundation Stage, identified as the lowest 20% band. This is measured by comparing the gap between the average point score for the whole cohort with the average point score for the lowest 20% band. This is referred to as:

- 6) The gap between the LA median and the bottom 20% band.

Since 2007, seven out of the nine first phase development of Children Centres, which are attached to Primary Schools, have for 2 consecutive years continued to narrow the gap in attainment for children in the lowest 20% to that of the rest of the children. The average reduction in the gap over two years is 16.4%.

In addition, the EYOD gives regard to levels of deprivation for individual children as measured through the Index of Multiple Deprivation and referred to as the Super Output Areas (SOA). Children are grouped according to whether they live within the 30% SOA indicator or within the 70% SOA indicator (none 30% SOA). Those children that live within the 30% SOA are judged to have higher levels of deprivation. The proportion of Rotherham pupils in the 2009 Early Years Foundation 2 cohort who live within the 30% SOA is 51.6% compared to a national average of 31%.

Data related to Rotherham's performance against these EYOD measures is contained within the attached appendices. These illustrate the trends over the last 3 years as well as the details of the 2009 outcomes.

b) Vulnerable Groups

Girls' performance continues to exceed that of boys in all EYOD measures. Boys were more strongly represented in the 20% lowest performing band, accounting for 61.6% of this group.

The proportion of pupils from Black Minority Ethnic (BME) backgrounds in the 2009 cohort (14.2%) was slightly lower than in 2008 (15.2%). APKN (Asian of Pakistani origin) continues to be the main group within Rotherham's ethnic community (6.6%). 37.1% of pupils from BME backgrounds within this cohort were within the 20% lowest performing band, while 17.7% of the pupils of White British origin are represented within this lower performing group.

Five schools reported no pupils in the 20% lowest performing band. Across the remaining schools the proportion of each cohort represented in this band ranged from 3.2% to 61.1%.

c) Actions Taken

Following the declines reported in 2007, the School Effectiveness Service continued its drive to improve the outcomes for children at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage and to increase the levels of capability for children as they enter Key Stage 1. This continues to be part of the strategic programme to raise standards across all key stages.

In partnership with the National Strategies team, a formal review of Rotherham's Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision was undertaken. A wide range of stakeholders were involved in this review and, while many positive aspects of Rotherham's EYFS provision was confirmed, clear areas for improvement were identified. Actions taken in response to these identified areas have contributed to the improvements made in 2008/2009 and have increased the effectiveness of the provision across this key stage to underpin future improvements.

The particular emphasis on integrating a more structured approach to the teaching of phonics across all schools and settings, through universal and specific training

programmes, has contributed to the marked improvements in children's outcomes at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage in the strand of "Linking Sounds and Letters". However, this has not impacted sufficiently well on children's reading capability. The introduction and implementation of Rotherham's "Imagination Library" is widening the scope to support children's reading from an early age. Increasing children's involvement in books and engaging the support of parents/carers and families in sharing books with their children, prior to and during their EYFS stage, remains crucial to improving children's progress. Although still in the early stages of introduction, this programme should make a significant contribution to the collective drive to improve reading standards and behaviours across Rotherham.

d) Priorities for improvement

In order to meet the EYOD targets for 2010 and sustain a trajectory for improvement, Rotherham must:

- Extend the successes reported in 2009
- Increase the average performance of the LA's lowest 20%
- Narrow the gap between the LA's lowest 20% and the LA's median
- Further increase the proportion of children reaching 6+ in CLLD

e) Actions to support further improvements

- The Early Years and Childcare Service (EY&CC) has been transferred to the School Effectiveness Service
- EY&CC Service is now led at Assistant Head of Service level and fully integrated into the overall SES strategy and workforce culture
- An additional consultant for CLLD, funded by the National Primary Strategy, is now in post and is working with targeted schools to improve the provision for CLLD and increase the impact on children's learning.
- The EYFS workforce has been extended and now benefits from an additional experienced consultant and a highly effective consultant headteacher.
- The roll out of "Imagination Library" is already contributing to the raising of the status of reading across Rotherham and will support an increased level of involvement and interaction with high quality books from a very early age
- Further visits are planned to high performing LAs, recommended by National Strategies
- Further cross LA moderation in the Early Years Foundation Stage is to be undertaken, most particularly with LAs with similar contexts to those of Rotherham that are reporting more positive results than Rotherham
- The data and information provided to all school settings with Early Years Foundation Stage children have been revised and training has been provided to all school leaders in the analysis of these indicators. A particular focus has been on raising expectations and challenging underperformance
- A research programme is in place to extend our knowledge and understand of the learning needs of those children in the 20% lowest performing band and to inform our approach to removing the barriers to learning for our most vulnerable children.
- Assessment materials have been revised to reflect the new EYFS Framework and assessment processes and systems are being developed to support teaching and learning across this key stage.

8. Finance:

Funding for the identification of, intervention in and support for schools and Children's Centres that are underachieving is a key focus for the core budget of the School Effectiveness Service.

Additional resources have been provided by the National Strategies to employ an additional consultant specifically for CLLL.

9. Risks and Uncertainties:

Should Rotherham's schools not show improving outcomes at the end of Foundation Stage, this could result in:

- Declining and lower standards at the end of KS1 and KS2
- Significant numbers of children underachieving resulting in reduced opportunities in primary, secondary and post statutory education
- The Council's rating, in relation to the quality of services and its statutory responsibility to raise standards, will be affected through the CAA and APA systems
- The Council's intervention rating with DCSF could be increased, although EYFS performance is not a specific element of the current Notice to Improve.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:

Pupil achievement is a key performance indicator (Learning), in the Community Strategy, the Corporate Plan, the Children and Young People's Single Plan and the Learning without Limits Partnership Plan (schools)

11. Background Papers and Consultation:

Foundation Stage Assessment results – reports presented each year from 2005 to 2009

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Appendix 1

Tables 1 to 5 show the performance trends for each of the Early Years Outcome Duties over the last 3 years for boys, girls and all pupils. The 2009 Early Years Foundation 2 cohort reported significant improvements in all Early Years Outcome Duty (EYOD) measures compared to 2008.

Table 1: 6+ PSED: 73.6 (an increase of 5.1%)

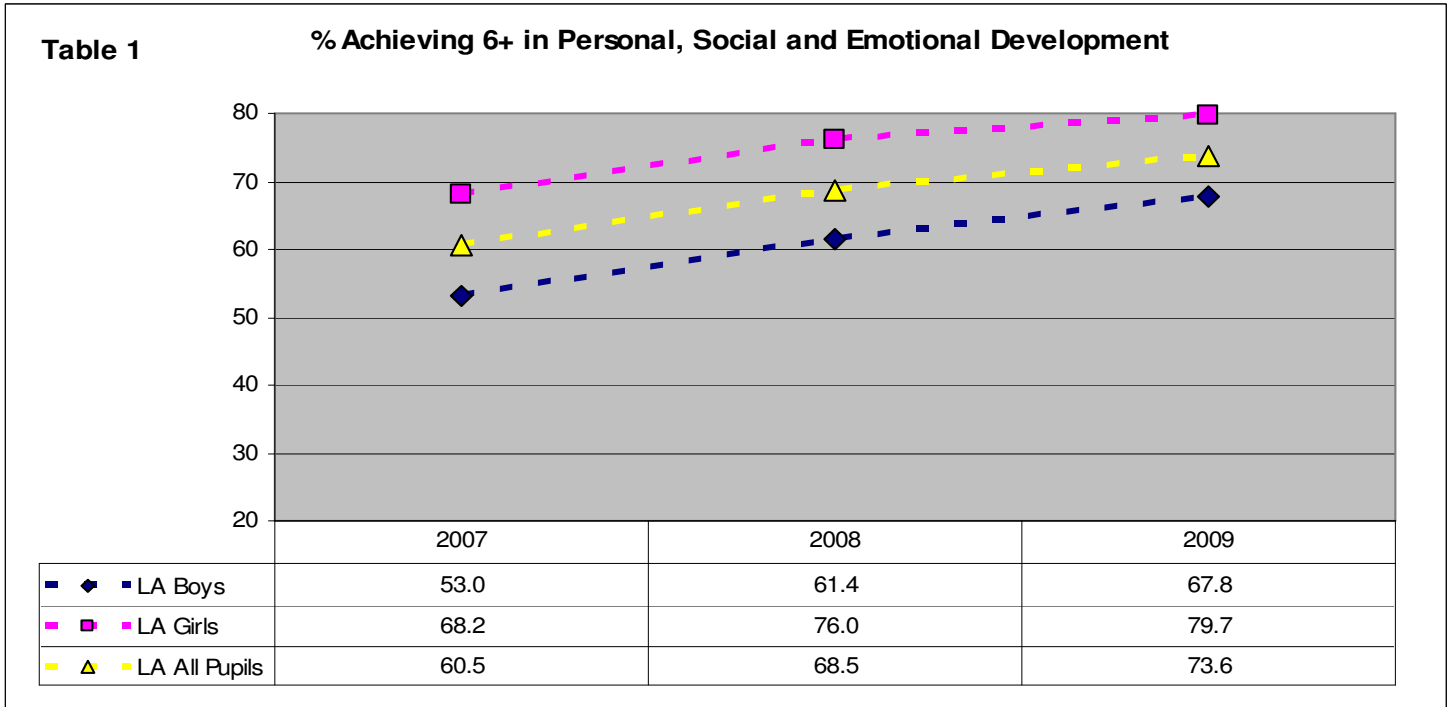


Table 2: 6+ CLLD: 53.8 (an increase of 6.7%)

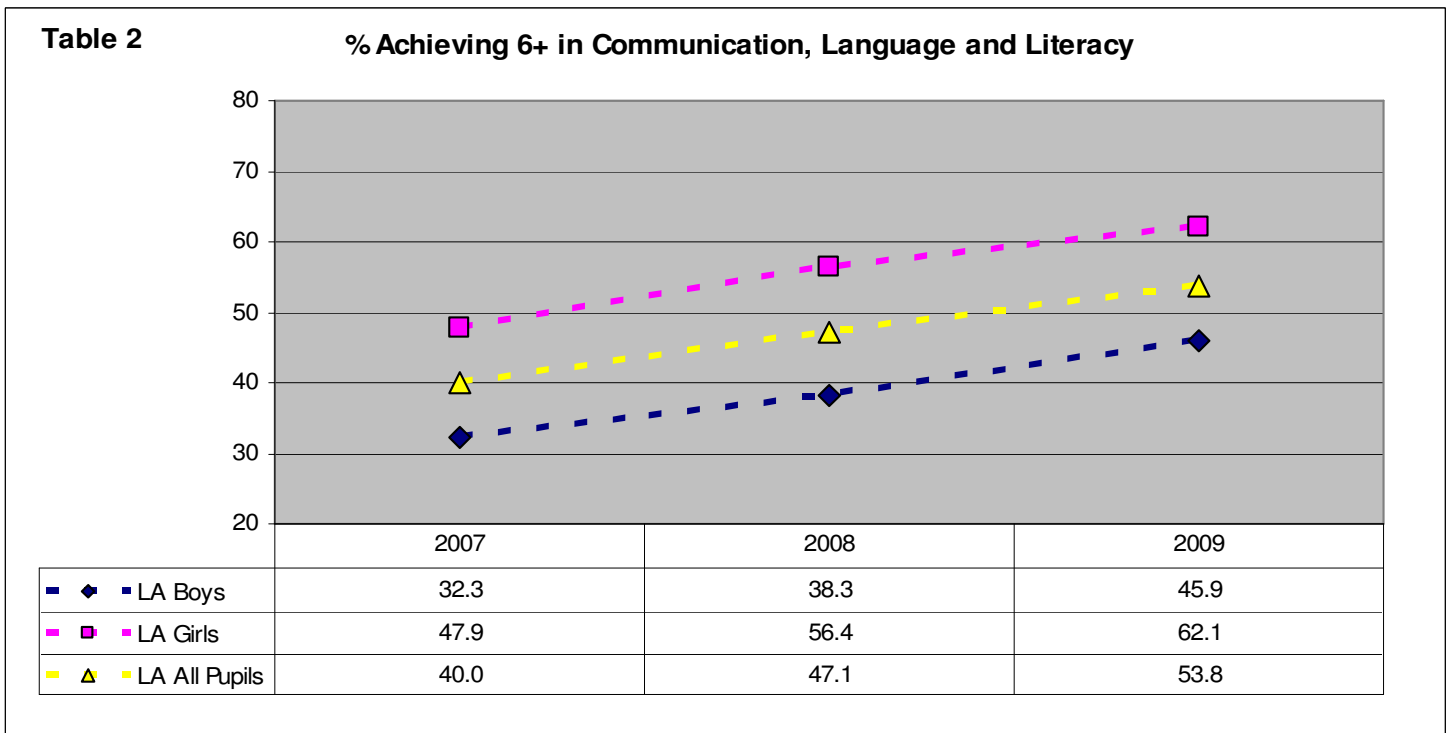


Table 3: 6+ in PSED and CLLD combined: 50.4 (an increase of 6.2%)

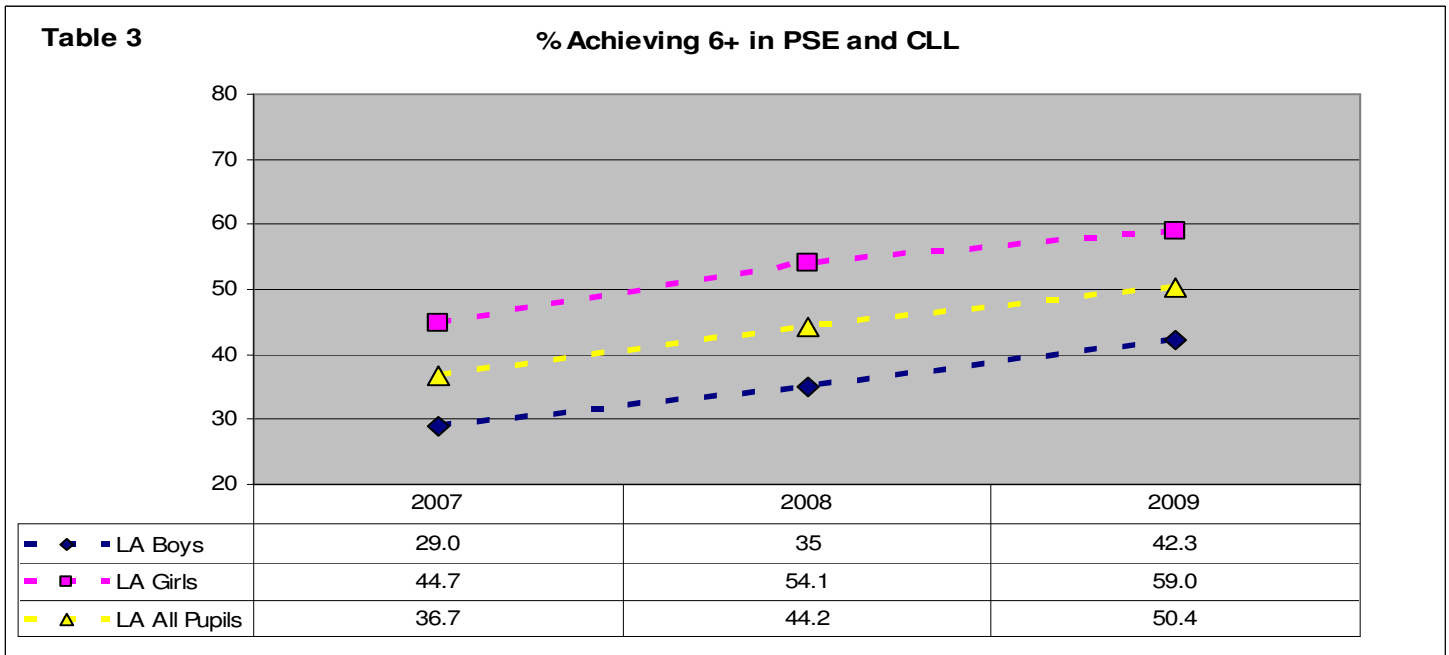


Table 4: 78 points or more: 72.1 (an increase of 7.4%)

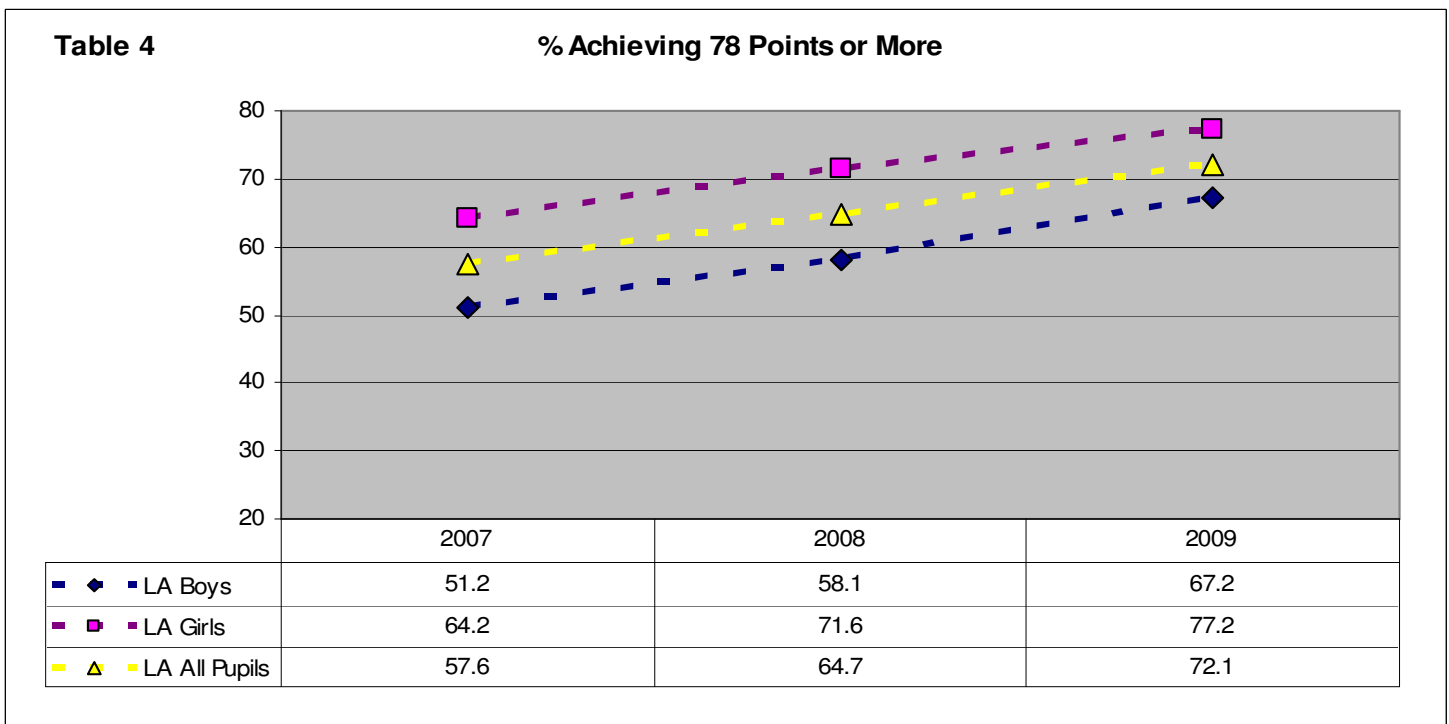


Table 5: 78 points and 6+ in PSED and CLLD combined: 50.4 (an increase of 6.2%)

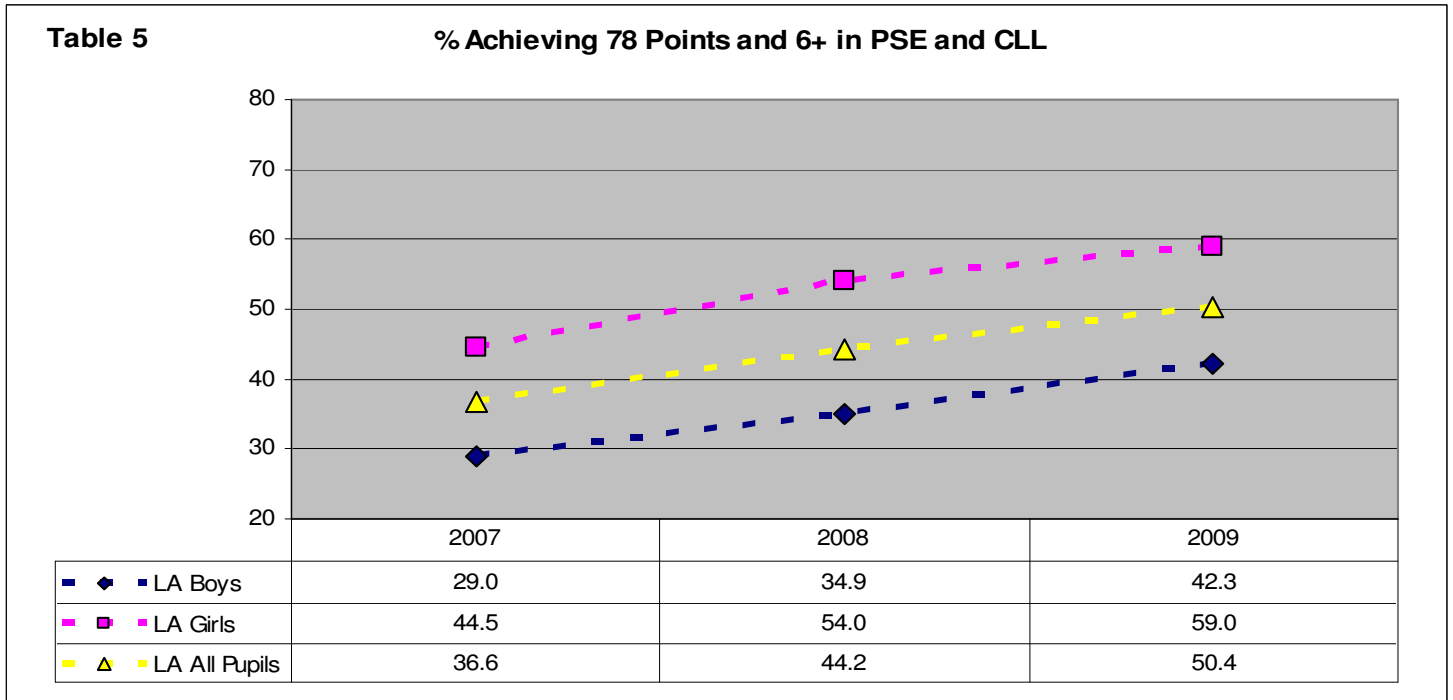
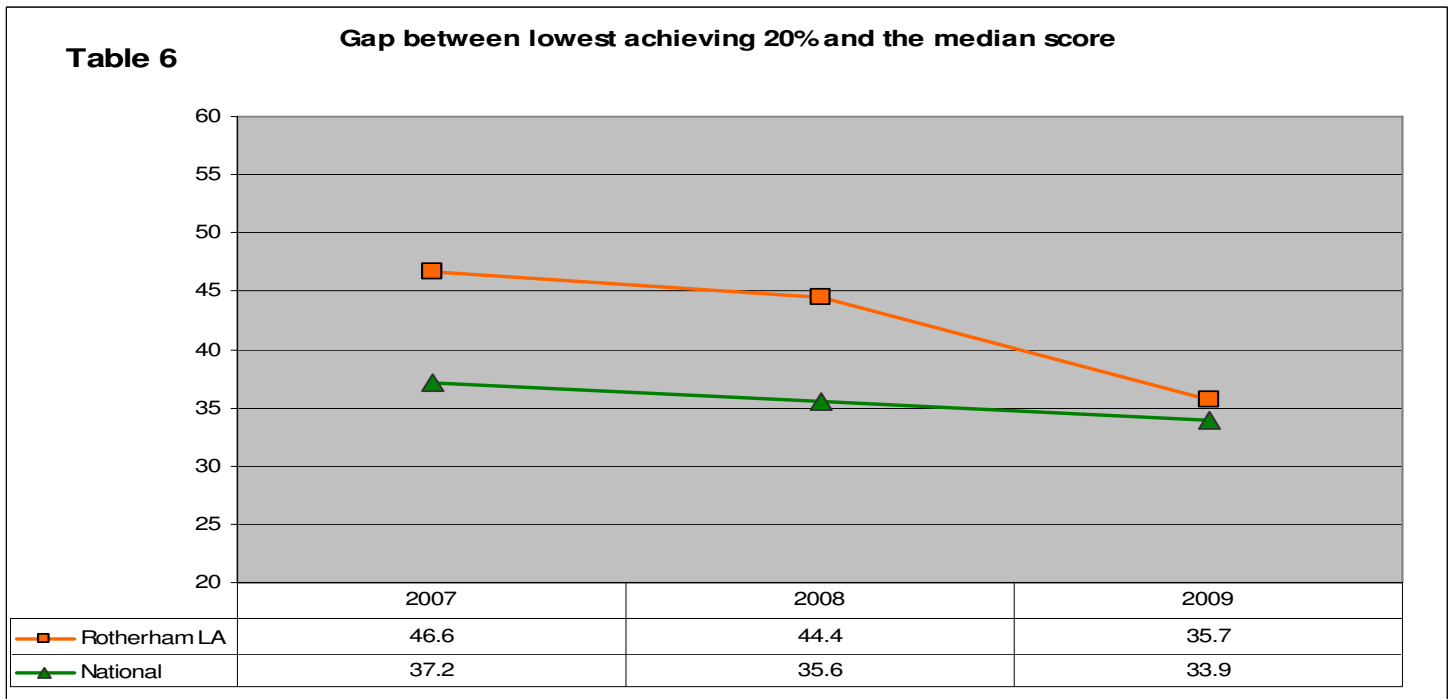


Table 6: 20th Percentile FSP score: 72 (+7) - Gap between LA median and bottom 20%: 35.7 (a reduction of 8.7%)



In 2009, standards at the 6+ in CLLD/PSED combined and 78 points threshold have risen for the second consecutive year. The target was exceeded by 3.8%. Significant progress has been made when compared to standards in 2007.

The gap between LA median and bottom 20% has narrowed for the third consecutive year – by 10.9% since 2007. The target was exceeded by 0.9%.

Appendix 2

Table 1 shows the increase in the proportion of pupils who reached point 6 or above in each of the strands, across all the assessment scales of the Areas of Learning between 2007, 2008 and 2009. While the improvements are most evident in PSED and CLLD, improvements have been made in all strands.

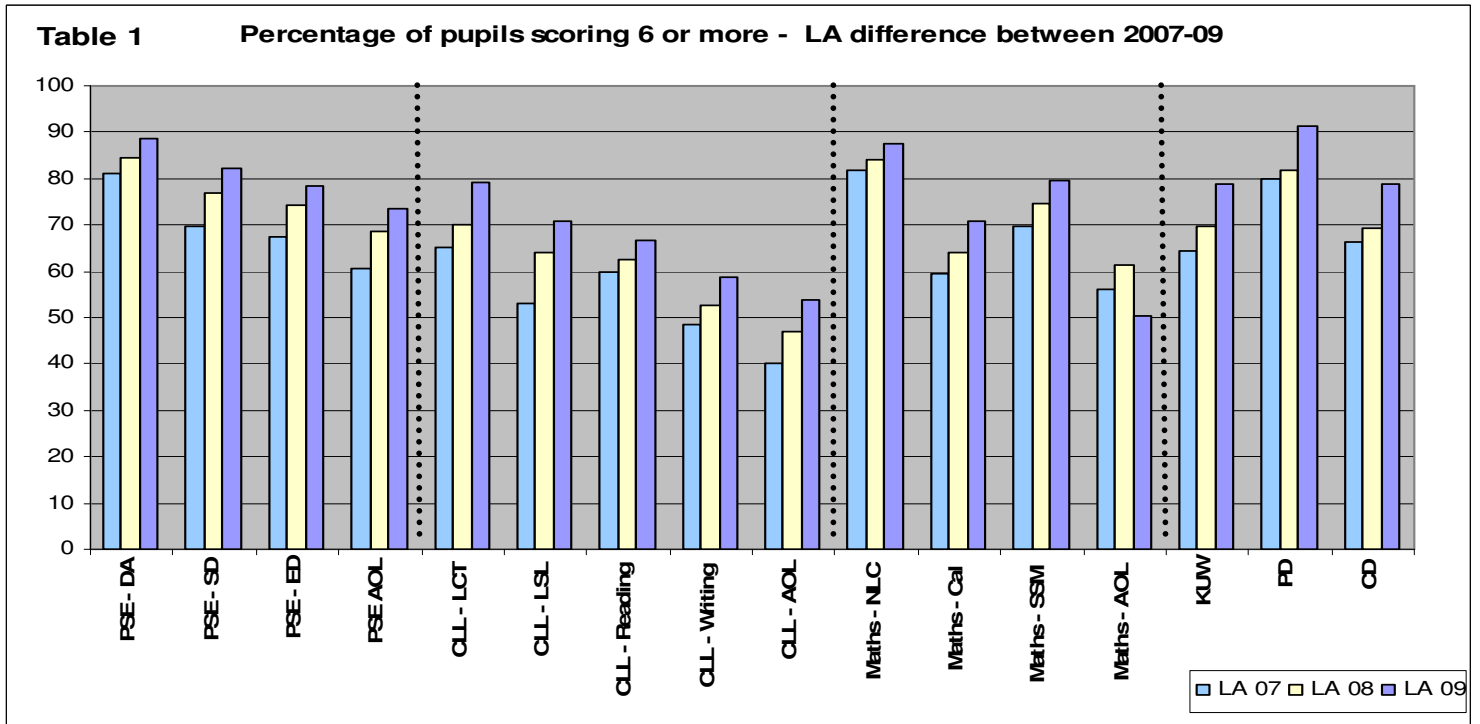


Table 2 and Table 3 show the gap between the LA and national for the average scores in each of the assessment scales across all the strands of the Areas of Learning in 2008 and 2009. The gap between Rotherham’s outcomes and those nationally has been narrowed in all aspects.

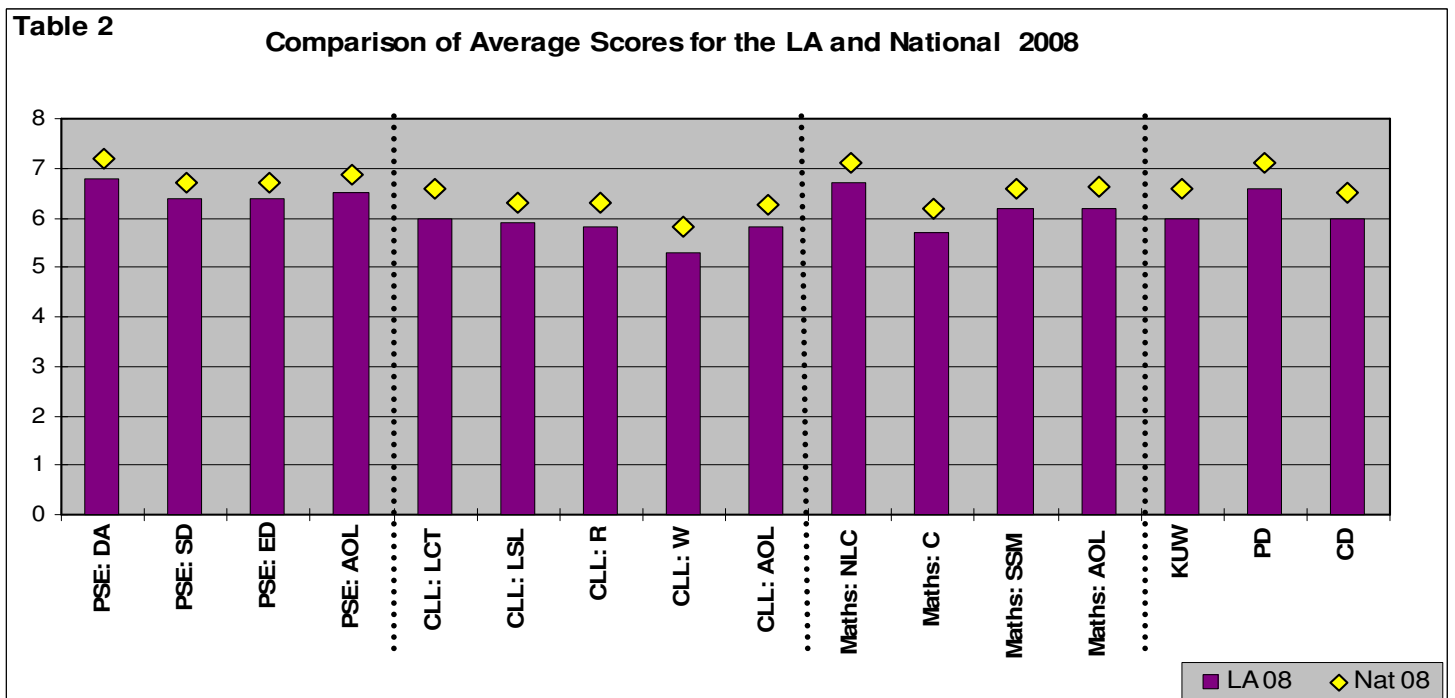
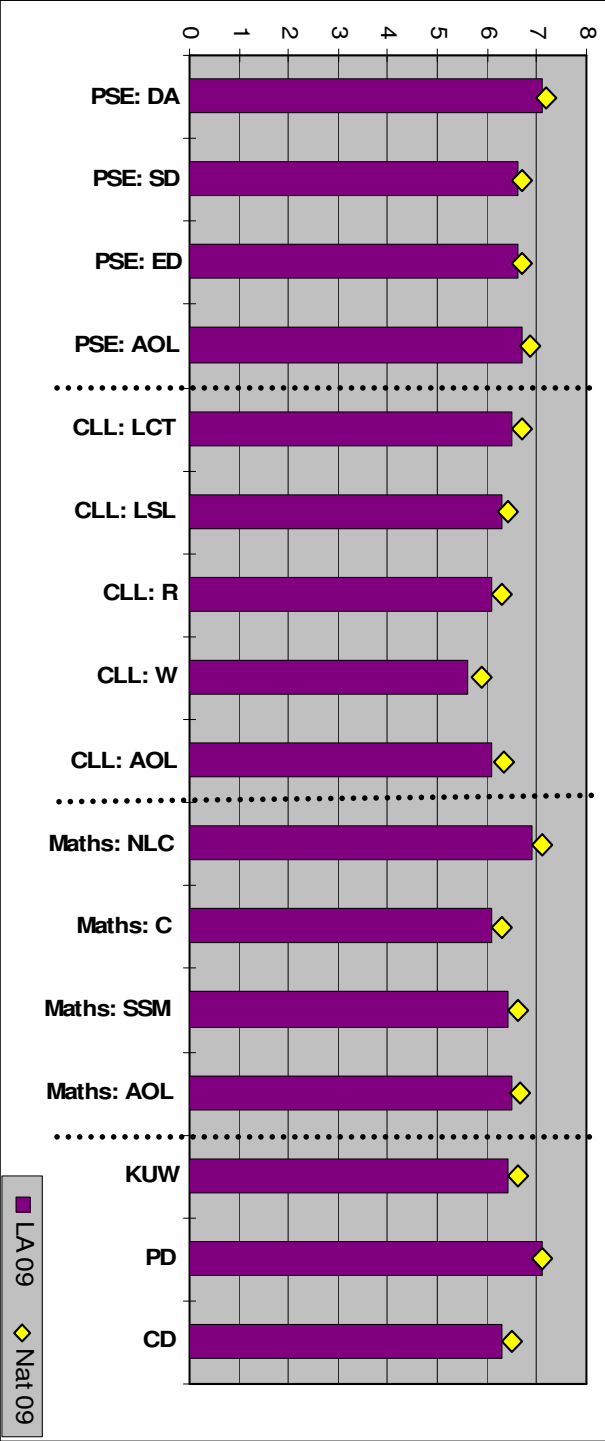


Table 3 Comparison of Average Scores for the LA and National 2009



ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
2.	Date:	Wednesday 7th April, 2010
3.	Title:	Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Update
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People’s Services

5. Summary:

The National Teenage Pregnancy Strategy (1999) established the requirement on Local Authorities to reduce the under-18 conception rate by 50% by 2010, from the 1998 baseline of 56.4 (under 18 conceptions per 1000 girls aged 15-17). Whilst the overall trajectory for Rotherham is downward, 2008 has seen a slight increase and progress against the target is unlikely to be sufficient to achieve the 2010 target. The under-18 conception rate target is a Local Area Agreement top 35 indicator and included within the Yorkshire and Humber Strategic Health Authority Vital Signs performance measures. These targets would require a 27% reduction for 2008/09 and 39% in 2009/10.

Rotherham is an area that is monitored by Ministers, who are pleased with our current progress in relation to the increased efforts towards reducing under-18 conceptions.

The current priorities of the strategy are:

- Targeted interventions with high risk young people
- Increasing the role of parents in improving outcomes for young people particularly around talking to them about sex and relationships.
- A more systematic approach to comprehensive contraceptive provision

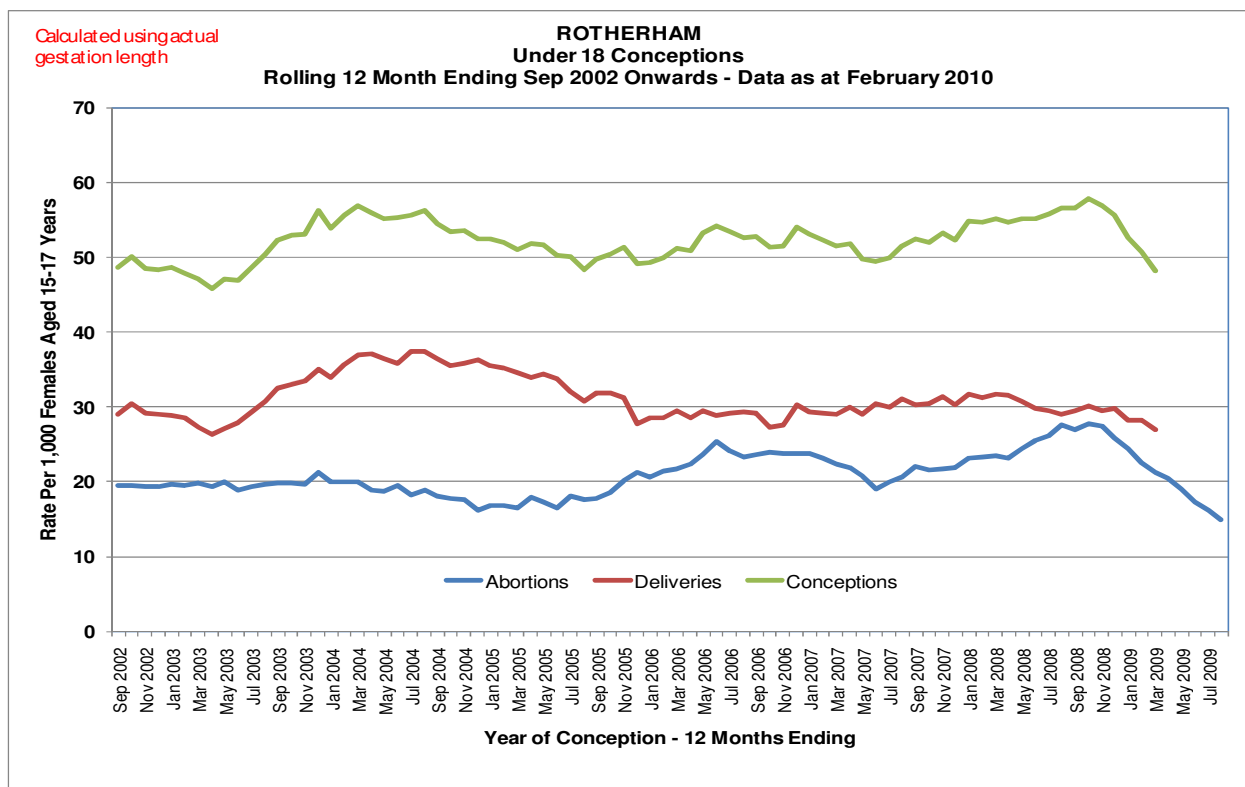
6. Recommendations:

To note the current position of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, and endorse the actions identified.

7. Proposals and Details:

The table below, details the Rotherham teenage pregnancy rates from March 2002 to December 2008, which have been compiled by the Office for National Statistics. The 2008 data is provisional at present and a final figure will be released later in the year. The 2008 data shows an increase in the rate of teenage pregnancies during that year, resulting in an overall percentage reduction of only 1.4% from the baseline in 1998.

Work during 2009/10 has seen increased efforts within priority areas, which is starting to be reflected in the local estimated statistics. Using local hospital episode data for births and terminations, it is now possible to more accurately estimate progress. Recent analysis has given us an indication that the final year figure for 2009 is likely to see a steep decline.



National data also identifies that Rotherham’s performance at 2008 is considerably below that of statistical neighbours. It is not yet known whether the anticipated improvement for 2009 will also be replicated in other areas.

Comparable ONS data for statistical neighbours						
Area	2007			2008		
	Rate	Number	Percentage	Rate	Number	Percentage
England	41.7	40,366	-10.7%	40.4	38,750	-13.3%
Yorkshire and Humber	47.6	4,798		47.3	4,697	-10.9%
Rotherham	50.7	261	-10.5%	55.8	285	-1.4%
Barnsley	50.4	226	-16.3%	52.0	231	-13.7%
Doncaster	60.2	345	-18.3%	68.6	386	-6.9%
Wigan	54.1	324	+0.9%	49.9	303	-6.9%

Local data is used to identify trends and hotspots, which will inform future planning, delivery and targeting of services. For example it is now possible to identify:

- conception rates by secondary school,
- correlation between conception and achievement,
- correlation between conceptions and school exclusions,
- correlation between conceptions and pupils living in areas of high deprivation.

Although this analysis has been conducted using 2007 data it has provided the opportunity to identify that interventions have since been implemented in or around the schools that had higher numbers of conceptions in 2007. However this comes with a health warning as there are some inaccuracies due to the 'data matching' process used. Therefore, this information will only be used by the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy team to ensure that interventions are targeted effectively at the most high risk groups, in the most high risk areas.

The priority areas and work undertaken during 2009/10 are as follows:

- **Targeted Preventative Interventions**

Targeted teenage pregnancy work has been greatly supported by the creation of the Early Intervention Teams (EIT). The teams have provided an essential mechanism for assessing the needs of young people prior to their issues escalating and ensuring that they receive support from the most appropriate service. Referrals to the targeted projects as well as other services via the EIT's contribute to the teenage pregnancy strategy due to the complex nature of teenage pregnancy and the multiple social determinants that the EIT aim to address.

- The Maltby Linx Young Women's Project, working with girls at high risk of teenage pregnancy to raise aspirations/self esteem and address sexual health needs, has been rolled out in Rotherham North and Wentworth South. In 2009 the Maltby Linx Young Womens Project was awarded the Regional Health and Social Care Award for Success in Partnership working and was one of three national finalists.
- The development of a Care Pathway for teen parents is currently underway to address repeat conceptions, help young parents to gain the skills they need to

be successful parents and move into education, employment or training¹. The care pathway is due to be implemented April 2010 copy attached, Appendix 2].

- The development of a Post Termination Care Pathway to address contraceptive issues and provide appropriate emotional support including referral mechanism to services such as the Targeted Young Women's Projects, Youthstart and Risky Business.

• **Increasing Access to Contraception**

The Department of Health created guidance indicated that Long Acting Reversible Contraceptives are most effective for young people due to non-reliance on self-administration.

- A clinical post dedicated to improving the uptake of Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) is in place which targets vulnerable groups, works with the Youth Offending Service, Children's Homes and aims to increase the knowledge and awareness of LARC amongst young people and professionals.
- An increase in hours offered by the Contraceptive nurse within Rotherham Foundation Trust Maternity and Termination Services to offer LARC resulting in 95% of women leaving the termination service with contraception.
- Additional Contraception and Sexual Health Youth Clinics have been opened in line with identified gaps. There are now twelve youth clinics. Ten out of the twelve clinics are based on or near secondary schools or colleges and have been developed to ensure that they are able to offer LARC.
- Implementation of school nurse 'drop-in's' in or near all secondary schools, offering condoms, Emergency Hormonal Contraception and Chlamydia screening has been delayed. An action plan has been developed with School Nursing to address this and it is anticipated that it will be resolved from September 2010. This service provides an additional opportunity to reduce teenage pregnancy rates further and additional efforts are needed in this area within 2010.
- Developments of the contraception outreach services are due to be made via the CASH service. Currently, outreach services are provided to Fleming Gardens, The Rowan Centre, Youth Offending Services and Children's Homes. This will be developed further in 2010 to include other support services and offer an 'on call' system for professionals working with vulnerable groups.
- There have been increases in the number of professionals and distribution points operating the Hardwear Condom Distribution Scheme.
- The help72 Free Emergency Hormonal Contraception (EHC) Scheme has provided EHC to 201 under 18's since December 2008. There are currently 23 pharmacies operating the scheme.

¹DCSF, 2009 Investing in Potential: Our Strategy to increase the proportion of 16-24 year olds in education, employment or training'

- A Locally Enhanced Service has been implemented to incentivise GP's to promote Long Acting Reversible Contraception amongst their under 18 patient groups. At present 18 practices out of a Borough total of 42 have taken this up.
- There has been an increase in sexual health related services within college settings. There are dedicated support roles, which provide advice, support and education on contraception and sexual health, increase the number of staff operating the Hardwear Condom Distribution Scheme and offering Chlamydia screening.

Thomas Rotherham College now has a weekly joint Genito Urinary Medicine and Contraception and Sexual Health clinic, which is proving very successful.

Dearne Valley College now has an additional Contraception and Sexual Health Youth Clinic session due to high demand which is already over subscribed since its opening in December 2009.

- **Working with Parents to support their children around relationships and sexual health issues.**
 - Resources on how to talk to your children about relationships and sex are available in a number of venues across Rotherham. The Family Planning Association 'Speakeasy' programme have allocated ten free training places for Rotherham professionals, which will give professionals who work with parents, skills to run workshops around talking and supporting their children with sex and relationship issues. This knowledge will then be passed onto other professionals in relevant fields and potentially parent volunteers.
- **Communications Strategy**
 - The 'S-Word, we need to talk about sex' website and campaign was launched in August 2009 to promote sexual health services and provide safe sex messages that relate and engage young people.

8. Finance:

RMBC	£187,000 (not ringfenced nor guaranteed after 2010/11)	Teenage Pregnancy element of area base grant
2010/11 Strategic Health Authority Funding		
SHA	£87,000 (to be confirmed)	Increasing access to contraception
SHA	£22,500 (to be confirmed)	1 WTE Sexual Health Enrichment Officer
2010/11 Operational Plan Funding Allocations		
NHSR	£180,000	Targeted Projects
NHSR	£70,000	LARC Nurse

NHSR	£13,000	Condom Distribution Scheme
NHSR	£30,000	Youth Clinic Developments
NHSR	£10,000	Sexual Health Needs Assessment
NHSR	£80,000	Help 72 free EHC in Pharmacies Scheme
NHSR	£35,000	Implanon LES for Under 19's

9. Risks and Uncertainties:

The teenage pregnancy rate for 2008 has increased and the Local Area Agreement target for 2008/09 has not been achieved. Although 2009 data looks very promising, it is apparent that there is a great risk of not achieving the final year target of 50%. Therefore it is essential that a systematic approach is taken to reduce this risk.

10. Policy and Performance Implications

The national teenage pregnancy strategy was due to come to an end after 2010/11, however there have been indications from the regional Government Office and Department of Health, that this will not be the case.

Key interdependencies between the teenage pregnancy strategy and local government national indicators are attached at appendix 1. These highlight how the local teenage pregnancy strategy contributes and adds value to many other Local Area Agreement targets.

11. Background Papers and Consultation:

Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps
 Teenage Pregnancy: Accelerating the Strategy to 2010
 Social Exclusion Unit Teenage Pregnancy Report
 Rotherham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and action plan

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Appendix 1: KEY INTERDEPENDENCIES BETWEEN THE TEENAGE PREGNANCY STRATEGY AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL INDICATOR SET

The table below sets out the relevant national indicators and the links to the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy.

Indicator	Link to Teenage Pregnancy Strategy
NI 50: Emotional health of Children	<p>Poor emotional health/low self esteem is an underlying risk factor for teenage pregnancy. Local efforts to build vulnerable young people's aspirations and self-esteem should therefore mitigate that risk. Young people at high risk of early parenthood should therefore be a target group for these sorts of interventions. Teenage mothers should also be a target group because of their high risk of poor emotional health – with social isolation and relationship breakdown as significant contributors.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.5</i> <i>Teenage Pregnancy Accelerating the Strategy to 2010: 5.22-5.24</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.58</i></p>
NI 51: Effectiveness of CAMH Services	<p>Young mothers are 3 times more likely to suffer from post-natal depression and poor mental health for up to 3 years after the birth. The local area should establish clear referral arrangements to CAMHS from midwives, health visitors and youth workers who identify young mothers with poor mental health.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: relevant actions 6.58</i></p>
NI 53: Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	<p>Areas choosing this as a priority will want to target young mothers - who have much lower breastfeeding rates than older mothers - including through offering tailored ante-natal care/classes for teenage mothers (who access ante-natal care late and often drop out of 'all-age' antenatal classes)</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.51</i></p>
NI 58: Emotional and behavioural health of children in care	<p>Given the significantly higher incidence of pregnancy among young women in care/care leavers, additional support on sex and relationships should be provided – both in terms of ensuring they know where to access local services and giving them the skills to manage positive relationships</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.19</i> <i>Teenage Pregnancy Accelerating the Strategy to 2010: 5.47</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.16</i></p>
NI 70: Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people	<p>Children born to teenage mothers are more likely to be admitted to A&E for, for example, falls and swallowing dangerous substances. Areas looking to reduce admissions should ensure that teenage mothers are receiving the emotional support they need – the higher rate of admissions to A&E is linked to the mothers' poor emotional health and well-being</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.58</i></p>
NI 75: Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent	<p>Professionals working on strategies to increase the number of students achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs should be aware of the strong association (even after other factors are taken into account) between poor educational attainment among young women and high rates of teenage pregnancy. Almost 40% of teenage mothers</p>

	<p>have no educational qualifications. Most school age mothers have their babies in Year 11. Support to complete their compulsory education is critical.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.19</i> <i>Teenage Pregnancy Accelerating the Strategy to 2010: 5.34, 5.35</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.70</i></p>
NI 81: Inequality Gap in the achievement of a level 3 qualification by age 19	<p>There will almost certainly be a disproportionate number of young mothers among the group who do not achieve a level 3 qualification by age 19. Reducing the gap will, therefore, require action to support more young mothers to return to EET</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.66, 6.73</i></p>
NI 82: Inequality Gap in the achievement of a level 2 qualification by age 19	See above
NI 87: Secondary School persistent absence rate	<p>Local areas with higher than average rates of unauthorised absence have – after taking account of other factors – higher rates of teenage pregnancy. School Improvement Partnerships should focus on preventing girls dropping out of school in years 8 or 9 who are at high risk of pregnancy in giving them targeted support to return and stay in education and offer curriculum choices encouraging them to do this.</p> <p>Relevant professionals should be aware of the increased risk of early pregnancy and be confident to support young people to access specialist services - this should include Parent Support Advisers and links to the local parenting strategy. School age mothers are at disproportionate risk of absenteeism and require specific support.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.19</i> <i>Teenage Pregnancy Accelerating the Strategy to 2010: 5.33, 5.34, 5.55.</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.70</i></p>
NI 109: Number of Sure Start Children's Centres	<p>Children's Centres have a target to extend the 'reach' of their services to teenage parents. Accelerated roll-out of Children's Centres will benefit teenage mothers who are a priority group for co-ordinated support through the Children's Centre. The local co-ordinator may well be able to help with information sharing between midwives and health visitors, and Children's Centres and Connexions/Integrated Youth Support Services.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.11,6.12,6.37</i></p>
NI 110: Young people's participation in positive activities	<p>Engagement in positive activities builds resilience and protects against early pregnancy and other poor outcomes. The content of the positive activities available should include support to raise aspirations and to give young people the knowledge and skills they need to experience good sexual health, with the workforce confident about supporting young people to access specialist services when necessary. Local areas should ensure that: positive activities engage the most vulnerable young people, including teenage parents. Local areas are required to identify and overcome barriers to participation. For teenage parents, these will include the timing of positive activities, their location, transport to them and the cost and location of childcare when they take place.</p>

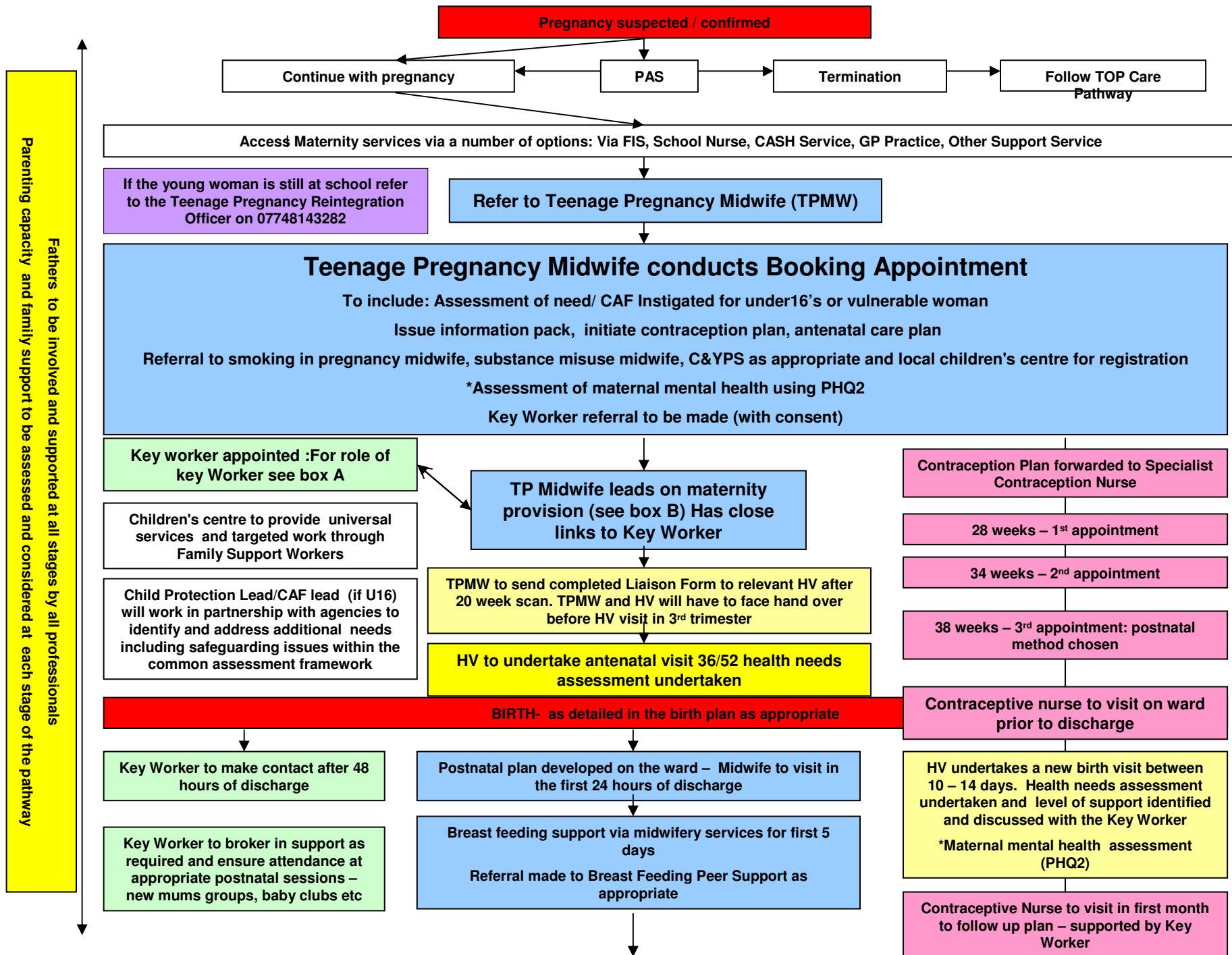
	<p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.19</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.58</i></p>
NI 112: Under-18 conception rate	Self-evident
NI 113: Prevalence of Chlamydia in under-20s	<p>Improvements in SRE and easy access to young people friendly services will support prevention of <u>STIs as well as unplanned pregnancy</u>. A target to reduce chlamydia prevalence is an opportunity to co-locate screening programmes with contraceptive services and condom distribution schemes in schools, FE and other youth settings. Care should be taken to ensure that the roll-out of the Chlamydia screening programme and 48-hour GUM access targets do not shift the focus away from prevention, towards reactive services and reducing waiting times.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.14</i></p>
NI 114: Rate of permanent exclusions from school	<p>Disengagement from school is often a precursor to early pregnancy. Dislike of school also has a strong independent effect on the risk of pregnancy. Programmes focused on reducing exclusions should consider the provision of intensive SRE as part of personal development programmes, to reduce the risk of early sex and pregnancy. Local areas should ensure that school age mothers do not face permanent (or temporary) exclusions on grounds of pregnancy or health and safety issues connected to pregnancy - and are allowed to return to school once they have had their baby.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Accelerating the Strategy to 2010: 5.33, 5.34, 5.35</i> <i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.70</i></p>
NI 115: Substance misuse by young people	<p>Drugs and alcohol contribute to young people's risky sexual behaviour. Local strategies to address alcohol and substance misuse should highlight the risk of unprotected sex particularly after excessive alcohol consumption, leading to STIs/unplanned pregnancies. Improvements in PSHE and easy access to young people friendly co-located advice services will help reduce harm from substance misuse as well as teenage pregnancy.</p> <p><i>Teenage Pregnancy Next Steps: 6.5</i></p>
NI 116: Proportion of children living in poverty	<p>Children born to teenage mothers have a 63% higher risk of living in poverty than children born to older mothers. Support to help teenage parents back into EET to improve later employment levels, will reduce this risk.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.73, 7.9</i></p>
NI 117: 16-18 year olds who are NEET	<p>Teenage mothers are likely to be over-represented in an areas' female NEET cohort. Improvements in their EET levels will contribute to this target and make a significant impact on the 16-18s at greatest risk of long term NEET and poor levels of later employment. Teenage mothers will need a co-ordinated package of support – brokered through a lead professional – in order to return to EET. Although there is no similar data on young fathers, the risk factors for becoming a young father make it likely that they will be at disproportionate risk of being NEET</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.73, 7.9.</i></p>

NI 118: Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families	<p>Care to Learn provides financial support to cover the costs of Ofsted registered (i.e. formal) childcare for young parents starting a course of learning under 20. But for young mothers in employment, childcare support will come through working tax credits. The availability of child and working tax credits should be actively promoted to young mothers. Marketing of tax credits should overcome the reluctance of many young mothers to use formal childcare – reassuring them about issues such as safety, quality and promoting the social and educational benefits to the child</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.66</i></p>
NI 123: 16+ current smoking rate prevalence	<p>Although the number of teenage mothers who smoke during pregnancy is likely to be only a small part of the overall cohort of 16+ smokers, the impact of their smoking on their child's health outcomes is significant. Local areas are expected to focus on reducing the numbers of teenage mothers who smoke through training of maternity staff and referrals to local smoking cessation programmes.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.42</i></p>
NI 126: Early access for women to maternity services	<p>Teenage mothers are much more likely to present late for ante-natal care, with the average booking made at 16 weeks and are less likely to engage in ante-natal classes. Where selected as a priority, improving early access to maternity services by teenage mothers will make a significant contribution to the target</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.34</i></p>
NI 141: Number of vulnerable people achieving independent living	<p>This NI is concerned with ensuring that client groups of 'Supporting People' (providing housing support services) achieve a successful transition to independent living and can sustain their tenancies when they move on from supported housing. About 3500 teenage parents (almost all mothers) under 18 receive such services in supervised units or in their own accommodation (floating support). Teenage mothers are prone to isolation when they are move into independent housing and Supporting People linked with other services helps to ensure that they are able to manage their tenancies, budget their incomes and avoid debt. It means they are better equipped to engage with learning and avoid further unwanted pregnancies.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 8.1</i></p>
NI 153: Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	<p>Compared to mothers aged 24 or over, teenage mothers are much less likely to be employed and 22% more likely to be living in poverty by the age of 30. As a consequence, their children are at higher risk of being without work in later life. Compared with men who become fathers at 23 or over, younger fathers are twice as likely to be unemployed at age 30. Improving support for teenage mothers and young fathers and removing the barriers to EET will make both a short and longer term contribution to the target.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.73, 7.9</i></p>
NI 163: Working age population qualified to at least level 2 or higher	<p>Work in this area could support efforts to increase the proportion of young parents aged over 16 in EET. Almost 40% of teenage mothers have no qualifications. Although there is no similar data on young fathers, it is likely they</p>

	<p>are also at disproportionate risk of having no qualifications. A focus on increasing EET of teenage parents will contribute to the target.</p> <p><i>Teenage Parents Next Steps: 6.73, 7.9</i></p>
<p>NI 164: Working age population qualified to at least level 3 or higher</p>	<p>See above</p>

Rotherham Teenage Pregnancy Strategy – Under 19s Teenage Pregnancy Pathway

- The Under 19s Teenage Pregnancy Pathway has been compiled to assist professionals and young women (under 19 years of age) understand the pregnancy process once a pregnancy has been confirmed.
- The Pathway outlines the roles and responsibilities that specific professionals are expected to deliver in the care of a pregnant young woman.
- The Pathway has the following aims:
 - ✓ Provide high impact, individualised antenatal care
 - ✓ Support young parents to move into Education, Employment or Training
 - ✓ Achieve the healthiest possible outcome for baby and family
 - ✓ Involve young fathers
 - ✓ Promote social inclusion
 - ✓ Reduce subsequent pregnancies
- This Pathway has been developed as a 'gold standard' of care and all efforts should be made to follow the Pathway as closely as possible. However, it is appreciated that in certain circumstances deviations in care may occur for a variety of reasons such as staff shortages, non-engagement by the young woman or departmentally led changes in procedures.
- The Under 19s Teenage Pregnancy Pathway works in conjunction with the Post Termination Care and Contraception Pathways as delivered through the Pregnancy Advisory Service (PAS) and Contraception & Sexual Health Service(CASH). These pathways can be referred to if a termination of pregnancy is the chosen outcome for the young woman and are available to view at.....



Parenting capacity and family support to be assessed and considered at each stage of the pathway
 Fathers to be involved and supported at all stages by all professionals



Key Worker to visit once a week within the first month of delivery and then as the individual case dictates thereafter

Children's Centre to continue to provide universal services and targeted Support through the key worker- links to Key Worker

Breast Feeding Peer Support provided as appropriate

If breast feeding ceases Midwife or Health Visitor to contact the Contraception Nurse to ensure appropriate method of contraception is chosen and prescribed

HV team provides ongoing assessments and care to the child and family in line with the Child Health Promotion Programme

HV links with children's centre and signposts and refers to services as appropriate

Box A: Areas to be covered by Key Worker

- Engagement Period: Pre and Post natally
- The young woman will decide who her preferred Key Worker would be – e.g. Connexions PA or other appropriate professional.
- Key Worker involvement needs to occur as soon as possible after the referral is received. Termination of involvement is dependant on the level of support required after the birth, but for no less than one month post natally.

Main Roles and Responsibilities

- To ensure continuity of care
- To broker further support as required
- To ensure attendance at antenatal provision
- To support the young person to identify their needs and how they can be met
- To ensure that partners are included in the pathway
- To support healthy outcomes during pregnancy
- To provide ongoing support post natally including signposting to universal services
- Encourage access to contraception as per the contraception plan
- Support with Educational needs
- Housing and benefits support
- Maintain communication with the Midwife and / or Health Visitor

Box B : Areas to be covered in Maternity Provision

- Engagement Period: Ante natally
- Where possible, the TP Midwife will conduct the appointments, however, it is recognised that this may not always be feasible or appropriate for each young woman.
- Midwife will advise appointment intervals. Continuous assessment to monitor progress or pregnancy. Referral for medical consultation when necessary.

Main Roles and Responsibilities

- Health and social needs assessment to be undertaken and referral to services as appropriate
- Refer to Key Worker (this may be a Midwife if appropriate)
- For mums living in designated areas, referral to the relevant Ante Natal/Post Natal Support Worker via the Health Visitor at 16 weeks gestation, plus referral to the Children Centre
- Development of ante natal care plan
- Ensure parent craft is undertaken
- Discussion on breastfeeding benefits to baby and mother
- Discussion of healthy lifestyles
- Discussion of choice of birth and options or pain relief
- Referral to Appropriate maternity care - (team around the mother)

Box C: Areas to be covered by Health Visiting Provision

- Engagement Period: ante natally & post natally

Main Roles and Responsibilities

- Act as an advocate for the young mother and promote access to supportive services
- Promote and support the continuation of breast feeding
- Promote the uptake of childhood immunisations and vaccinations
- Support the capacity for better parenting i.e. parenting skills, child health development, attachment, safeguarding, accident prevention
- Tackle key public health priorities identified within the family i.e. obesity, smoking, alcohol, drug misuse, domestic violence
- Deliver the Child Health Promotion Programme and promote optimum physical, emotional and social development within the family environment
- Identify deviations from expected milestones and ensure appropriate intervention or referral as appropriate
- Identify risk factors that indicate vulnerable children and families in need and involve partners in early intervention and prevention strategies
- Maintain communication with the Key Worker

Abbreviations & Glossary of Terms

- TPMW – Teenage Pregnancy Midwife
 - HV - Health Visitor
 - PA – Personal Advisor
 - CAF – Common Assessment Framework
 - PAS – Pregnancy Advisory Service
 - FIS – Family Information Service
 - CASH – Contraception & Sexual Health Service
 - CYPD-Children and Young Peoples Department
 - *PHQ2- Patient Health Questionnaire (Currently under consideration as part of the Maternal Mental Health Care Pathway)
 - C&YPS- Children and Young Peoples Services
-
- Coloured key code needed.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s Services and Advisers
2.	Date:	7th April 2010
3.	Title:	Extension to Coleridge Children’s Centre to provide additional space to deliver services
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young People’s Services

5. Summary:

Coleridge Children’s Centre has been very successful at engaging vulnerable children and families in services. However, delivery and increased engagement is being limited by the size of the existing accommodation. In comparison to other Centres the space available for Children Centre services is small when compared to the level of deprivation and need within the Children’s Centre reach area.

To improve the capacity of the Coleridge Children’s Centre, in meeting the needs of the children and families within its reach area, it is proposed to build an extension to the existing Centre. The proposal is to extend the foundation unit within the school to increase the space available to the Children’s Centre. The resultant increase in space will allow the room accommodating the two year olds to increase its capacity from 8 children to 23 children. The size of the family room will also be increased to accommodate more space for service delivery.

6. Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- **the Report be received**
- **the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s Services gives approval for the plans and expenditure for the extension of Coleridge Children’s Centre to increase accommodation to deliver Children Centre services.**

7. Proposals and Details:

The aim of Sure Start Children's Centres is to improve outcomes for all children, but with a particular focus on reducing the inequalities between the most disadvantaged children and the rest. In order to fulfil that objective, Centres need to be accessible to all, and in particular those who are most at risk of being excluded.

Coleridge Children's Centre is situated in an area of high deprivation and serves a very diverse population. In the past 2 to 3 years the demographics of the area have changed significantly showing a decrease in the number of Asian Pakistani families and a marked increase of Slovakian/Roma families who speak little or no English. Many children begin school at 3 years of age with very poor communication and language skills and little or no pre-school experience. Parents from the community are often unemployed with a high proportion of single parent families many of whom have poor basic literacy/numeracy skills.

Coleridge Children's Centre was established as a Phase 1 Children's Centre during 2004 – 2006. It is an integral part of the existing PFI school building although it was funded through the General Sure Start Capital funding. The Children's Centre accommodation consists of daycare provision for 6 under two year olds, 8 two year olds and 16 three and four year olds. The family room is very small as it was originally envisaged that families would mainly access support services at The Place, which is adjacent to the Children's Centre.

The Centre has been very successful at engaging vulnerable families in services. Between September and December 2009, nine vulnerable children accessed 64 sessions of child care while their families accessed other services. This compares favourably to the average across the borough which is three vulnerable children accessing 21 sessions. The Centre has delivered 4,509 hours of early education for vulnerable 2 year old children in addition to personalised family support services. Data shows that over 95% of children at the Centre accessing their entitlement to 'free early education for 3 and 4 year olds' are from low income families.

Parents have commented very positively on the difference accessing Centre services has made to their lives. For example:

- "Parents really appreciate the many activities that the Centre has provided them, which they now do at home with their children, e.g. singing, talking to their child, developing English, reading and developing a love of stories and books."
- "One parent said she had been supported to have the stop-smoking package, another had received information on accessing different courses and others had received 'fire safety at home' support."
- "Parents commented that they had joined the 'Imagination Library' and were informing other parents about the book scheme."
- "Parents know and use 'Family Information Services' and encourage other parents to access this support."
- "Parents particularly enjoy the rhymes, story bags and recipes that the Centre staff share with them and use these at home with their children."
- "Parents acknowledge that all staff view their child's development as important. They also recognised that all staff place a high importance on developing all children and parents' confidence."

The majority of services are provided at the Coleridge Children's Centre school site and through home visiting. It has often been difficult to deliver services at The Place due to high demand and usage by the locality teams. This has limited the capacity of the Children's Centre to engage with the number of families who would benefit from accessing services at the Centre.

To improve the capacity of the Coleridge Children's Centre in meeting the needs of the children and families within its reach area it is proposed to build an extension to the existing Centre. The proposal is to extend the foundation unit within the school to increase the space available to the Children's Centre. The resultant increase in space will allow the room accommodating the two year olds to increase its capacity from 8 children to 23 children. The size of the family room will also be increased to accommodate more space for service delivery. The extension will improved the layout of the Children's Centre accommodation as well as enhance accommodation within the school.

The increased capacity for the two year olds will enable the Centre to further reach the most disadvantaged families as part of the 2 year old early education offer leading to improved outcomes for the children and their families. Families will also be able to access a wider variety of services due to the increased capacity of the family room.

8. Finance:

The construction costs for the extension are estimated at £229k providing a 2.5m increase in width across the foundation unit and current multipurpose room (75m total increase in useable space). Full costs including design, planning, and building control is estimated at £282k. The project will be funded through Sure Start Early Years and Childcare Grant payment

9. Risks and Uncertainties:

The Centre is open 48 weeks a year as a minimum with the integral school open during term time (39 weeks). To minimise disruption to the school and the Centre a temporary partition will be erected between the foundation unit and the Children's Centre to enable the main construction work to take place during the summer holiday period 2010. The completion date will be by the end of October half term 2010.

The funding is only available until 31st March 2011 any costs incurred after that date would have to be picked up by the Local Authority. A project team that includes all the major stakeholders including Transform Schools, The Head of Centre, the appointed contractor, the Project Manager and Early Years and Childcare service representative will meet regularly to ensure the smooth delivery of the extension. A project timeline has been established to ensure completion and handover before the end of March 2011.

If the proposal is not approved this could limit the capacity within the Centre to deliver centre based services for vulnerable groups within their reach area.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications:

The strategy has a significant role to play in supporting the delivery of the Corporate Plan priorities:

- Rotherham Learning: integrated services and family support will lead to higher standards of achievement in areas of high social and economic deprivation. Increasing capacity to deliver provision for 2 year olds should lead to improved outcomes as well as narrowing the gap between the lowest 20% achievers and the rest.
- Rotherham Achieving: Centre programmes focus on building the capacity of families to support themselves and to re enter the employment market.
- Rotherham Safe: a crucial priority for the integrated services will be the safety of vulnerable children and early identification stopping vulnerability.
- Rotherham Alive: partnerships with the Primary Care Trust (PCT) promote healthy lifestyles through early intervention. Increasing the capacity of the Centre will improve the delivery of midwifery and health services.
- Rotherham Proud: the development of the Children's Centres has enhanced provision in communities. This is already showing an impact on self esteem, raising the personal aspirations of families. Parents' comments demonstrate how much they value the Centre.
- Fairness: the services are within accessible buildings providing equality of opportunity to the communities.
- Sustainable development: Partnership working and the reshaping of present services will enable sustainable development.

11. Background Papers and Consultation:

Sure Start Children's Centres Practice Guidance (2006)
Sure Start Children's Centres – Phase 3 Planning and Delivery (2007)
Sure Start Children's Centres Planning and Performance Management Guidance (2006)

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EDUCATION CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE
Thursday, 4th March, 2010

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

In attendance:- Amanda Bartholomew (NAHT), Sue Brook (NASUWT), John Dalton (NUT), Paul Fitzpatrick, Catharine Kinsella, Peter Hawkridge (NUT) and Viv St John (NAHT)

Apologies for absence:- Apologies were received from Councillors Currie, Havenhand, Tweed and G A Russell; Steve Radford, Graham Sinclair and Julie Westwood.

9. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH OCTOBER, 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

10. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Meeting with Joyce Thacker

John Dalton reported that the meeting with Joyce Thacker had taken place since the last meeting and had been very productive. He commented that the Unions were now looking forward to meeting Catharine Kinsella's replacement when she arrived. Catharine confirmed that her replacement, Dorothy Smith, would be starting on 12th April so would look to arranging a meeting early in May.

11. MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES UNION/OFFICER FORUM HELD ON 5TH OCTOBER 2009

The minutes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's Services Union/Officer Forum held on 5th October 2009 were noted and received.

12. SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF NEGOTIATING BODY

Paul Fitzpatrick, Human Resource Business Partner presented the submitted report in respect of the School Support Staff Negotiating Body (SSSNB).

The new Schools Support Staff Negotiating Body has been established as a Statutory Body by legislation. It would agree a pay and conditions framework for Support Staff in the maintained School sector and subject to ratification by the Secretary of State, agreements would apply to all maintained schools in England.

The SSSNB was required to negotiate and seek to reach agreement on

matters referred to it by the Secretary of State though the Employers' and Trade Union Sides were also free to bring other matters to the negotiating table. The Secretary of State's first referral letter was issued on 29th July and focussed initially on:-

- The production of a core contract of employment to cover remuneration, duties and working time
- The design of national job role profiles to cover core school support staff roles
- The development and production of a method for converting those role profiles into a salary structure
- A strategy that would effectively implement the national pay and conditions framework in all schools maintained by local authorities in England including a methodology to manage both transition and steady state.

The Secretary of State asked the SSSNB to submit to him any agreements on these matters that it had reached by 28th May 2010. There would then be a period when the Secretary of State would consider the agreements before deciding whether to endorse them or refer them back to the SSSNB for reconsideration. In any event the earliest that any agreement could realistically be required to be implemented at local level would be 1st September 2010, and this was ambitious.

Both the SSSNB and the Employers' Side would give local authorities adequate notice of the likely implementation timetable but at this stage, apart from keeping governing bodies, head teachers and support staff aware of developments, there was no specific action required locally in preparation for implementation.

In light of the Secretary of State's referral letter the following two SSSNB Working Groups had been established and were meeting frequently:

- Core Contract and Working Year Working Group
- Role Profiles and Job Measurement Working Group

The joint circular issued in April included advice to the effect that local authorities should continue to include school support staff in local pay and grading reviews until advised otherwise.

Consultation with Support Staff Trade Unions in Rotherham had been ongoing in relation to these issues and detailed briefing paper was being prepared to send out to all Schools. The Human Resources Schools Advice and Guidance Team would be advising and assisting Schools on issues of implementation as they arise.

Staff from Council DSO/DLO operations, specifically the Cleaning and Catering functions would also be within the remit of this new body and the Human Resources Business Partners from different Directorates would liaise to ensure a consistent approach was taken with regard to

consultation and implementation of outcomes.

Agreed:- (1) That the changes which will arise from the remit of the new School Support Staff Negotiating Body be noted

(2) That consultation with Schools and Directorates containing affected staff groups continue on an ongoing basis with regards to the implementation of the new Body.

13. FACILITIES TIME

Paul Fitzpatrick reported that the Schools Forum had agreed at its meeting in January to a revision of the current arrangements regarding Teacher Trade Unions Facilitation time.

The local agreement currently provided time off for officials from the NUT; ATL; ACSL and the NAHT to support their members. The vast majority of teaching staff were members of the NUT or NASUWT.

The current 3 day allocation for each of the Trade Unions was proving to be insufficient, both in terms of the Trade Unions being able to deal with the level of case work and for management who are often unable to engage with Trade Union officials.

A formal request had been made to the Strategic Director by both the NASUWT and NUT for time to be increased to 5 days per week with the funding for the additional days from 2010 being taken from savings made within the Dedicated Schools Grant.

The members of the Trades Unions thanked the Schools Forum for their agreement to this revision.

14. TRANSFORMING ROTHERHAM LEARNING - BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE - UPDATE

Paul Fitzpatrick gave an update on Building Schools for the Future. He confirmed that the Outline Business Case had been submitted in January and was still awaiting approval.

It was not anticipated that staff would be affected too much by this but discussions would take place with regard to who would stay and who would transfer nearer the time of completion.

The building programme was due to start at the end of 2011 with completion anticipated September 2013.

15. STAFF USE OF CARS

Sue Brook, NASUWT reported that it had come to her attention that staff travelling between schools in the course of their working day required

business use including on their car insurance. She expressed her concern at this and asked that this be brought to the attention of all staff.

It was confirmed that guidance was currently being worked on in respect of this which would be sent out to all staff shortly.

In addition she commented that some staff were not aware that they were entitled to claim travel expenses for these journeys and asked that this also be brought to their attention.

Agreed:- That information relating to car insurance and travel expenses as detailed above be produced and distributed to all staff.

16. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Catharine Kinsella reported on the Children and Young People's Services Improvement Plan.

She confirmed that recommendations had been made for improvement to be made in respect of World Class Primary Schools of which Rotherham had 13. It was anticipated that 5 of these schools would be removed from this category in the first year and the other 8 by the following year.

The governance of schools was being looked at with a view to considering the following different options. A paper was being presented to the Cabinet member for Children and Young People's Services at a future date.

17. VIOLENCE TO STAFF STATISTICS – SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2009

Consideration was given to statistics in relation to violence to staff for the period September to December 2009.

It was noted that not all schools completed the violence to staff forms and it was suggested and agreed that a letter be sent to those Head Teachers who had completed them to thank them.

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

(2) That a letter be sent to those Head Teachers who had completed the "violence to staff" form.

18. SICKNESS MONITORING POLICY

Sue Brook, NASUWT raised a concern about the written warnings which were being sent to staff who were off on genuine long term sickness. It was felt that the letters were harsh and were on some occasions being used as a discipline tool.

Paul Fitzpatrick sympathised with the situation but confirmed that it was a difficult issue and although some cases were genuine cases, everyone had to be treated the same.

It was noted that some schools were using in-house HR staff which appeared to be where the problems were arising and it was suggested that steps be taken to stop this in the future.

19. EUROPEAN UNION MIGRANT WORKER CHILDREN – ISSUES / CONSEQUENCES

Amanda Bartholomew raised the issue of European Union Migrant Worker Children and the impact they were having on town centre schools.

She was concerned that these schools were struggling due to their being full to capacity. A working party was looking at this and how support could be given.

She commented that although these children were not impacting on school results at present, it was coming to a point where they would, and that would be catastrophic for those schools already in the “World Class Primary School” category.

It was suggested and agreed that a report be presented to the Cabinet Member giving an update on this issue.

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

(2) That a report be presented to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People’s Services giving an update on this issue.

20. POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT OF CHILDREN - OVERARCHING PROCEDURAL GUIDANCE

Consideration was given to the Positive Behaviour Management of Children and Young People Overarching Procedural Guidance.

Concerns were raised by the Trades Unions about some of the content and wording in the document and asked to meet with officers prior to the next Union/Officer meeting on 7th June to discuss further and agree to some slight revisions.

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

(2) That Paul Fitzpatrick arrange a meeting between officers and trades unions prior to the next meeting of the CYPs Union/Officer Forum on 7th June 2010.

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Catharine Kinsella

Viv St John announced that this was the last meeting Catharine Kinsella would be attending as she was to retire in April. She, and the other members of the trades unions wished to thank her for her support over the years and wish her well in her retirement.

22. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING - THURSDAY, 17TH JUNE, 2010 AT 2.00 P.M.

Agreed:- That the next meeting be held on Thursday 17th June 2010 at 2.00 pm at Bailey House.