

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

**Venue: Bailey House**

**Date: Wednesday, 23 June 2010**

**Time: 8.00 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 meeting held on 9th June, 2010 (copy attached) (Pages 1 - 5)
5. Aiming High for Disabled Children - Short Breaks Service (report attached) (Pages 6 - 84)
6. Children and Young People's Services - Performance Indicators Outturn Report 2009/10 (report attached) (Pages 85 - 106)
7. Corporate Parenting Strategic Review (report attached) (Pages 107 - 115)
8. The Learning Revolution: Making it Happen – Lead Accountable Body Status (report attached) (Pages 116 - 119)

**Date of Next Meeting:-  
Wednesday, 7 July 2010**

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

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES**  
**9th June, 2010**

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair) and Councillor Currie.

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Havenhand.

**D7. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 2ND JUNE, 2010**

Resolved:- That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2010 and be approved as a correct record.

**D8. LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD - ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10 AND BUSINESS PLAN 2010/11**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services stating that under the revised guidance for "inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children", i.e. Working Together to Safeguard Children, published in March 2010, the first statutory annual report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board on the "effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area" has been published by 1st April, 2011. Included with the report was the Business Plan for 2010/11.

Resolved:- (1) That the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report for 2009/10 and Business Plan for 2010/11 be received and their contents noted.

(2) That every endeavour be made to ensure that effective complementary arrangements are in place to maximise the impact of the Local Safeguarding Children Board first statutory annual report in March, 2011.

**D9. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - REVENUE OUTTURN 2009/10**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Finance Manager containing the Children and Young People's Service Directorate unaudited Revenue Outturn (excluding schools delegated budgets) for 2009/10; the report showed an overspend of £3,944,414 against a net cash limited budget of £37,957,288, representing a variation of 10.39%.

Members noted that:-

(i) this revenue outturn is before adjusting for the carry-forward of traded balances (£45,881 surplus);

(ii) the adjusted variance to budget is £3,990,295 overspent (10.51%);

(iii) this report contained a request for an earmarked balance to the value of £3,709, in respect of the Try Line Centre Partnership (income earned by the Partnership to be used to support the Playing for Success after School Programme which is provided to Rotherham Schools at no cost, with the Centre generating income to maintain this approach);

(iv) the revenue outturn position shows an improvement of £387,000 on the March, 2010 reported budget monitoring position.

It was also noted that a detailed report on Schools' delegated balances will be submitted to the Cabinet Member and Advisers in late July, once information regarding planned use of balances has been obtained from the schools with balances higher than the Government's threshold (5% Secondary, 8% other phases).

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

(2) That the Strategic Leadership Team and the Cabinet be asked to approve the request for an earmarked balance of £3,709, related to the Try Line Centre Partnership, to be carried forward to the 2010/11 revenue budget for Children and Young People's Services.

#### **D10. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - CAPITAL OUTTURN 2009/10**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Finance Manager stating that the approved Children and Young People's Services Directorate Capital Programme for 2009/10 was £20,594,029. The actual spend against the programme in 2009/10 was £20,512,780, a variance of £81,249 under-spend (-0.4%). The submitted report showed the capital budget out-turn (subject to external audit verification) for the financial year 2009/10.

Resolved:- That the 2009/10 capital out-turn report for Children and Young People's Services, as now submitted, be received and its contents noted.

#### **D11. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2010 TO 2013**

Further to Minute No. 158 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2010, consideration was given to a report presented by the Policy, Planning and Research Officer concerning the final draft of the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013, which includes new content for each area of focus, as well as the foreword and resourcing section. The Equality Impact Assessment was also submitted and an action plan distributed at the meeting.

Discussion took place on the need to prepare a briefing note about the new Plan, for distribution to school governors.

Resolved:- (1) That the report, together with the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013 and accompanying documents be received and their contents noted.

(2) That the Plan and other documents be referred for consideration at the meeting of the Children's Board, to be held on 21st June 2010.

**D12. VALUABLE LESSONS – IMPROVING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY IN SCHOOLS**

Further to Minute No. D91 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Director of Resources, Planning and Performance stating that the Coalition Government had announced that front line funding to schools will be protected and money allocated to individual school budgets for 2010/11 will not be affected by the Government's proposed budget reductions. However, it has also been announced that efficiency savings are expected of schools and it is therefore critical that schools continue to offer good value for money through a range of measures including procurement and workforce deployment.

The Council's 'Valuable Lessons' Action Plan identifies progress made in the three key areas of school support which the Audit Commission believed could be strengthened:-

- : Financial support
- : Staffing and purchasing in schools
- : Accountability for value for money

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

(2) That the progress made against the Action Plan, arising from the Audit Commission's recommendations in 2009, be noted.

**D13. MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE PROJECT BOARD HELD ON 25TH MAY, 2010**

Consideration was given to the contents of the minutes of the meeting of the Building Schools for the Future Project Board, held on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.

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

**D14. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Resolved:- That, under Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in those paragraphs, indicated below, of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

**D15. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES - ANNUAL COMMENT AND COMPLAINT REPORT 2009/2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Complaints Manager concerning performance for complaints in Children and Young People's Services during 2009/2010, along with comparison to 2007/2008 and 2008/2009. The report also provided information about other types of enquiries and feedback handled by the Complaints and Customer Service Team, together with details of future service developments.

In brief, the following complaints were received; 122 people have made 262 complaint points at Stage 1, 12 people made 96 complaint points at stage 2, and 1 person escalated two of their Stage 2 complaints to a Stage 3 Review Panel (the panel was not convened in 2009/2010).

Resolved:- That the Children and Young People's Services Annual Report for Comments and Complaints 2009/2010 be received and its contents noted.

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

**D16. COMMISSIONING AND CONTRACTING OF EDUCATION BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP SERVICES**

Further to Minute No. 135 of the meeting of the Cabinet Member and Advisers for Children and Young People's Services held on 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2009, consideration was given to a report presented by the Assistant Head of School Effectiveness outlining the progress to date with the planning and commissioning education business partnership services to meet the needs of the 14-19 cohort for work-related learning.

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

(2) That approval be granted for the exemption, in accordance with Standing Order 38 (exemptions from contract standing orders) to allow a one year extension to the existing contract with the current education business partnership services provider, Business and Education South Yorkshire, until 31st August, 2011, to ensure continuity of service delivery and to enable the longer term strategic planning and commissioning activity to be agreed and implemented.

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

**D17. EDUCATION CATERING SERVICES TRADING STATEMENT 2009-**

**2010**

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Principal Catering Officer containing the out-turn trading position for the Education Catering Service for the financial year 2009/2010. In addition, the report provided a summary of the Service's action, to date, to work in partnership to promote Healthy Eating and increase the take-up of school meals.

Reference was also made to the agreed contribution to the deficit carry-forward and the suggested increase in the price of a school meal.

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

(2) That the increase in the price of a school meal by five pence, with effect from September, 2010, be approved.

(3) That the deficit recovery to be achieved over the next three years, as detailed in the report submitted, be approved.

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

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member &amp; Advisers</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>23rd June 2010</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Aiming High for Disabled Children – Short Breaks Services</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children &amp; Young People’s Service</b>

5. **Summary:** Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) is the Government’s transformation programme for disabled children’s services in England. A Strategic Vision for the AHDC programme, along with a Needs Assessment, Commissioning Strategy and spending plan for Year 1 of the Short Breaks programme were received by Children & Young People’s Scrutiny Panel on July 24<sup>th</sup> 2009. This report, as requested by Scrutiny Panel on July 24<sup>th</sup> 2009, gives an update on Rotherham’s delivery of the AHDC National Core Offer (NCO), summarises the outcomes of the first year of the AHDC Short Breaks programme in Rotherham and progress towards achieving the Short Breaks Full Service Offer (FSO).

**6. Recommendations:**

- **To receive the Report and provide comment on the proposals**

## 7. Proposals and Details:

The AHDC programme requires Local Areas to put families and their children at the heart of short break developments so as to ensure that short breaks are comprehensive in scope and provide more personalised opportunities. To ensure this occurs AHDC requires Local Areas to provide the National Core Offer.

**The National Core Offer** comprises 5 elements grouped under 3 headings:

- **Information and Transparency**
- **Assessment**
- **Participation and Feedback**

Delivery of the Aiming High for Disabled Children National Core Offer is monitored through the new National Performance Indicator 54 – Services to Disabled Children. The indicator is informed by a survey of parents of disabled children who are asked to indicate their satisfaction against the NCO elements in respect of Education, Social Care and Health Services. The survey was conducted in a restricted number of Local Areas in 2008-09 and in all areas in 2009-10. Rotherham was rated at 60% satisfaction, 1% below the national average. A comprehensive strategy is in place to ensure that all families of disabled children have all the information they need in order to make an informed response in the event of their being included in the next survey.

The AHDC Short Breaks programme also requires local areas to provide a Full Service Offer. A short break is a break from caring responsibilities for the parent or carer of a disabled child or young person. It must also be a good quality, positive activity that a disabled child or young person attends without their primary carer. Short breaks include day, evening, overnight or weekend activities and can take place in the child's own home, the home of an approved carer, or a residential or community setting.

Short breaks normally occur on a regular and planned basis and should be part of an integrated programme of support which is regularly reviewed. Short break provision can however, also be provided on an emergency basis.

**The Full Service Offer** seeks a radical expansion in the availability, quality, content and experience of short term breaks for disabled children and their families. It seeks to enhance and expand existing residential and family based overnight short break services to include breaks which may last a few hours or a few days and could be delivered in a variety of settings at home, in the community or in specialist provision.

Progress towards the Full Service Offer is monitored by DCSF through the national charity Together for Disabled Children against four Programme Objectives which have to be achieved by March 2011. These are:



- To base service provision on the identified needs of all eligible disabled children / young people and their families
- To significantly increase the volume and range of short break provision
- To significantly improve access to short break services
- To improve the quality of short break experiences for disabled children and young people

Rotherham is rated as on track against all the four Programme Objectives.

A summary and evaluation of the delivery of the Year 1 of Aiming High for Disabled Children short break programme is attached at Annex 1.

The updated Needs Assessment is attached at Annex 2 and the Commissioning Strategy for Year 2 at Annex 3

## 8. Financial Implications

Significant additional funding has been allocated to Local Areas to support the extension and improvement of short break provision. This consists of both revenue and capital funding as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: AHDC Short Break Funding Allocation for Rotherham

Revenue			Capital		
2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
£60,000	£345,100	£1,113,300	0	£171,600	£400,500

The 2008-09 financial year was identified by the DCSF as the preparatory phase for the AHDC Short Breaks programme. All Local Authorities were tasked with meeting the Readiness Criteria for which a £60,000 revenue allocation was received. Having met these criteria, the 2009-10 grant was allocated and its deployment monitored. Rotherham's success in deploying AHDC funding was such that funding for additional projects was received. The additional allocation was the highest of any Local Area. The 2010-11 grant has been allocated and the commissioning process is in place.

NHS Rotherham has committed funding to the AHDC programme in both 2009-10 and in 2010-11. The close working partnership between RMBC and NHS Rotherham has been recognised at regional and national level.

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

The AHDC Grant will continue to be allocated from April 2011 as part of the Area Based Grant with the expectation that the level of short break provision in place as of March 2011 will be sustained.

Consideration will be given during 2010 – 2011 to the degree to which new short break provision commissioned through the AHDC programme may become self-financing from April 2011. No activity has been commissioned beyond March 31<sup>st</sup> 2011 in order to allow for this planning to take place.

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

A statutory duty to provide short breaks for disabled children and their families comes into effect from April 2011. This is supported by Statutory Guidance which includes the duty to ensure sufficiency in which a local authority must prepare and publish an assessment of the sufficiency of provision of such services.

Delivery of the Aiming High for Disabled Children National Core Offer is monitored through the new National Performance Indicator 54 – Services to Disabled Children.

Delivery of the Full Service Offer, including sustaining the extended range of provision identified by the Needs Assessment in line with the statutory sufficiency duty, meets the One Council Priority of Supporting and Protecting Vulnerable People.

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

Children & Young People's Scrutiny Panel Report 24.7.09  
Paper to Cabinet Member meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2008  
Paper to Cabinet Member meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2009  
Short Breaks Full Service Offer Staged Progression Framework  
AHDC NI54 Results for Rotherham November 2009  
Regulations, and Associated Statutory Guidance, for Local Authorities to Provide Short Breaks for Carers of Disabled Children and Young People, DCSF 2010  
Rotherham AHDC Year 1 Evaluation Report (see Appendix 1)  
Rotherham AHDC Needs Assessment updated 2010 (see Appendix 2)  
Joint Commissioning Strategy for Short Breaks 2009 – 2012 updated 2010 (see appendix 2)

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## Annex 1

### AHDC Summary of Year 1 Key Achievements – 2009/10

#### **Developing existing provision:**

**Continuing Care Team** – Continuing care package, children receive between 9 and 12 hour night shifts plus 6 hours per week respite care during the day. Jointly funded by NHS Rotherham and AHDC to develop the service this year.

**Respite Care Team** - Service is provided throughout the day until 10pm at night and also during holidays and weekends (Newman Bungalow). Jointly funded by NHS Rotherham and AHDC to develop the service this year.

**Families Together** – Service is provided 1-2 hours (short term support) to enable a parent to complete a task for this time span such as shopping or brief meetings; 2-4 hours where carers offer this frequency on an ongoing basis as an agreed level or to build toward the possibility of an overnight stay. Increased funding this year from AHDC for additional foster carers and a dedicated social worker to develop and expand the service.

**Orchard Centre - Cherry Tree House** - A Short Break service which offers over night stays, primarily 24hr/7days a week. Full available capacity of the centre is 5 beds + 1 emergency per night (5 x7 plus 1x7 = 42 beds per week). Cherry Tree House possesses a dedicated staff team eager and willing to diversify in order to meet the changing needs of service users.

**Orchard Centre - Bramley House** - A short term break unit which provides short breaks for six young people with physical and/or sensory disabilities with the provision of one emergency bed. The service provides an opportunity for the young person to spend time away from home in an environment which is appropriate to their needs. In February 2010 Bramley House underwent extensive refurbishment due to capital funding from AHDC which now enables the unit to provide respite for a wider range of children with complex needs.

**Orchard Centre - Outreach Service** - Provides respite care from their own premises and out in the community of between 2-4 hours a day. The Outreach Service is available to the young people on weekdays after school hours and during weekends. During the school holidays the service has the flexibility to ensure that young people can access facilities during the day time. Family support is offered through Family Support workers, family workshops and Post Diagnosis Support. Three additional Family Support workers have been funded through AHDC this year.

#### **Newly commissioned services for 2009 - 2010**

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Summer Activity)** - This is a week long summer school for 20 young people with disabilities age 13 to 18. Activities include dance, drama and visual arts.

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Weekday Evening Activity) -**

Youth club for young people with disabilities age 13-18. Takes place on the third Thursday of every month 7pm to 10pm. Activities include disco, arts and crafts, karaoke and games. Transport is provided for the young people if required.

**RMBC Youth Service - Habershon House Residential -** A residential project to provide group based Short Breaks in the school summer holiday period for young people in 'Group A' and their immediate families, at Habershon House in Filey. 3 night, 4 day residential, transport provided.

**Autism Communication Team (ACT) -** Youth Club for young people aged 13 to 18 years old diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Takes place 6:30pm to 8:30pm every Tuesday at Winterhill Young People's Centre in Kimberworth and every Thursday at Maltby Linx Youth Centre in Maltby. Opportunity for young people to play games, have fun, relax and meet other young people.

**KIDS - Haven Holidays –** This trial project is called 'Giving Short Breaks a little extra' which aims to provide families with a Short Break whilst on holiday. The scheme involves a family holiday at one of two Haven holiday parks (Primrose Valley in North Yorkshire or Church Farm in Sussex) with between 10-20 hours of Short Break care and support being provided to the family whilst they are there. 3, 4 or 7 night holidays are available.

**Kelford and Hilltop Federation -** Aimed at pupils aged 13 to 18 to have a weekly 3 hour after-school Short Breaks session at either Kelford or Hilltop schools. Activities will include pool, snooker, TV, computer games, arts and crafts and sports. Each session will cater for up to 20 young people from 3:30pm to 6:30pm and will include transport if required.

**Rotherham Parent and Carers Forum (RPCF) –** Established independent forum led by parents and carers of disabled children in Rotherham, committed to improving services and making sure views of parents and carers are heard. Supported by AHDC the forum also deliver short breaks activities through family day trips. These have included a visit to Twycross Zoo on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009 and a special production of the Pantomime 'Cinderella' at Rotherham Civic Theatre on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

**SCOPE -** Weekend provision of sports and arts activities delivered in partnership with the RMBC Sports Development Team. Fortnightly Saturday afternoon sessions 1pm to 4pm targeted at young people aged 10 to 18 years old. Activities include boccia, athletics, gymnastics, drumming and arts and crafts. Each session can accommodate up to 10 young people, transport can be provided for up to half of the attendees.

**Rotherham Children's Centres -** There are presently eight of Rotherham's Children's Centres that offer enhanced nursery places for children aged 3 to 4 years old. Due to the age and the developmental stages of the children many

of them do not have a firm medical diagnosis of need and are in many cases they are still undergoing assessment. AHDC funding will enable Children's Centres to offer parents/carers a short break from their caring responsibilities during this stressful time in their life. Families are supported to access an average of 3 hours of Short Breaks per week.

### **Key Achievements for 2009 - 2010**

Below is a summary of our key achievements for 2009/10 as a result of AHDC funding and newly commissioned services:

- 319 disabled children now receiving Short Breaks services in Rotherham (up from 191 in 08/09)
- Of these, 115 children receiving 5,429 overnight breaks (up from 102 receiving 4,897 in 08/09)
- 143 disabled children receiving 4,815 hours of Specialist Group services (up from 10 receiving 1,545 in 08/09)
- 123 disabled children receiving 2,258 hours of Non-Specialist Group services (we had no disabled children accessing these services in 08/09)
- Parent Carers Council established & functioning
- Developmental plans for new Rotherham Carers Centre – to open April 2010
- Information Officer and Project Officer in post
- Successful Parents' and Provider events held
- Project Plan updated and has been shared with other Local Authorities as an example of good practice
- New publicity materials designed and distributed, Exchange Newsletter sent bi-annually
- Provider Forum meetings established and ongoing, linking in with Parent/Carer forum
- AHDC logo designed and agreed, AHDC website online
- Consultation events held with disabled children and young people and parents/carers to inform Needs Assessment Refresh
- Successful Fair's Fayre event held promoting Disabled Children's services in Rotherham with over 6,000 attendees
- Needs Assessment Refresh completed
- Revised Eligibility Criteria tied in with the disability register and linked into SWIFT database approved and in implementation stage
- Consultation with disabled children and young people around Capital plans. Eastwood Adventure Playground plans finalised including increased accessibility and Changing Places toilet/changing area plan agreed
- Briefing Sessions held in local areas for parents and potential providers for 2010/11 to inform about commissioning process
- BME Pilot and VCS Pilot completed with additional funding (Jan – Mar 2010)
- Eastwood Adventure Playground completed

- Bramley House refurbishment completed
- Plans agreed for Kimberworth Building to host Short Breaks services. Joint project with Rotherham Council and NHS Rotherham
- Radio adverts for Short Breaks in Rotherham linked to Families Information Service on Rother FM
- Maintained accredited training status for Early Support. Early Support integrated within workforce development strategy
- Workforce Development Programme undertaken for commissioned providers
- DVD advertising Short Breaks filmed in partnership with Rotherham NHS
- For National Indicator 54, Rotherham achieved a score of 60% which is 1% below national average for 09/10

### **Quotes from disabled children and young people accessing our provision**

“Couldn’t be better, I’m looking forward to outdoor things in the summer. Thank you for a good time”

“All of us have the same thing (ASD) so we can all get on with one another”

“I enjoy playing video games, pool table and having snacks”

“People here are all the same. I can make friends easier”

“Its fun and everyone here has difficulties. I enjoy the trips out”

“I am more confident and able to socialise”

“This is the best youth club I’ve been to”

“It gives people with disabilities somewhere to go to chill out and have fun”

“Like it, come again”

“But I don’t want to go home, I want to stay, you go.”

### **Quotes from parents and carers**

“He thoroughly enjoys attending and cannot wait until the next session. Thank you for entertaining him and keeping him safe. He really enjoys the art”

“I have time to call at mums or go shopping. I spend time with my other daughter”

“The group has had a great impact as he enjoys socialising with others whereas before he found it difficult to mix”

“It gives me 2 hours to take my time doing the shopping! When the weather improves my husband and myself will drop him off and go for a walk”

“He needs social interaction and the group gives him just that and so much more. He looks forward to the sessions every week”

“She enjoys these nights and can’t wait to get here.”

“He has made new friends and as he is an only child we are so happy”

“It is important to have an environment where the young person is not different or odd in comparison to peers”

“We can spend time alone with our other child and relax knowing child with ASD is safe”

“I feel better supported with a network around me like this”

“Thank you for this weekend, I feel thoroughly spoiled”

**Annex 2**

**AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN**

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT REFRESH 2009/10**

**EXTENDING AND IMPROVING SHORT BREAKS SERVICES**

This project is made possible by



**Aiming High for  
Disabled Children**

short breaks programme funding



***Rotherham***





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## **INTRODUCTION/VISION**

The purpose of this needs assessment refresh is to review Short Break provision that has been commissioned under the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) Agenda for 2009/10 as a result of the original needs assessment. The original needs assessment took place in 2008 and provided an evidence base for identifying service development priorities within Rotherham to inform a commissioning strategy that met our obligations under the AHDC Agenda and accompanying funding for short breaks in 2009/10.

The Government is committing significant additional funding for the second year of Aiming High delivery for 2010/11. In order to prepare for this a consultation with service users and stakeholders is being undertaken to review the additional services that have been commissioned in 2009/10, to look at strengths and weaknesses and if there are any further gaps in provision and ensure that delivery is sustainable beyond March 2011.

The commissioning strategy can then be developed for 2010/11, in partnership between the Local Authority and PCT. The timeframe for commissioning is as follows:

- (a) Undertake needs assessment refresh including mapping of supply for short break provision across the Local Authority, Primary Care Trust and Voluntary Sector, to identify any gaps and further developments (September to November 2009).
- (b) Stakeholder events and group visits to gain views of Children and Young People, Parents/ Carers and Service providers.
- (c) Undertake commissioning strategy refresh for the improving of services and dissemination of additional grants (December 2009 to January 2010)
- (d) Procure additional services as outlined in the Commissioning Strategy (February to March 2010) so that full service delivery can commence on receipt of additional funding in April 2010
- (e) April 2010 onwards to continue to monitor progress against baseline needs information and contract specifications

## GENERIC INFORMATION

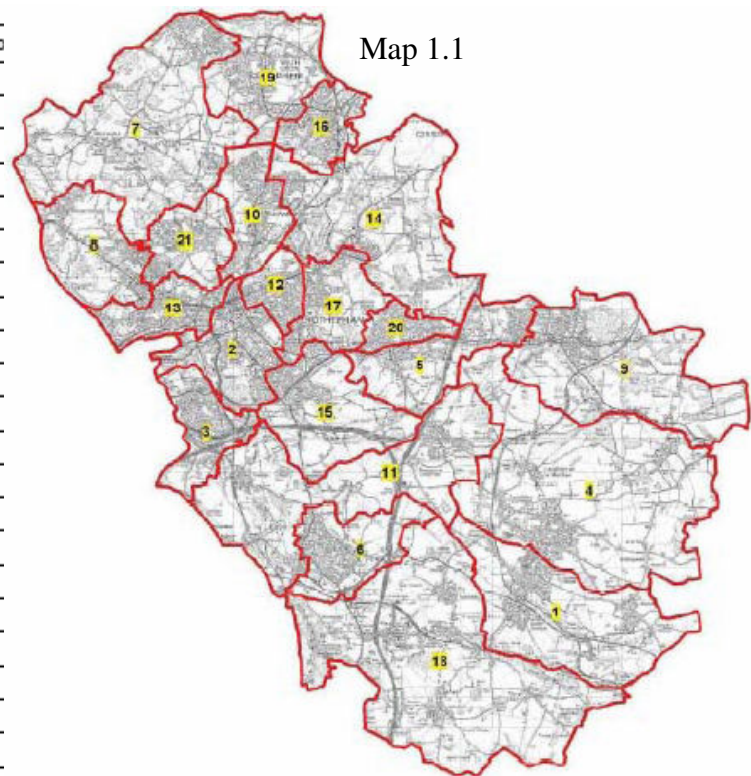
### Borough-Wide Statistics

Rotherham is divided into seven Area Assemblies each covering an average population of 36,000 people. In 2004 ward boundaries were re-aligned to fit within the seven area assemblies, creating 21 wards, with an average population of 12,000 people. Map 1.1 and table 1.1 illustrate the Area Assembly and Ward Boundaries.

### Rotherham Area Assembly and Ward Information

Table 1.1

Area Assembly	Ward	Map No
Rother Valley South	Anston And Woodsetts Ward	1
	Dinnington Ward	4
	Wales Ward	18
Rother Valley West	Brinsworth And Catcliffe Ward	3
	Holderness Ward	6
	Rother Vale Ward	11
Rotherham North	Keppel Ward	8
	Rotherham West Ward	13
	Wingfield Ward	21
Rotherham South	Boston Castle Ward	2
	Rotherham East Ward	12
	Sitwell Ward	15
Wentworth North	Hoober Ward	7
	Swinton Ward	16
	Wath Ward	19
Wentworth South	Rawmarsh Ward	10
	Silverwood Ward	14
	Valley Ward	17
Wentworth Valley	Hellaby Ward	5
	Maltby Ward	9
	Wickersley Ward	20



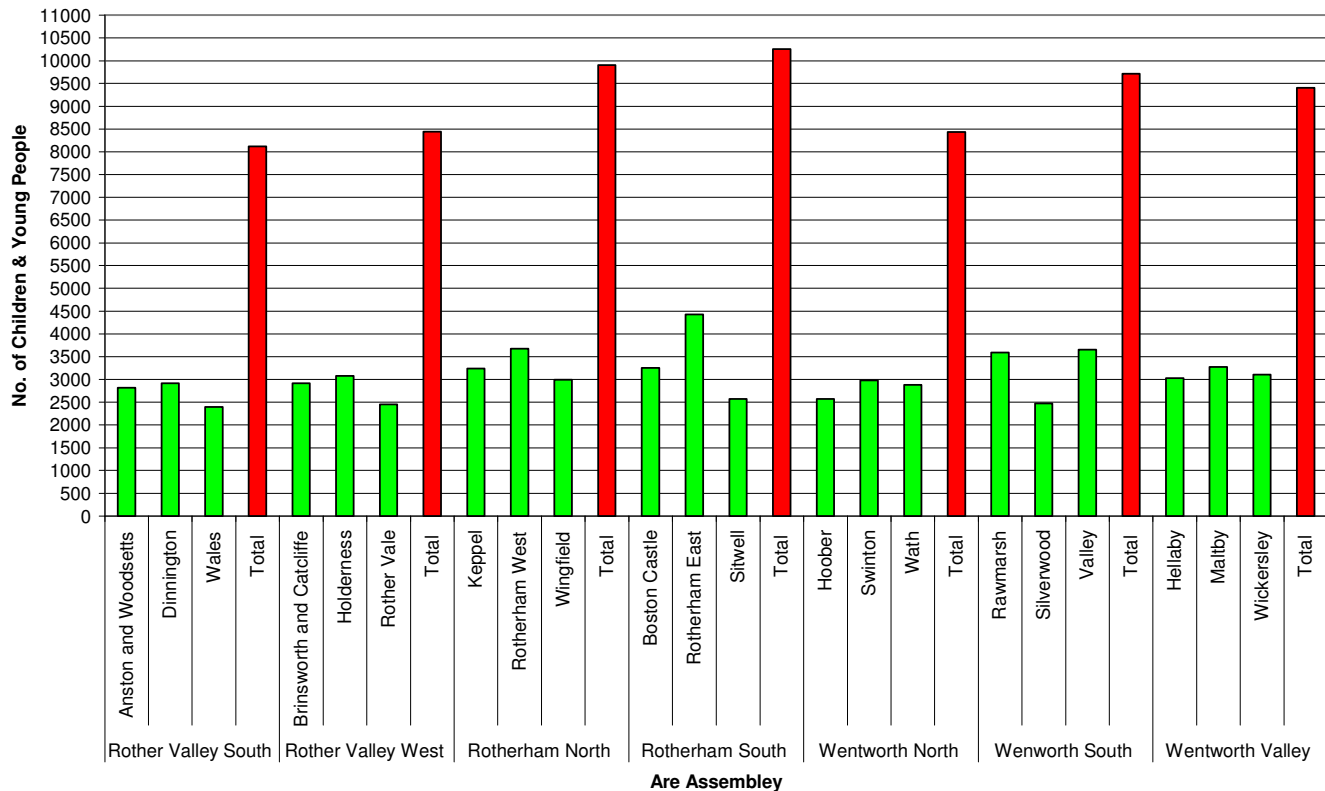
Population estimates suggest that Rotherham had a total population of 248,175 in 2001 (ONS Census 2001), of this 64,277 were aged 0 – 19. The 2008 mid year estimates, which are the most up to date population datasets available, but can not be broken down by age then gender and ward, suggest that the overall population figure for Rotherham has increased to 253,900, but the population of Children and Young People (C&YP) aged 0-19 decreased slightly to 63,000 (2008 MID Year population Estimates).

For the purpose of this Needs Assessment the 2001 Census data set has been used, it is acknowledged that this data set was compiled nine years ago and that the population of Rotherham is continually changing. However this is the only data set available that breaks population down by age, gender, area assembly and ward. The use of the 2001 data should not prove detrimental as an evidence base for service design and delivery, as highlighted above the 0-19 population changes have been minimal over the seven year period to

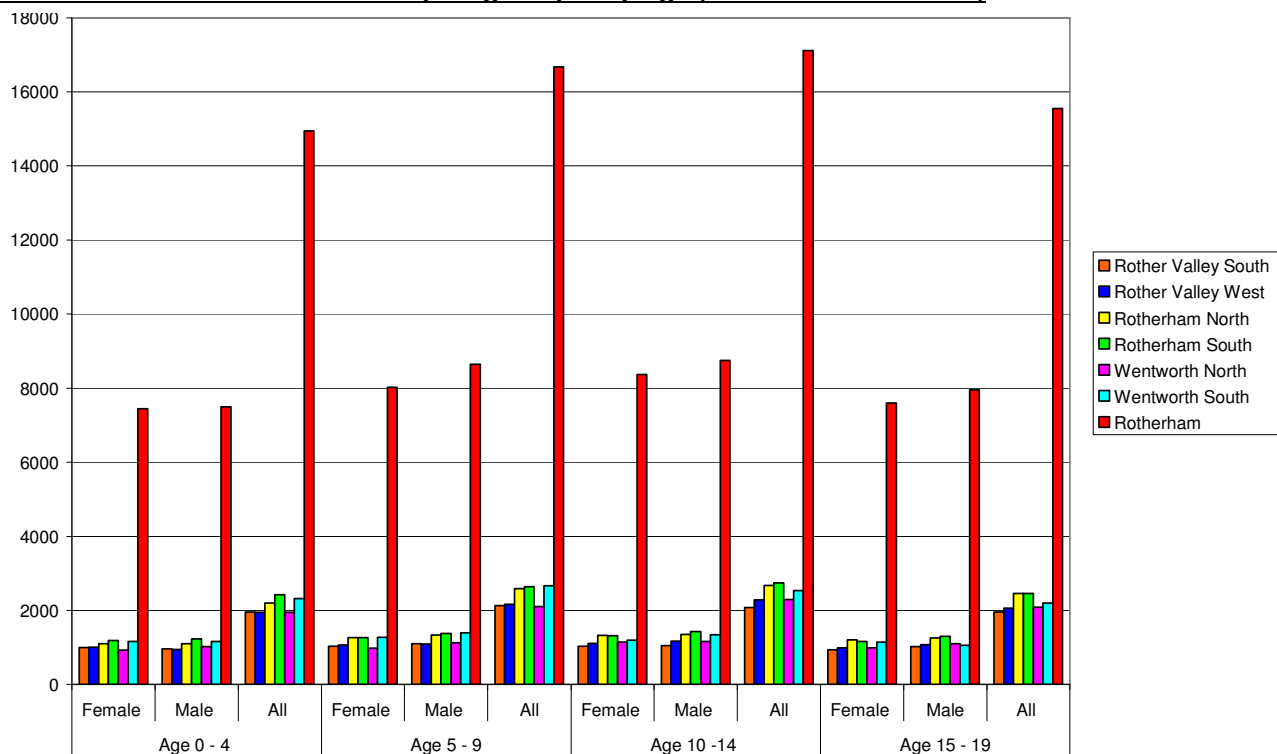
2008. An advantage of using this data set is that it allows estimates for prevalence around children with disabilities to be made against national research.

Chart 1.1 below outlines the Child and Adolescent population of Rotherham area assemblies and wards for the age group 0 -19 in 2001. Chart 1.2 illustrates the distribution of Children and Young People by age and gender.

**Chart 1.1 Distribution of Children & young People by Ward and Area Assembly (Source: 2001 Census)**



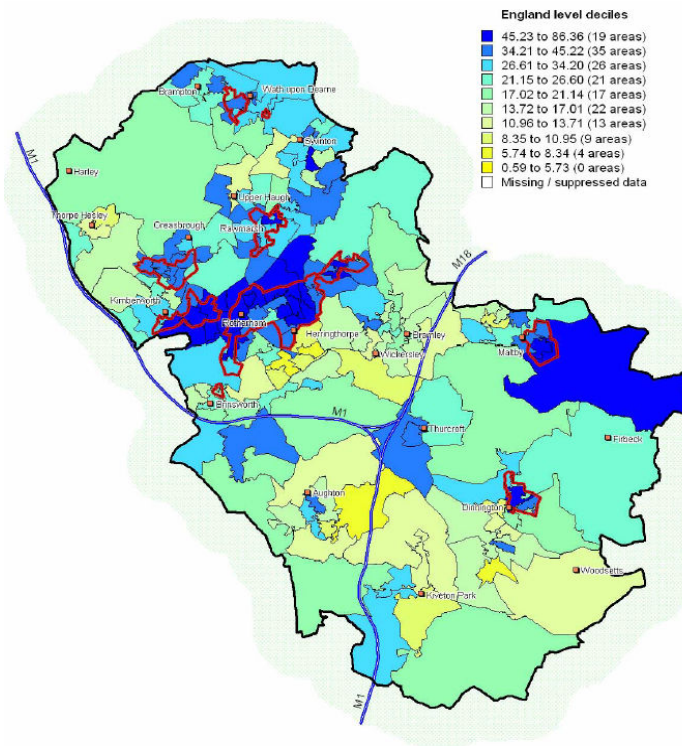
**Chart 1.2 Distribution of Children & young People by Age (Source: 2001 Census)**



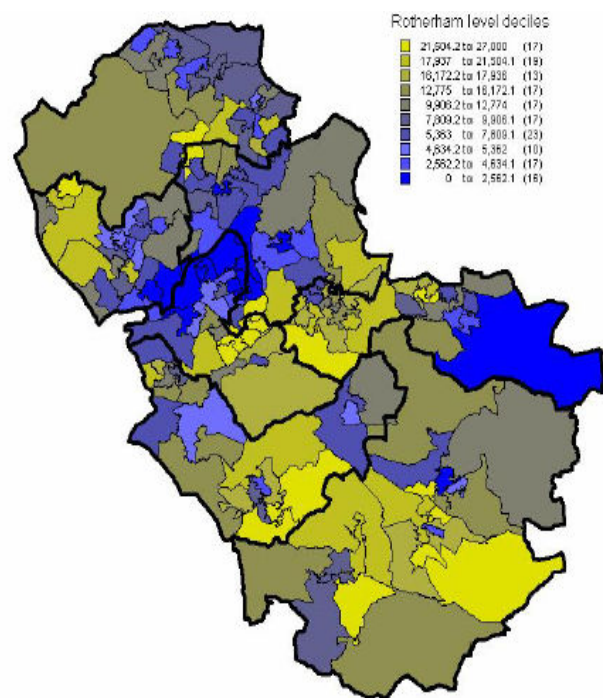
Information taken from the Rotherham Study of Deprivation 2007 shows that Rotherham has high levels of multiple deprivation and is ranked the 68<sup>th</sup> most deprived district in England out of 354 districts identified. When looking at more detailed Super Output Area (SOA) levels, 19 of the 166 SOAs across Rotherham are in the most deprived 10% of all areas in England, and 54 in the most deprived 20%. Major areas of deprivation are focused in the urban areas around Rotherham town although pockets are also seen in Maltby, Dinnington, Rawmarsh, and Wath. Neighbourhood Renewal areas have been identified for Rotherham, which take into account the most deprived areas and specific development programs have been put in place to improve these areas.

Multiple deprivation levels across the Borough are mainly driven by Income, Employment, Health, and Education. Using these domains Rotherham is currently ranked among the most deprived 20% of Districts in England. Education attainment and skill levels can indicate the highest levels of deprivation within an area, across Rotherham using this domain, parts of the Borough are ranked in the most deprived 10% of all Districts across England and more than one-quarter of the SOAs in Rotherham are in the most deprived 10% of all SOAs across England.

Map 1.2 – Rotherham Income Deprivation



Map 1.3 – Income deprivation affecting children

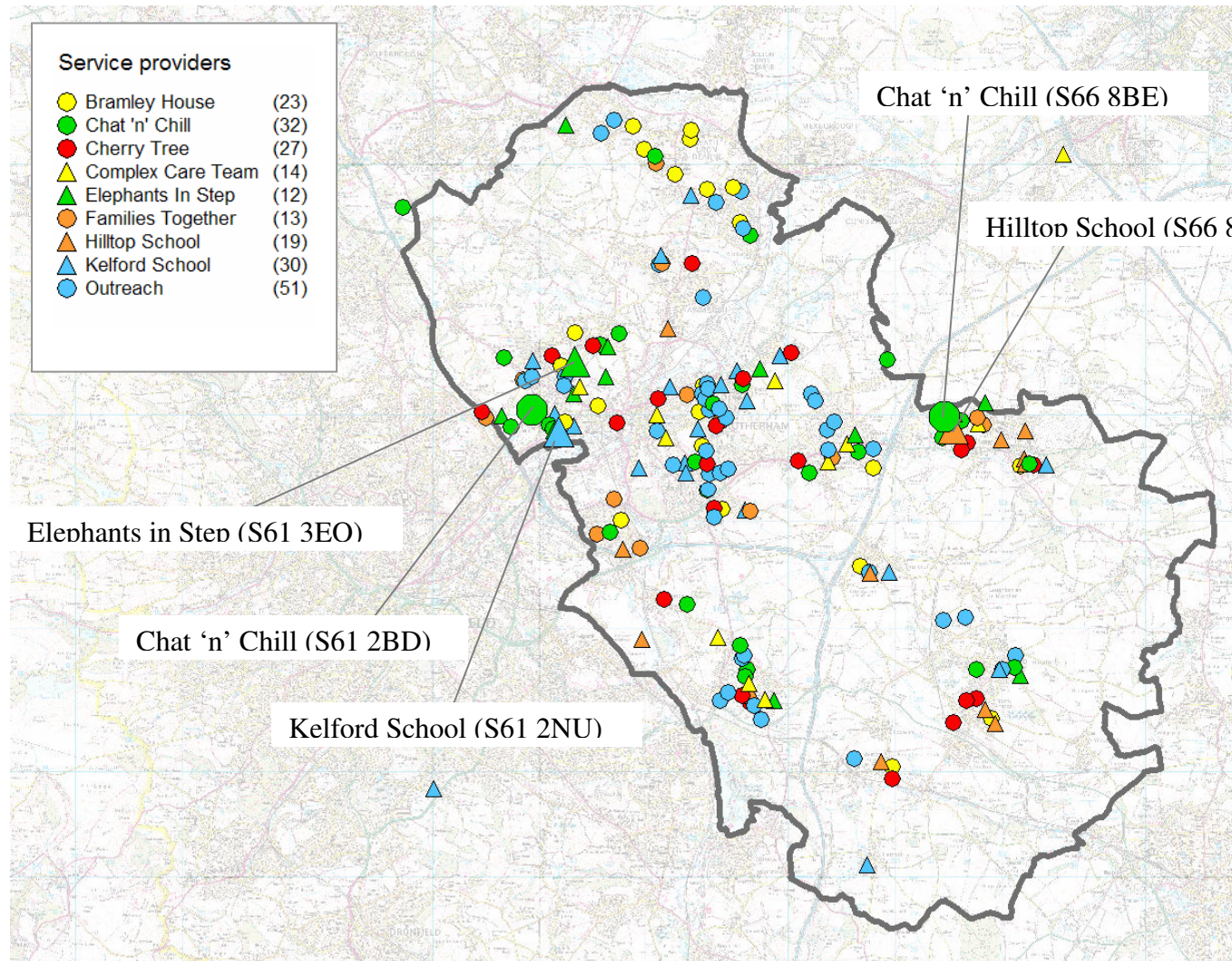


Map 1.4 (over) showing service user location would indicate that there is no specific link in the relationships between disabled children and multiple deprivation areas.



**Geographical Spread of Young People Accessing Short Break Services**

**Map 1.4 Short Breaks providers and users (September 2009)**

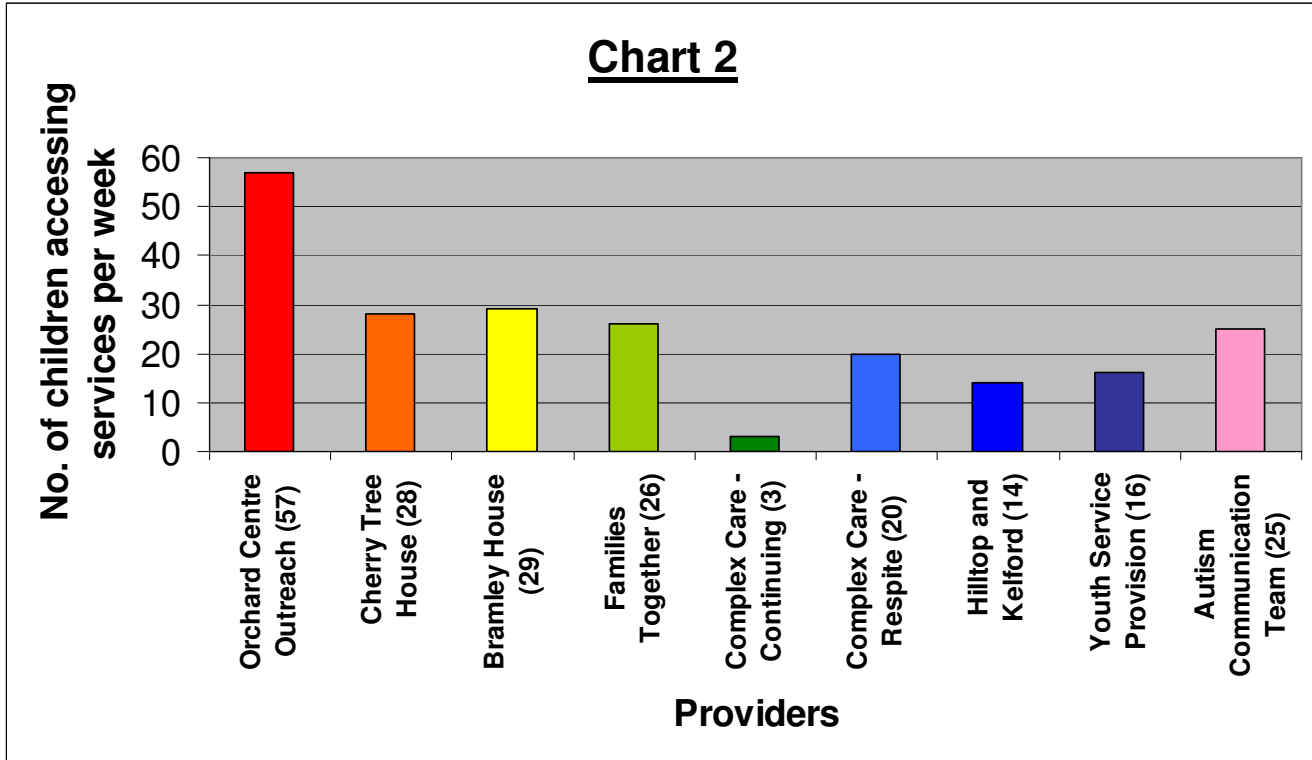


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The map suggests that service users in Wentworth North, Rother Valley and Rotherham South areas have limited local services and have to travel across the borough to access current services.

### Numbers of children accessing services

Rotherham currently has 410 children registered on the Voluntary Children's Disability Register. Data collated from service providers shows the number of children and young people accessing current Short Breaks services per week as 203 (September 2009).



These figures will be shown broken down into areas of gender, age, ethnicity and complexity of need later in this needs assessment. Some children and young people are accessing more than one service which means that the provider figures (218) are slightly higher than the overall total of 203.

### Rotherham Child Disability Statistics

Recent National research (June 2008) conducted by the Thomas Coram Research Unit on behalf of the DCSF (*DCSF-RR042*) states that local data available for children with disabilities suffers from a range of shortcomings. Although there is a statutory requirement under the Children's Act 1989 for local authorities to maintain a register of children with disabilities, because registration is voluntary it is not a good source of data on the prevalence and characteristics of children with disabilities.

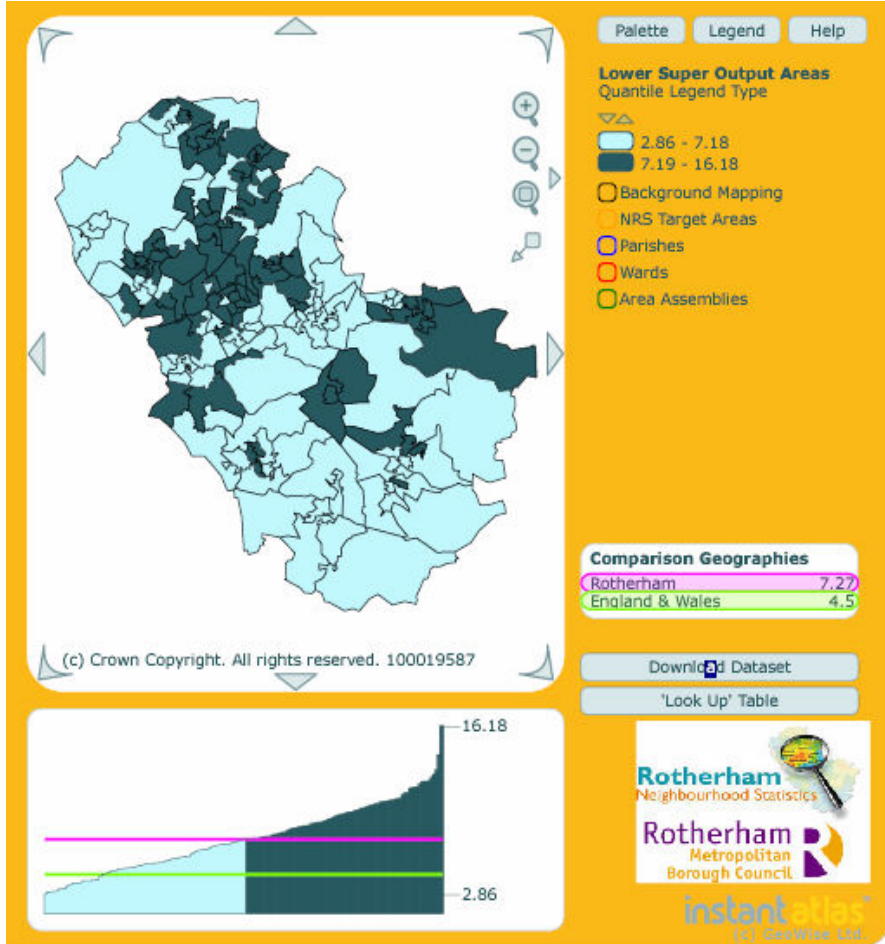
This research reflects the position in Rotherham where it has been difficult to calculate the actual numbers of C&YP in Rotherham who have a disability as little whole service research and data collection has taken place. This baseline assessment of need will use locally gathered service data to establish a picture of children & young people with learning disabilities requiring short breaks/respite care within Rotherham.

Information from Disability Living Allowance (DLA) does not capture data specifically about families who claim DLA for their child. Details are recorded

of disabled child applicable amounts where notified, but this may not be declared by claimants in receipt of Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance. Therefore the information given will only be partial and only relates to benefit claimants.

**DWP Key Benefits Datasets at February 2005 – Disability Living Allowance (%)**

18,300 people in Rotherham received Disability Living Allowance (DLA) in 2005



(7.27% of population, which is higher than the national figure of 4.5%).

Information from the DLA team estimates there are around 4,000 C&YP in Rotherham with a disability although there are currently only 430 children (10.8%) registered

on the Voluntary Children’s Disability Register.

A new registration form for the Children’s Disability Register has recently been designed and is now being promoted to parents and carers. This form was launched at the recent Fair’s Fayre event promoting services for disabled people and their families in Rotherham, which was attended by 6,200 people.

Information from Rotherham Special Education Needs Team indicates there are currently 1,072 statemented children registered on the Rotherham Special Educational Needs (SEN) Register. There are other mainstream school children who are recognised as having special needs but these are dealt with via the “School Action Plus” system or individual school action plans.



## Definitions

### “Disability”

Appendix 1 to this document sets out the Rotherham Health & Social Care short break panel eligibility criteria which gives an overview of the disability criteria used to assess children for short breaks/respite care.

Nationally, different datasets use alternative definitions of health problems or disability, therefore defining disability is complex and contentious. Most analysis tends to use limiting longstanding illness as the core definition (Bakajal *et al.*, 2004). This definition is the most relevant to government because it attempts to reflect those who would be covered by the Disability Discrimination Act – that is those with a longstanding illness or disability which substantially impacts on their day-to-day activities. It attempts to exclude those with shorter term conditions or those where there is no impact on day-to-day activities. This definition is different from those who are claiming disability benefits – such as Disability Living Allowance (DLA) which is assessed at the point of claim and which only represents a sub-group of disabled people. (*DWP Disability and caring among families with children Research report 460*)

### “Short Breaks” “Respite”

Short breaks, as defined by the DCSF, usually provide opportunities for disabled children and young people to spend time away from their primary carers. These include day, evening, overnight or weekend activities and take place in the child’s own home, the home of an approved carer, or a residential or community setting. Short breaks can however also be provided through a temporary carer relieving the primary carer of their caring responsibilities without their being separated from the disabled child or young person.

Short breaks normally occur on a regular and planned basis and should be part of an integrated programme of support which is regularly reviewed. Short break provision can however, also be provided on an emergency basis. No short break should exceed 28 days continuous care and total provision over a year should not exceed 120 days.

Short break services are specialist additional services required to support disabled children and their families; in other words, short breaks services are over and above the universal services available to all families.

Short breaks range from supporting disabled children and young people to access universal leisure-time services, through to providing specialist services at a local and regional level. In this context specialist services are services accessed by a particular group of children, i.e. disabled children.

### “Development”

Physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development

### “Health”

Physical or mental health

*“Complex Needs”*

The Dfes states that children/young people with complex needs have a number of discrete needs relating to their education, health, welfare, development etc that require additional support from more than one agency.

Their needs are often chronic and may be life long. Different needs tend to interact, exacerbating their impact on the child/young person’s development and well-being. Children/young people with higher levels of need are often described as having “severe and complex needs” or “significant and complex needs”.

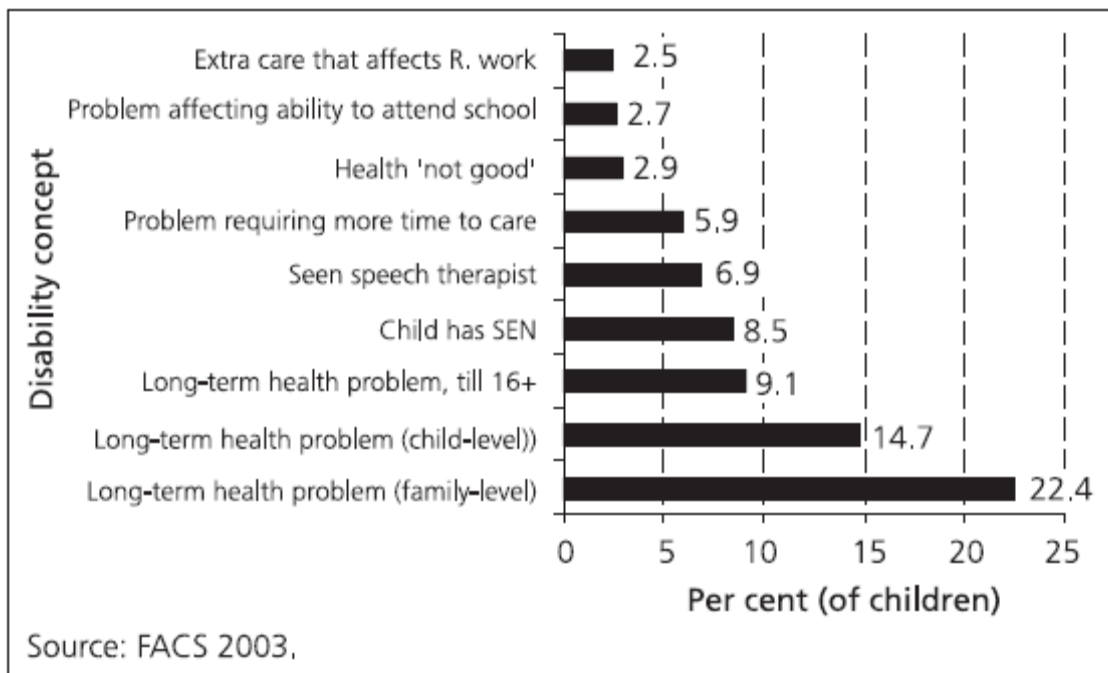
Children with complex needs will fall within these tiers of care – the interaction between the child’s needs and/or the number of needs exhibited will determine whether they have complex needs or not

Tier 4 = Acute
Tier 3 = Specialist
Tier 2 = Additional Support
Tier 1 = Universal

**National Child Disability Statistics**

At a national level the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have undertaken studies which have specifically looked at the prevalence of disabilities within Children and Young People. The report shows the number of child disability figures varying between 3 and 16 per cent. In the Family and Children Study (FACS), rates of disability may be quoted as low as 2.5 per cent, where the child has a health problem that affects the ability of the respondent to work. Alternatively, 22 per cent of families contain at least one child who the respondent describes as having a longstanding illness or disability. The range of possibilities within these two extremes is shown below, which illustrates results for a number of different questions relating to child health.

**National rates of childhood disability, using different disability definitions**



## **SPECIFIC INFORMATION FROM PROVIDERS OF SHORT BREAKS**

### **Full Service Offer for the provision of short breaks**

The Full Service Offer for the provision of short breaks under Aiming High for Disabled Children requires that there should be a full range of provision covering specific areas. In response to the requirements for the Full Service Offer, based on performance monitoring information received from providers, in this section we aim to give an overview of Rotherham services which are currently available, categorised under the headings of the Full Service Offer, together with identified gaps in service.

### **Rotherham Short Breaks Service Provision**

***FSO 7: Provision is available at the times when families and young people need breaks - this should include evenings, weekends and holiday provision, and be capable of responding to urgent care requirements***

***FSO 4: A wide range of short breaks, tailored to families' needs and including:***

- a) overnight breaks, with care available in both the child's own home and elsewhere;***
- b) breaks during the day, with care available in the child's own home and elsewhere;***
- c) breaks in universal settings, delivered through the support of a befriending, sitting or sessional service.***

#### **Current services available in Rotherham:**

**Continuing Care Team** - Continuing care package children receive between 9 and 12 hour night shifts plus 6 hours per week respite care during the day.

**Respite Care Team** - Service is provided throughout the day until 10pm at night and also during holidays and weekends

**Families Together** – Service is provided 1-2 hours (short term support) to enable a parent to complete a task for this time span such as shopping or brief meetings; 2-4 hours where carers offer this frequency on an ongoing basis as an agreed level or to build toward the possibility of an overnight stay.

**Orchard Centre - Cherry Tree House** - A Short Break service which offers over night stays, primarily 24hr/7days a week (not operational during Bank Holidays and Christmas periods unless an emergency placement is required). Full available capacity of the centre is 5 beds + 1 emergency per night (5 x7 plus 1x7 = 42 beds per week). Cherry Tree House possesses a dedicated staff team eager and willing to diversify in order to meet the changing needs of service users.

**Orchard Centre - Bramley House** - A short term break unit which provides short breaks for six young people with physical and/or sensory disabilities with the provision of one emergency bed. The service provides an opportunity for the young person to spend time away from home in an environment which is appropriate to their needs. In February 2010 Bramley House will be undergoing extensive refurbishment which will enable the unit to provide respite for a wider range of children with complex needs.

**Orchard Centre - Outreach Service** - Provides respite care from their own premises and out in the community of between 2-4 hours a day. The Outreach Service is available to the young people on weekdays after school hours and during weekends. During the school holidays the service has the flexibility to ensure that young people can access facilities during the day time. Family support is offered through Family Support workers, family workshops and Post Diagnosis Support.

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Summer Activity)** - This is a week long summer school for 20 young people with disabilities age 13 to 18. Activities include dance, drama and visual arts.

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Weekday Evening Activity)** - Youth club for young people with disabilities age 13-18. Takes place on the third Thursday of every month 7pm to 10pm. Activities include disco, arts and crafts, karaoke and games. Transport is provided for the young people if required.

**RMBC Youth Service - Habershon House Residential** - A residential project to provide group based Short Breaks in the school summer holiday period for young people in 'Group A' and their immediate families, at Habershon House in Filey. 3 night, 4 day residential, transport provided.

**KIDS - Haven Holidays** – This trial project is called 'Giving Short Breaks a little extra' which aims to provide families with a Short Break whilst on holiday. The scheme involves a family holiday at one of two Haven holiday parks (Primrose Valley in North Yorkshire or Church Farm in Sussex) with between 10-20 hours of Short Break care and support being provided to the family whilst they are there. 3, 4 or 7 night holidays are available.

**Kelford and Hilltop Federation** - Aimed at pupils aged 13 to 18 to have a weekly 3 hour after-school Short Breaks session at either Kelford or Hilltop schools. Activities will include pool, snooker, TV, computer games, arts and crafts and sports. Each session will cater for up to 20 young people from 3:30pm to 6:30pm and will include transport if required.

**Autism Communication Team (ACT)** - Youth Club for young people aged 13 to 18 years old diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Takes place 6:30pm to 8:30pm every Tuesday at Winterhill Young People's Centre in Kimberworth and every Thursday at Maltby Linx Youth Centre in Maltby. Opportunity for young people to play games, have fun, relax and meet other young people.

**Rotherham Parent and Carers Forum (RPCF)** – Established independent forum led by parents and carers of disabled children in Rotherham, committed to improving services and making sure views of parents and carers are heard. Supported by Rotherham Council the forum also deliver short breaks activities through family day trips. These have included a visit to Twycross Zoo on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009 and a special production of the Pantomime ‘Cinderella’ at Rotherham Civic Theatre on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

**New services available December 2009 – March 2010 :**

**SCOPE** - Weekend provision of sports and arts activities delivered in partnership with the RMBC Sports Development Team. Fortnightly saturday afternoon sessions 1pm to 4pm targeted at young people aged 10 to 18 years old. Activities include boccia, athletics, gymnastics, drumming and arts and crafts. Each session can accommodate up to 10 young people, transport can be provided for up to half of the attendees.

**Rotherham Children’s Centres** - There are presently eight of Rotherham’s Children’s Centres that offer enhanced nursery places for children aged 3 to 4 years old. Due to the age and the developmental stages of the children many of them do not have a firm medical diagnosis of need and are in many cases they are still undergoing assessment. AHDC funding will enable Children’s Centres to offer parents/carers a short break from their caring responsibilities during this stressful time in their life. Families are supported to access an average of 3 hours of Short Breaks per week.

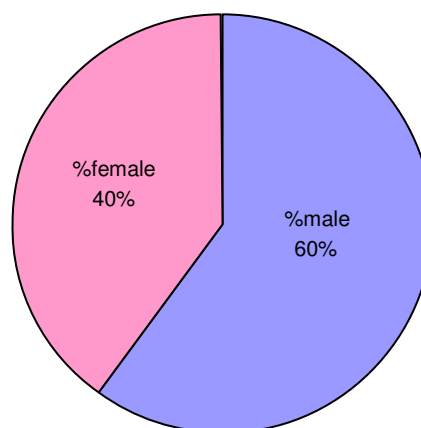
**Children Accessing Services**

Chart 2 shown on page 8 indicates the number of service users per week at 203. These figures are now broken down into areas of gender, age, ethnicity and complexity of need. Percentages and figures are based on the 203 children per week reportedly accessing services.

**Gender Specific Information**

Service	%ma
Families Together	50
Continuing Care Team	25
Respite Care Team	55
Autism Communication Team	80
Hilltop and Kelford	70
Bramley House	55
Cherry Tree	75
Orchard Centre Outreach Service	75
Youth Service Provision	55

**% Male:Female Short Breaks Service Users in Rotherham**



According to the recent survey of local authorities (Report DCSF-RR042) boys are twice as likely to be recorded disabled as girls. This is consistent with the 2005 Children in Need Census and the 2007 SEN statement figures. These findings are also consistent with secondary analysis of the Family Resources Survey (FRS) (2004-5) and the Families and Children’s Study (FACS) (2004-5), which shows that prevalence of disability is higher among boys than girls.

Rotherham service provider figures only show a slight increase overall of boys accessing services to girls, although the above trend can be found in a couple of services (one service has 80% male service users and another 75%).

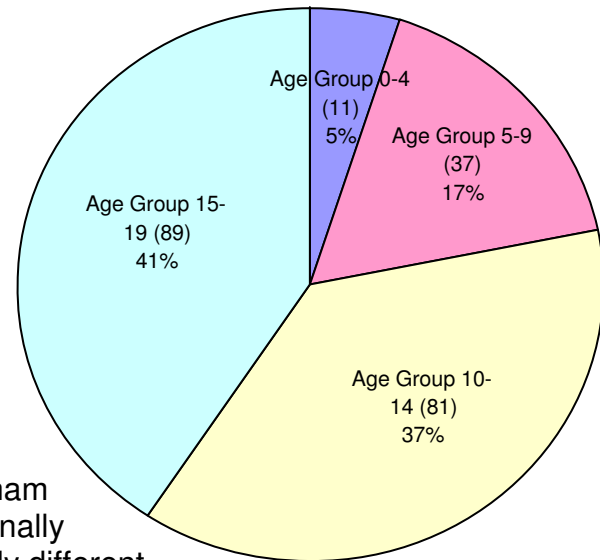
**Age Appropriate Provision**

**FSO 8: Provide age appropriate provision which ensures that children/young people in groups A and B are not disadvantaged in accessing Short Breaks.**

Relative to the 2001 Census, children under five are unlikely to be known to be disabled. This is also consistent with CIN and SEN figures.

However, relative to these figures, the TCRU survey found, on average, equal numbers of disabled young people in the age range 5-11 and the range 12-18: this is consistent with the 2001 Census, but the CIN and SEN figures both show higher numbers in the oldest age group.

The information in the chart above indicates Rotherham has relatively comparable figures to those held nationally although Rotherham ages were captured from slightly different ranges.



Service	Age of Children Accessing Service			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Families Together	1	8	7	10
Continuing Care Team	2	1		
Respite Care Team	8	10	2	
Autism Communication Team			16	9
Hilltop and Kelford				14
Bramley House			15	14
Cherry Tree		1	9	18
Orchard Centre Outreach Service		15	24	18
Youth Service Provision		2	8	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>89</b>

### Ensure children/young people in groups A and B are not disadvantaged in accessing Short Breaks

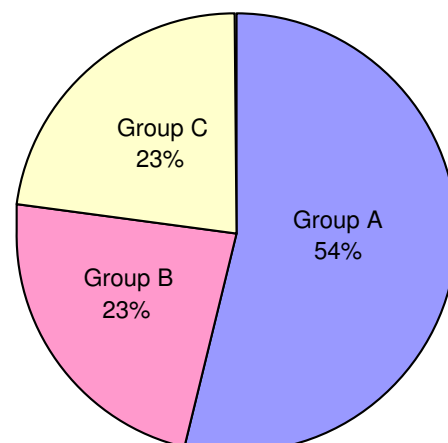
In Rotherham our focus for 2009/10 has been those children and young people with a higher level of need, those who are described as having severe and significant complex needs/disability. The government refer to these children and young people as Group A and Group B (see Appendix 2 for definitions of Groups A, B & C).

Chart and table below shows the numbers and percentages of children and young people that fall into groups A, B and C within current Short Break service providers (September 2009). Numbers shown are higher than the 203 reported service users throughout Rotherham as some children will access more than one service provider.

Service	Number of Children/Young People		
	Group A	Group B	Group C
Families Together	17	9	
Continuing Care Team		3	
Respite Care Team	3	14	3
Autism Communication Team	12		13
Hilltop and Kelford	11	3	
Bramley House	12	17	
Cherry Tree	28		
Orchard Centre Outreach Service	23	3	31
Youth Service Provision	11	2	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>50</b>

Percentage of service users in Groups A, B & C

Rotherham has a Short Break Panel (consisting of multi-disciplinary members from both health and social care) which meets regularly to ensure that short breaks are allocated without delay and that Direct Payments are used to enable families to access a range provision with the maximum flexibility possible. Appropriate use of Direct Payments is monitored by the Children's Disability Team. The Outreach Team based at

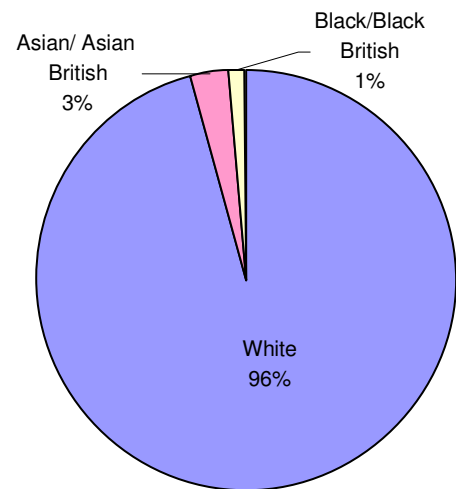


the Orchard Centre complement residential provision by providing a range of leisure activities. Since the establishment of an integrated Children & Families Special Needs Service, the Outreach Team have worked in partnership with schools and the HTHTS to contribute to a coordinated and holistic approach to provision for children with particularly complex or challenging needs.

**Culturally appropriate provision**

***FSO6: Short Breaks Service Provision Culturally appropriate provision is sympathetic to the racial, cultural, linguistic and religious needs of disabled children and their families***

2001 Census data showed that Rotherham had a total ethnic minority population of 4.1%, this being defined as people not being white British. Regionally for Yorkshire and the Humber the figure was 8.5% and nationally the figure was 13%.



When looking at Children & young peoples ethnic origin, data is collected on a much more regular basis for the 0 - 16 age range (and up to 18 if a school has a sixth form), through the annual pupil level school census. In January 2006 the ethnic breakdown amongst Children and Young People was 91.5% White and 7.5% Black or Minority Ethnic (of which 4.4% were Asian Pakistani).

Data captured from current service providers shows that 96% of service users are White British and 4% BME. This would suggest that in Rotherham the number of BME children accessing services is low.

Findings reported in Thomas Coram Research Unit Report (*DCSF-RR042*) were also consistent with secondary analysis of the Family Resources Survey (FRS) (2004-5) and the Families and Children’s Study (FACS) (2004-5), which shows although the numbers of disabled children from Black and minority ethnic (BME) groups were small in both the FRS and FACS, the chance of being disabled was greater for children from white ethnic groups than those from BME groups.

Service	Ethnicity			
	White	Asian/Asian British	Black/Black British	Mixed/Dual Background
Families Together	25	1	0	0
Continuing Care Team	3	0	0	0



Respite Care Team	18	2	0	0
Autism Communication Team	25	0	0	0
Hilltop and Kelford	13	1	0	0
Bramley House	27	1	0	1
Cherry Tree	28	0	0	0
Orchard Centre Outreach Service	54	1	2	0
Youth Service Provision	16	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

**Well-promoted information regarding Short Break provision available in the area.**

### **Early Years and Childcare Services**

The Disabled Children's Information Officer Post is funded through AHDC. The post holder empowers parents by giving them information, guidance and advice about relevant services and at a crucial point in their child's life which assists them to make informed choices. Offers parents and carers of disabled children and children undergoing assessment access to information and Early Support with referral to suitable Short Breaks services if appropriate.

Short Break provision is promoted through the Exchange Newsletter which is sent to parents and carers of disabled children in Rotherham. A separate leaflet is also produced which gives details of all the providers of Short Breaks in Rotherham and what activities are available. An AHDC webpage has been created on Rotherham Council's internet site which gives Short Breaks information and contact details for the Families Information Service.

### **Direct Payments**

Direct payments are used to pay for help to meet assessed needs. Examples of how people can use direct payments to meet their needs include appointing a personal assistant to support/ help with every day living skills and help with caring (e.g. respite care and taking a break from caring)

Direct Payment figures for Child Disability for 08/09 and 09/10 are shown below.

	<b>Direct Payments for Child Disability</b>
2008/09	£169,140
2009/10	£172,523

## **COMPLAINTS**

### **RMBC COMPLAINTS 2008-2009**

There was 1 complaint in this period in relation to direct payments.

The complaint went to stage 1.

Complaint stage 1

Complaint about the allocation of direct payments with respect to a nursery place. Complainant requesting £17 per week towards nursery fees. Reasons why the specific nursery had been chosen were outlined. Complainant also dissatisfied about length of time taken to come to a decision about the payment. (3 months after nursery placement began.)

Response:

In light of the fact that complainant in receipt of one to one provision at nursery for son agreed to review the allocation of direct payments and amend the payment to £17 per week.

Son was originally turned down for payments at panel as it was believed he was already benefiting from access to local community and it was felt that he did not require any additional services at his young age.

In respect of your request for reimbursement of expenses, as a gesture of goodwill and in view of the fact that son is benefiting from such a positive experience at the nursery a one off payment of 5 weeks at a rate of £17 to be made to support the costs already incurred.

### **GAPS – PROVIDERS**

(comments refer to individual opinions and not that of the author).

- Complex Care Team - Need recurrent funding agreed to enable timely response and meet requirement re palliative care/end of life. Ring fenced monies and equity alongside adult counterparts re continuing care access and processes would improve patient and family experience and make service easier to manage in terms of flexibility, timely access thereby meeting need more effectively
- Respite Care service could be opened out to many others if it had its own funding. Currently provided by income generation.

- Cherry Tree House is restricted in its flexibility to offer varying overnights stays. Under the current structure CTH allocate set nights to parents, yet always aim to meet their needs. As with the structure of Bramley House families are able to make requests for extended/additional respite care through a day time, which will be facilitated as and where possible.
- Bramley House Service does not have the capacity to offer weeks respite to allow parents/cares to take an holiday by themselves or with other siblings. Families are able to make requests for extended/additional respite care through a day time, which will be facilitated as and where possible, yet unfortunately due to staffing and budgetary constraints this is not offered as part of the service.
- Over the previous two years the Outreach service, in partnership with the Autism Communication Team, has facilitated sibling group activity weeks for up to 20 young people. These sessions were held over a 2 week and a 5 day period respectively. There is no dedicated budget for this activity. The sessions have only been available following successful bids made for external funding.
- Outreach Service - Transitional support into adult services is limited due to the need for additional staffing hours required to allow keyworkers to carry out additional visits with corresponding services and professionals.
- Autism Communication Team - The biggest barrier to accessing our service is transport. As the group is run in two areas of the borough the distance travelled by some is quite far. Although both groups are situated on a bus route for some young people the journey would involve two buses. A lot of the young people we work with, despite their age, are not confident travelling alone on buses and for some parents this process may cause high levels of anxiety.

## CONSULTATION

Consultation exercises began in March 2009. Appendix 2 and 3 give further information on consultations which took place. Below are the key findings from the views of children & young people and parents/carers.

### **Summary of key messages from children and young people:**

- ‘Youth House’ at Kimberworth to have separate rooms for younger and older children. One to be a ‘chill out’ room (reading/arts & crafts) and one to be a games/music room.
- Adventure Playground to be accessible for all, to include large changing areas with a hoist, wide paths and ramps for wheelchairs.
- Young people would like to go on more individualised trips to restaurants, shopping, sporting events, music concerts, museums and theatre visits. To be based on their individual tastes and interests.
- Would like to have new equipment in their current service. Popular choices were more computer games, faster internet and an air hockey/table tennis/pool table.

### **Summary of the key messages from parents/carers:**

- **Staff training and development** – Parents expressed how they want to see providers meet their child’s needs whilst ensuring quality recreational activities.
- **School holidays, weekends and evening activities** – The timing of activities was a concern as parents felt the need for more support when their children were away from school.
- **Personalised and flexible provision** – Families being able to go out together, to the coast, theme parks or places of interest with experienced and trained staff.
- **Parental and family support** – This was seen as crucial; not only for parent/carer support but for siblings too as parents felt they were often unintentionally overlooked.
- **Provision for Under 8’s** - When talking to parents they have mentioned how there doesn’t seem to be sufficient provision for under 8’s whether it’s out of school, weekend, or summer hols.
- **Increased support after their child has been diagnosed** – To include information pack (with details of support groups, services and financial support available), counselling service, parenting techniques and support group for siblings.

## BRIEFING SESSIONS

In January and February 2010 we held several briefing sessions at each of the localities in Rotherham. These events had a dual purpose; to inform parents and carers of Aiming High services available to them and to ask them for feedback on what new services they would like to see in 2010-11, and to give commissioning information to providers in the area that were thinking about applying for funding to become Short Breaks providers in 2010-11. These joint events worked well as parents and carers were able to meet potential providers and find out some of the issues around delivery of Short Breaks, whereas providers could talk to parents and carers and gain a better understanding of the issues they face in looking after disabled children and accessing provision.

### Summary of the key messages from the Briefing Sessions:

- **Up to Date Information** – Some parents and carers didn't know about AHDC provision. Regular, up to date information needed on the activities. Doesn't have to be a glossy brochure, just photocopied flyer on a monthly basis. Exchange Newsletter too infrequent to achieve this.
- **Befriending** – Assistance needed for children and young people to go out on an individual activity. A 'buddying' scheme may be useful to help young people travelling to and from provision.
- **Mainstream Schools Isolated** – Young people attending mainstream Schools do not have the same kind of access to or levels of information as those at Special Schools.
- **Transport To and From Provision** – Need to consider transport for children and young people to and from Short Breaks provision, especially for parents and carers that don't have a car.
- **Other types of information** – Just because there is literature on AHDC services, doesn't mean that parents/carers/young people will read it. Need someone to do home visits and attend taster sessions at the provision to build confidence and trust.
- **Access to Mainstream Leisure Services** – Need support workers to help disabled children and young people to access existing mainstream leisure provision.
- **Long Waiting List for Outreach Service**
- **Very Few Activities for 0-9 Year Olds** – Most of the services in the AHDC Information Leaflet seemed to be aimed at 13-19 year olds, to look at putting on more activities for younger children.
- **More Details about Services** – Need details of competencies of services so workers and parents/carers have confidence and trust in the providers.
- **Group Family Holidays** – Parents/Carers don't always want individual family holidays. They like it when groups of families can go together on holidays and day trips. Felt Habershon House and Parent/Carer

Forum day trips worked well as families could meet people in a similar situation.

- **Projects 'Pulled' after 2011** – Parents/Carers cynical about 'Time Out' service being pulled out due to lack of funding. Concern that this will happen again to new services after March 2011. Need to look at sustainability.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations for delivery in 2010/11 are based on the examination of the generic borough statistics, data from service providers and key messages from stakeholders, parents and carers and disabled children and young people.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOROUGH STATISTICS AND SERVICE PROVIDER DATA	
1	To look at new provision based in Wentworth North, Rother Valley and Rotherham South to cater for disabled children and young people living in these areas.
2	To increase the number of services for disabled children aged 0-9 years, particularly for weekday evening, weekends and school holidays.
3	To continue to prioritise and increase the numbers of Group A and B children accessing services.
4	To increase the number of BME disabled young people and families accessing Short Breaks
5	To look at introducing a befriending service to enable disabled young people to access more individualised activities
6	To increase access to universal services
7	To continue and extend sibling support service
8	To increase the number of services offering weekend Short Breaks provision
9	To explore the options around transportation to and from Short Break provision

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PARENTS, CARERS AND YOUNG PEOPLE CONSULTATION	
1	'Youth House' at Kimberworth to have separate rooms for younger and older children, one 'chill out' room and one music/games room.
2	To ensure Eastwood Adventure Playground is accessible for all disabled children and young people.

3	Young people would like to go on more individualised trips based on their own tastes and interests.
4	To look at new equipment for children and young people in their current services.
5	To ensure workforce development caters for children's specific needs (including complex health needs).
6	To increase the number of Short Break family holidays with a carer and ensure provision is personalised and flexible.
7	To increase support and information available for parents after their child has been diagnosed
8	To increase access to mainstream activities
9	To provide more up to date information and improve information given at mainstream Schools

## APPENDIX 1

### **Aiming High for Disabled Children Short Break Process and criteria for Rotherham**

The Government is committing significant additional funding to support the Aiming High agenda during the period 2008 – 2011. The majority of this funding is to support the extension and improvement for short break provision.

In the borough of Rotherham our focus will be in relation to those children and young people with a higher level of need, those who are described as having severe and significant complex needs/disability (Group A & B).

In addition it is our aim to support those children/families where there is a moderate level of disability to access other appropriate short break opportunities or information services (Group C).

These principles will be applied to the following groups of children and young people:

- a) Children and young people with Autism Spectrum disorder.
- b) Children and young people with complex health needs, including the technology dependant child and those requiring palliative care
- c) Disabled children and young people 0 – 18 years.
- d) Children and young people with moving and handling needs that require equipment and adaptations.
- e) Children and young people with challenging behaviour as a result of their impairment.

### **Referral System**

An open referral system has been adopted where anyone professional or family member can refer.

Children and young people will be referred into a central and single point of access where they will be assessed as having/not having short break needs that fall with the minimum of one of the following 4 tiers. The interaction between the child's needs and/or the number and severity of needs exhibited will determine the tier and ultimately the allocation of short break hours.

**Tier 1** – Enhanced needs, social outlet via universal services.

**Tier 2** – Targeted support via a combination of universal and specialist services.

**Tier 3** – Complex care package resulting in high frequency specialist support



**Tier 4** – Crisis intervention due to circumstances or emergency which requires an immediate short break.

**Some examples of Groups A, B and C.**

**Group A** – A child with a diagnosis of Autism with severe challenging behaviour. The child is in receipt of higher rate DLA for personal care and requires specialist or targeted services.

**Group B** – A child with Complex Health Needs with technology dependence and significant levels of care required both day and night. Is in receipt of DLA at higher level for personal care/mobility. Requires specialist or targeted services.

**Group C** – A child whose condition and care requirements are described as moderate. Is in receipt of DLA.

Rigid eligibility criteria for assessment, allocation and provision of services are not set due to the potential unique combination of a child's disability, the circumstances of their home life and wider context of their social environment. Each referral will be assessed on its merits.

However there are some factors that are recognised as placing additional stresses on families and it is expected that for provision to be appropriate some or all of the following factors would be present:

- Family breakdown, either imminent or likely in the future which is due to the additional stresses caused by bringing up a child with a disability, whereby the impact would be lessened by the provision of a service.
- Significant challenging behaviour from a child with a disability beyond that which it would be reasonable to expect from a young person of that age.
- Complex medical needs requiring a significant level of care beyond that which it would be reasonable to expect when looking after a young person of that age.
- Single carer, particularly if there are other children in the household.
- Poverty poor or inadequate housing and/or neighbourhood difficulties.
- No or limited extended family network.
- Social exclusion due to the young person's lack of ability to have a new experience and/or to have acquaintances outside the professional/school arenas.
- Significant lack of opportunity for a young person to gain skills and experience to support independence appropriate to their ability.
- Discrimination due to disability which leads to significant social isolation.
- The child or young person though of school age is not in school due to condition or behaviour.

- A child or young person has a palliative or end of life support need whereby short breaks would aid child and family coping.
- High levels of personal and other care that span both day and night.

The allocation of short break hours will be determined through an assessment which takes into account the holistic needs of both the child and family.

The assessment will take into account the views and opinions of the child and family however the allocation of short break hours will be determined following the assessment process and consideration of all the relevant information.

Any support offered will be regularly reviewed according to the child and family circumstances or changes in their needs.

Once hours of short break are allocated it is foreseen that a directory of provision will help children and families choose from a variety of activities and short breaks that are on offer.

## APPENDIX 2

### Children & Young People Consultation

This consultation was done in partnership with the Voice and Influence Officer from RMBC (working with children age 0 to 13) and a qualified Youth Worker responsible for Voice and Influence for AHDC (age 13 to 19). A children and young people questionnaire was also included in the Exchange Newsletter which is sent out to families of disabled children and young people. The purpose of the consultation was to feedback what the children and young people said in the previous Needs Assessment consultation with Consilient in 2008, what we have done as a result of this feedback in 2009/10 and what else the young people would like to see in 2010/11. The views of approximately 55 young people were captured.

School / Source	Age range	Format of feedback
Orchard Stars (young people's participation group)	12-18 with physical & learning difficulties (5)	Flipchart Cardboard Models Laptop - visual presentation Pictures
Autism Communication Team (Chat 'n' Chill Youth Club)	13-18 year olds (29)	Flipchart Pictures
Newman Bungalow (Complex Care team holiday club)	4-5 year olds (4)	Makaton Pictures
Elephant In Step Club (Youth Club)	13-18 year olds (14)	Flipchart Pictures
Exchange Newsletter Questionnaire	5-18 year olds (3)	Questionnaire

**Feedback to Young People from previous Needs Assessment  
Consultation with Consilient - 2008**

**This is what you asked for:**

1. Youth House – places to ‘hang out’
2. Activities that suit your age and are not ‘babyish’
3. More outdoor activities and sports
4. Flexible transport – longer trips and overnight stays
5. To be asked and involved in making decisions

**This is what we’ve done:**

1. We are looking at having a ‘youth house’ next year, either in rooms at Kimberworth Comprehensive School or linking in to ‘My Place’.
2. We now have activities that are more age appropriate for teenagers i.e. Chat ‘n’ Chill Youth Group and Elephant in Step Club.
3. We are making an Adventure Playground in Rotherham accessible to all young people and have sports activities at SCOPE.
4. We now have 2 Aiming High for Disabled Children minibuses. We also have overnight stays at Filey (Habershon House) and Haven holiday camp in either North Yorkshire or Sussex.
5. We are setting up a monthly Young People Steering Group from January 2010 to make sure that you have your say.

**Questions and Feedback from Children and Young People Consultation  
2009**

**Q1. What activities would you like to have in your ‘Youth House’ rooms  
at Kimberworth?**

- Kitchen, cooking - place to make their own food
- Music, ipod docking stations
- Arts and Crafts space, woodwork, face painting
- TV with Sky
- Pool Table/Table Tennis
- Computer games & internet
- Karaoke
- Gardening
- Football, boxing and other sports
- Soft Play

**Q2. How would you like the rooms at Kimberworth to look?**

- I think there should be a quiet area with maybe books and music.
- Don't make it too small to move around
- Storage to put things away
- Clean and inviting
- Happy smiling staff
- Free activities
- How will I get there?
- Open all year round
- Different spaces for older and younger kids.
- Two different rooms - 'Chill out room' and 'Music room'

<b>Chill Out Room</b>	<b>Music Room</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thinner carpet for wheelchairs</li> <li>• Water bed/normal bed</li> <li>• Sofas – corner sofa and big cushions</li> <li>• Teddies, bean bags</li> <li>• Dinosaur Theme</li> <li>• Softer colours on the walls – Blues and Greens</li> <li>• Dimmer switches for the lights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Space for a dance floor, mirror ball</li> <li>• Laminated Floors</li> <li>• Graffiti Wall</li> <li>• Spot Lights</li> <li>• Bright Colours on walls - Yellow</li> </ul>

**Q3. What would you like to see in your service?**

- Better meals – fresh food not heated up in tins
- To fix the water feature in Bramley House garden
- New computers and computer games, faster internet
- New television with a larger screen
- Lego
- Sleep over
- Drum Kit
- Air Hockey table/Table Tennis table

**Q4. What would you like to see in an Adventure Playground?**

- Swing with a basket so they can go in it too
- Wheelchair roundabout
- Water and sand
- Arts and Crafts
- Graffiti wall
- An area to make a den
- Treehouse
- Skateboard/bikes area
- Maze

- Slide
- Football/Basketball area
- Sensory Garden
- Rock climbing wall/climbing frame
- Food/Barbeque area
- Mechanical diggers
- Bird watching area
- Zip Wire

**Q5. What would stop you from using an Adventure Playground?**

- Loose gravel paths – no good for wheelchairs (make the wheels spin)
- Would not access the playground by themselves. Feel the location/area the playground is in is not safe.
- Fighting/gangs
- Dog/cat litter
- Vandalism/ Litter

**Q6. What would help you to use the Adventure Playground?**

- Moveable Hoist (to be used in the toilets too)
- Toilets to have enough room for young person, two members of support staff and hoist
- Strengthened and raised paths
- Ramps to access bridges, tower and other activities.
- Security cameras/security guards
- Fence/wall around it
- Staff to supervise
- Warning signs

**Q7. Where would you like to go on a trip?**

- Trips to museums – i.e. Railway museum, Air museum, Royal Armouries
- Restaurants
- Trips to the seaside
- Cinema
- Sports Matches – Football, Ice Hockey, Horse Racing, Motor Racing
- Theatre visits/Shows/ Music concerts
- Sporting/adventure activities - Ice Skating/Boating/Horse Riding/Bowling/Paintballing
- Shopping at Meadowhall
- Trips to local places of interest - Crowden, Castleton, Bamborough, Rother Valley Park
- Disneyland Paris

## APPENDIX 3

### Parents/Carers Consultation

A parent and carer consultation event took place on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Rotherham to gain the views of parents and carers and to look at how they could assist local providers in shaping their services to enable more disabled children to access provision. Over 150 parent/carers attended the consultation event.

During the event parents were able to spend time with providers, listening to what they offered before exploring how their service could be developed to encourage more disabled children to attend.

The event also saw the launch of Rotherham Parent Carer's Forum. By the close of the event, the forum had attracted another 67 members.

### Rotherham Parent Carer Forum Consultation re: 'Giving Short Breaks a Little Extra'

Following on from the Parent and Carer Consultation Event in March, the Rotherham Parent Carer Forum arranged a Family Day to Twycross Zoo on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2009. The day was a celebration of our families and centred on fun, inclusion and mutual support. During the event families were informed of 'Giving Short Breaks a Little Extra' and asked for their initial feedback on this type of short break provision.

#### Giving Short breaks a Little Extra:

'Giving Short Breaks a little extra' is delivered in conjunction with KIDS and the Family Fund and aims to provide families with a short break whilst on holiday. The scheme involves a family holiday at one of two Haven holiday parks with between 10 - 20 hrs short break care and support being provided to the family whilst they are there.



Haven holidays are available at a discounted rate at either Primrose Valley in North Yorkshire or Church Farm in Sussex. 3, 4 or 7 night holidays are available. This can be paid for by the family or if they are eligible, they would apply for support from the local Authority or a grant from the Family Fund towards the cost of the holiday.

The care/support package is provided by Wilf Ward Family Trust at Primrose Valley and by KIDS Direct Short Breaks at Church Farm. Individual packages of between 10-20 hours per family are arranged. The care/support is provided by trained staff and includes staff travel to and from the location and 24/7 on call emergency support.

**Feedback from families:**

Overall parents/carers were very positive about the idea. Many families said they hadn't had a family holiday for years. One parent/carer whose partner was registered blind advised that whilst he was independent at home he was dependant on her in unfamiliar environments. For her a holiday represented a significant increase in caring responsibilities.

A number of families with children on the Autistic Spectrum advised they thought it was a great idea in principal but that it would probably not meet their needs. Taking their child out of their familiar environment was extremely stressful and they tended to go on 'days out' rather than holidays. One family said their child didn't access school trips because they found it so distressing to be out of their usual routine and environment. Another family accessing Direct Payments spoke of their difficulties in finding a carer that their child would accept. These families also thought it was unlikely that their child would get used to and accept a new carer within 7 days and certainly couldn't within a break of 3 or 4 days.



Several families were familiar with the Primrose Valley site and said it was good although some said there was quite a steep path to the beach that may be difficult for some families. One family that had previously been on a Butlins holiday said it had been totally unsuitable for their child, there had been lots of queuing, their child hadn't been able to access any of the children's activities and the sound level even for the children's disco and entertainer was so high their child couldn't handle it at all. Families familiar with Haven Holidays hadn't had this kind of experience.

Several families expressed concerns about how long it would take for the child and carer to get to know each other. Several said they thought they would feel comfortable about a carer going out with them as a family or being alongside them if their child was not ready to go off with the carer. One family questioned if the child would stay with the unfamiliar carer or would be happy to leave the family to do an alternative activity. Several felt the sex of the carer would be important in the child's ability to develop a relationship quickly.

Several parents/carers spoke about going away with family members who helped with providing care. A single parent with a physically disabled son said she had never been able to go on holiday without her parents. She felt it would be fantastic for herself and her son to go away together and to be able



to have some time on her own. 3 families said they didn't think they would need to access help from a carer while they were on holiday.

One family advised that Family Fund was not available for families where the disabled young person was over 16 years and would potentially exclude 16-18year olds. Another family said they didn't think they would be eligible for Family Fund but thought it was a great idea and would be willing to pay for help from a carer while on holiday. Several families said they would value being able to tap into a pool of carers who could support the family on day trips or in other venues. This had been available on some of the Time Out activities and there were several calls for this to be reinstated.

One family said their difficulties were particularly around the break in routine during the school holidays and felt short, fun activities which could be delivered between 9.00am -3.00pm even for 1 day per week would make a big difference. They had been very disappointed that their child was now too old to access this via their local Children's Centre.



Two families stressed the need for the carer to access medical training. They questioned if they would be able to leave their child with a carer who did not have nursing training.

Some families had already accessed Family Fund for holidays but said they had been able to go abroad and would prefer to do this than access a carer but stay within Britain. Others said the need for a washing machine, play equipment for the garden or driving lessons would be a higher priority for them than a holiday.

The families we spoke to were attending a family event and so were likely to be positive about doing an activity as a family rather than wanting their child to access a

short break separately.

Families were asked if they would be willing to take part in a trial of the provision. In addition a number of families on the 'Outreach' waiting list were contacted to see if they too would be interested in being part of a trial. A group of 9 families have been identified, some of whom had more than one child with disabilities. These families have agreed to provide feedback on their experiences and will be accessing the provision between August '09 and June '10.

Families not eligible for support from the Family Fund to access the provision will be assisted through the Aiming High for Disabled Children grant.



**Annex 3**

**AIMING HIGH FOR DISABLED CHILDREN**  
**COMMISSIONING STRATEGY FOR SHORT BREAKS SERVICES**  
**2009 to 2012**  
**2010/11 Refresh**



**Rotherham**



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

This is the 2010/11 refresh of the 2009 to 2012 three year Commissioning Strategy for extending and improving Children and Young People's Disability Short Break services in Rotherham.

The Strategy has been developed through a partnership between NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC and sets out Rotherham's joint health and social care commissioning and decommissioning intentions for 2009-2012, to meet our obligations under the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) Short Break Transformation Programme.

The Government is committing significant additional funding to support the Aiming High agenda during the period of the Comprehensive Spending Review 2008-2011. The majority of this funding is to support the extension and improvement of short break provision.

This document focuses on how Rotherham will continue to achieve a transformation in the quality, quantity and range of provision, through meeting the standards set out in the Full Service Offer (FSO). In addition, meeting the FSO will involve ensuring that specific groups of disabled children are no longer disadvantaged.

In the first year of the Strategy i.e. 2009/10, we primarily focussed on consolidating existing provision and we are now in a position to fully roll out the transformational change in 2010/2011.

### 1.1 WHAT THE STRATEGY IS ABOUT

#### **The scope of the Commissioning Strategy**

The function of this Commissioning Strategy is to identify how to use the resources available to best meet the short break needs of disabled children and young people and their parents/carers.

There is no single definition of the word "disability" and the strategy adopts the definition from the Disability Discrimination Act 1995: "A physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term impact on the ability of a person to carry out normal day-to-day activities".

This strategy encompasses the provision of short breaks for children and young people in Rotherham with:

- Severe Learning Disabilities
- Physical Disabilities
- Severe Developmental Delay
- A diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Multiple Disabilities
- Challenging behaviour as a result of their disability
- Complex health needs

## **Vision for Short Break provision during 2009 to 2012**

The joint vision of NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC is to transform the way in which short breaks are provided to ensure a future where disabled children and young people and their parent/carer can access a quality and diverse range of short break provision that is available at a time and place of their choice and meets their individual needs.

It is a fundamental aim that children and young people and their parent/carer will be **active participants** rather than **passive recipients** of services.

Achieving the Full Service Offer of extended and improved short breaks for children with disabilities and their families will be a key component of an integrated strategy to deliver the National Core Offer under Aiming High for Disabled Children.

The short break service offer will:

- significantly increase the range and volume of provision available from the 2007 – 2008 baseline
- be based on a comprehensive needs assessment which is informed by extensive consultation with children with disabilities and their families
- accurately reflect the identified wishes of children with disabilities and their families in the development & delivery of service
- use fair, understandable and transparent eligibility criteria
- provide specialist support for the most complex needs whilst promoting increased access to universal provision
- ensure that no groups are disadvantaged in accessing service
- support and promote independence & resilience as well as provide respite at periods of crisis
- promote positive social experiences
- contribute to an integrated package of care and support
- be delivered in partnership between statutory and third sector agencies
- be delivered within the Joint Commissioning Framework and provide best value
- be responsive to evaluation by service users
- Partners will work together to ensure a skilled, dedicated and professional workforce.

## **1.2 LOCAL AND NATIONAL CONTEXT**

In the context of the implementation of the Every Child Matters: Change for Children agenda, NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC have developed strong partnerships and have implementing children's trust arrangements, which includes the integration of front line services. They have been working in partnership to implement Standard 6 and 8 of the Children's National Service Framework since 2004, and within the Single Children's Plan, the 'Be Healthy' section details developments required with regard to children with disabilities and particular those with complex health care needs.

Both NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC are fully committed in transforming disability short break provision and ensuring that the 'full service offer' is achieved.

The national context for transforming short break provision is outlined through the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) Short Break Transformation Programme. In addition, further Government priorities for disabled children are contained within:

- Every Child matters – Next Steps
- National Service Framework
- Together from the Start – Early Support Services for Disabled Children
- Youth Matters
- Early Years Strategy
- Removing Barriers to Achievement
- Safeguarding Children

Each local area's delivery of the AHDC National Core Offer is being monitored through the national performance indicator, NI 54, and the government is now introducing legislation to make the provision of short breaks a statutory responsibility.

### 1.3 RESOURCE ASSUMPTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONING

Both NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC currently commit a significant amount of resources into the provision of short break services. These are as follows:

<b>RMBC and PCT Revenue Summary</b>	<b>Projected 2009/10</b>	<b>Projected 2010/11</b>	<b>Short Breaks Element 2009/10</b>	<b>Short Breaks Element 2010/11</b>
Residential Overnight	<b>£1,328,006</b>	<b>£1,369,362</b>	£4,000	£4,000
Family Based Overnight	<b>£328,027</b>	<b>£345,087</b>	£83,000	£166,140
Family Based Day Care	<b>£387,229</b>	<b>£399,547</b>	£0	£0
Group Based During Day (Specialist)	<b>£23,000</b>	<b>£23,500</b>	£80,000	£201,500
Group Based During Day (Non-Specialist)	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	£165,000	£616,910
Direct Payments/Individual Budgets	<b>£215,271</b>	<b>£219,576</b>	£0	£50,000
Management Overhead	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	£46,972	£120,000
Other Revenue Expenditure	<b>£100,000</b>	<b>£100,000</b>	£82,628	£82,628
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£2,381,533</b>	<b>£2,457,072</b>	<b>£461,600</b>	<b>£1,241,178</b>

The Government is committing significant additional funding to support the extension and improvement of short break provision, which consists of both revenue and capital funding. In line with the 2009 to 2010 AHDC Commissioning Strategy, the current 2009/10 financial year has seen an enhancement of current service provision and an investment in new non-specialist service provision. The year 2010/11 will see a significant uplift in both revenue and capital funding and this is outlined below:

Revenue			Capital		
2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
£60,000	£345,100	<b>£1,113,300</b>	0	£171,600	<b>£400,500</b>

The receipt of the 2010/11 allocations will be dependent on satisfying Government Office that Rotherham has a robust plan for fully achieving the Full Service Offer.

NHS Rotherham committed £100,000 revenue in 2009/10 and will again commit £100,000 revenue monies in 2010/11.

Both NHS Rotherham and the new additional short breaks monies should not be seen in isolation and therefore commissioning will be based on the totality of these resources.

#### **1.4 CONSULTATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND CARERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS**

Disabled young people and their parents/carers are 'experts by experience'. Their perspectives are not only essential to the planning and delivery of their own short breaks, but also required in all aspects of service planning, development, delivery and evaluation of short break services.

There has been extensive consultation with young people and parents/carers as part of the Short Breaks Needs Assessment Re-fresh, through small group consultation with young people who are both accessing Rotherham's Short Break provision and those who are not accessing provision, and with parents through a series of consultation events in each Locality in Rotherham.

This strategy is committed to the meaningful and effective involvement of disabled young people and their carers and is a clear priority which underpins its successful implementation.

This strategy will support the continued enhancement of involvement, which will ensure the delivery of several key outcomes:-

- Involvement in planning decisions to ensure that services, systems and structures meet the needs of disabled young people and carers
- Involvement in service developments
- Participation in service review and audit
- Representation in the overall Governance agenda
- Involvement in staff recruitment and induction and training
- Involving disabled young people and carers in evaluation and feedback

Mechanisms to help support the delivery of these objectives have been implemented in 2009/10 and include the establishment of a fund to support the Parents Forum and dedicated time of a youth worker to involve young people in the Aiming High programme.

## **2. NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS – FUTURE DEMAND**

The accompanying Rotherham Needs Assessment Re-fresh for Extending and Improving Short Break Services provides detailed information around the background demographics. The following sections give a snapshot of this information:-

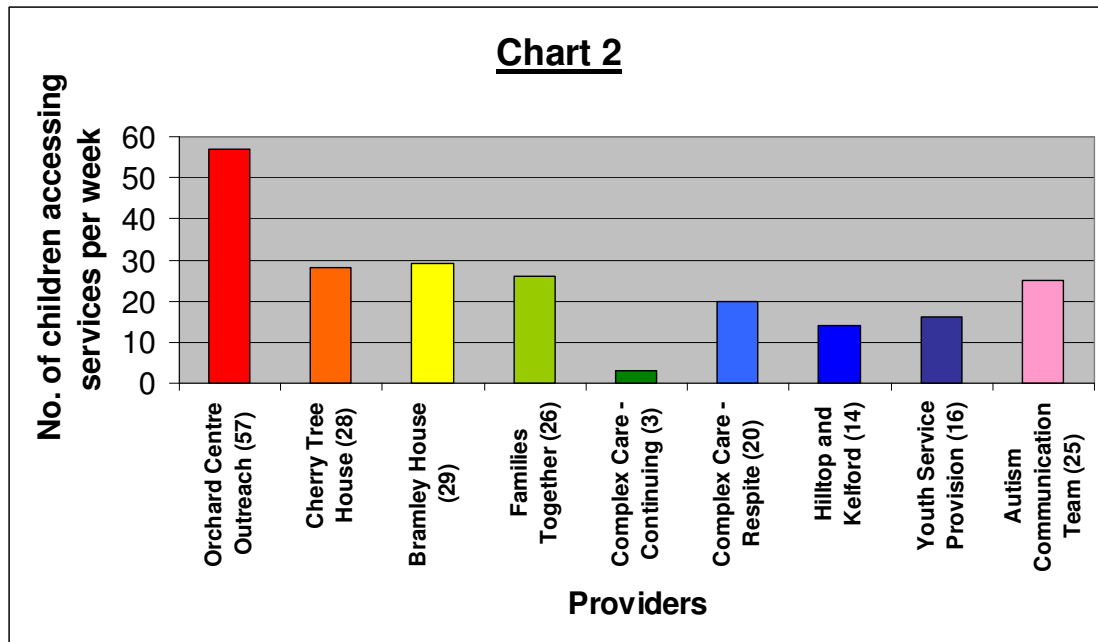
### **2.1 DEMOGRAPHIC TRENDS**

It remains difficult to calculate the actual numbers of C&YP in Rotherham who have a disability as little whole service research and data collection has taken place.

Locally gathered service data has been used to establish a picture of children & young people with disabilities requiring short breaks/respite care within Rotherham. Information from the Disability Living Allowance team estimates that there are around 4,000 C&YP in Rotherham with a disability although there are currently only 430 children (10.8%) registered on the Voluntary Children's' Disability Register.

### **2.2 REFERRAL/DEMAND TRENDS**

As outlined in the previous section, Rotherham currently has 430 children registered on the Voluntary Children's' Disability Register. Data collated from our Service Provider Monitoring Booklets, showed that as of September 2009, there were 203 children and young people accessing services per week, which was an increase of 23 young people, with the breakdown by service as follows:



Based on the Together for Disabled Children Implementation Tool, we have taken projected future demand is as follows:

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Number of Disabled Children & Future Demand	326	430	500	632
% increase in demand	0%	32%	53%	94%

### 2.3 PROFILE OF YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESSING CURRENT PROVISION

As previously stated, there are currently 203 service users per week. These figures are now broken down into areas of gender, age, ethnicity and complexity of need.

#### Gender Specific Information

Service	% male	% female
Families Together	50	50
Continuing Care Team	25	75
Respite Care Team	55	45
Autism Communication Team	80	20
Hilltop and Kelford	70	30
Bramley House	55	45
Cherry Tree	75	25
Orchard Centre Outreach Service	75	25
Youth Service Provision	55	45

According to the recent survey of local authorities (Report DCSF-RR042) boys are twice as likely to be recorded disabled as girls. This is consistent with the 2005 Children in Need Census and the 2007 Special Educational Needs (SEN) statement figures. These findings are also consistent with secondary analysis of the Family Resources Survey (FRS) (2004-5) and the Families and Children's Study (FACS) (2004-5), which shows that prevalence of disability is higher among boys than girls.

Rotherham service provider figures only show a slight increase overall of boys accessing services to girls, although the above trend can be found in a couple of services (one service has 80% male service users and another 75%).

### Age appropriate provision

Relative to the 2001 Census, children under five are unlikely to be known to be disabled. This is also consistent with CIN and SEN figures.

However, relative to these figures, the TCRU survey found, on average, equal numbers of disabled young people in the age range 5-11 and the range 12-18: this is consistent with the 2001 Census, but the CIN and SEN figures both show higher numbers in the oldest age group.

The information in the table below indicates Rotherham has relatively comparable figures to those held nationally although Rotherham ages were captured from slightly different ranges.

Service	Age of Children Accessing Service			
	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19
Families Together	1	8	7	10
Continuing Care Team	2	1		
Respite Care Team	8	10	2	
Autism Communication Team			16	9
Hilltop and Kelford				14
Bramley House			15	14
Cherry Tree		1	9	18
Orchard Centre Outreach Service		15	24	18
Youth Service Provision		2	8	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>89</b>

### Complexity of need

Rotherham has a Short Break Panel which meets regularly to ensure that short breaks are allocated and that Direct Payments are used to enable families to access a range provision with the maximum flexibility possible. Appropriate use of Direct Payments is monitored by the Children's Disability Team.

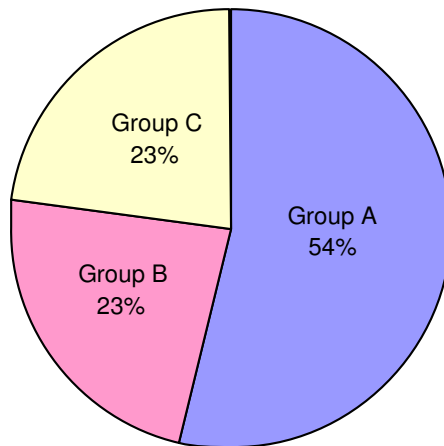


In Rotherham our focus for 2009/10 has been those children and young people with a higher level of need, those who are described as having severe and significant complex needs/disability. The government refer to these children and young people as Group A and Group B (see Appendix 2 for definitions of Groups A, B & C).

Chart and table below shows the numbers and percentages of children and young people that fall into groups A, B and C within current Short Break service providers (September 2009). Numbers shown are higher than the 203 reported service users throughout Rotherham as some children will access more than one service provider.

Service	Number of Children/Young People		
	Group A	Group B	Group C
Families Together	17	9	
Continuing Care Team		3	
Respite Care Team	3	14	3
Autism Communication Team	12		13
Hilltop and Kelford	11	3	
Bramley House	12	17	
Cherry Tree	28		
Orchard Centre Outreach Service	23	3	31
Youth Service Provision	11	2	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>50</b>

Percentage of service users in Groups A, B & C



### Culturally appropriate provision

When looking at Children & young peoples ethnic origin, data is collected on a much more regular basis for the 0 -16 age range (and up to 18 if a school has a sixth form), through the annual pupil level school census. In January 2006 the ethnic breakdown amongst Children and Young People was 91.5% White and 7.5% Black or Minority Ethnic (of which 4.4% were Asian Pakistani).

Data captured from current service providers shows that 96% of service users are White British and 4% BME. This would suggest that in Rotherham the number of BME children accessing services is low.

Findings reported in Thomas Coram Research Unit Report (*DCSF-RR042*) were also consistent with secondary analysis of the Family Resources Survey (FRS) (2004-5) and the Families and Children's Study (FACS) (2004-5), which shows although the numbers of disabled children from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups were small in both the FRS and FACS, the chance of being disabled was greater for children from white ethnic groups than those from BME groups (Read et al., 2007: Table 9).

Service	Ethnicity			
	White	Asian/ Asian British	Black/Black British	Mixed/Dual Background
Families Together	25	1	0	0
Continuing Care Team	3	0	0	0
Respite Care Team	18	2	0	0
Autism Communication Team	25	0	0	0
Hilltop and Kelford	13	1	0	0
Bramley House	27	1	0	1
Cherry Tree	28	0	0	0
Orchard Centre Outreach	54	1	2	0
Youth Service Provision	16	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

## 2.4 THE NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR PARENTS/CARERS

The development of the Short Breaks Needs Assessment Refresh included extensive consultation with young people in Rotherham accessing Short Breaks services in November 2009 and also consultation with parents in March and July 2009. In addition, there were Briefing Sessions held in January and February 2010 to gain feedback from parents/carers and potential providers of Short Breaks.

The key responses from consultation on the future needs of young people and their parents/carers in respect of short break provision is detailed in the table below:

AHDC Requirement	Children & Young People's Responses	Parents' & Carers' Responses	Stakeholders' Responses
<p><b>Offer a significantly greater volume of short break provision set against a 2007 – 08 baseline, and which reflects the additional funding levels available from government</b></p>	<p>Youth House at Kimberworth</p> <p>Increased access to mainstream activities</p> <p>More individualised trips</p> <p>New equipment in their current service</p>	<p>School holiday provision</p> <p>Befriending</p> <p>Group Family Holidays</p> <p>Staff training and development</p> <p>Transport to and from provision</p>	<p>Audit of existing provision &amp; new possibilities</p> <p>Increased transport provision</p>
<p><b>Use fair, understandable and transparent eligibility criteria that enable short breaks to be used as a preventive service and which do not restrict provision to those threatened by family breakdown or other points of crisis</b></p>	<p>Age &amp; ability appropriate groupings</p>	<p>Consultation indicates a range of awareness and satisfaction with eligibility criteria</p> <p>Increased support after child has been diagnosed</p>	<p>Improve access to mainstream to ensure specialist services can prioritise most complex needs</p>
<p><b>Offer a wide range of short break provision, tailored to families' needs and including:</b></p>	<p>Disabled children &amp; young people want access to all the same mainstream activities as others</p> <p>They also want their own dedicated facilities &amp; activities</p>	<p>Flexible arrangements to meet the families needs</p>	<p>More providers based in Rotherham north and south</p>

<p><b>Provide positive experiences for children by promoting friendships and by encouraging social activities, new experiences and supportive relationships with carers</b></p>	<p>Services are for young people not only to give parents a break</p> <p>Youth House at Kimberworth – places to hang out</p>	<p>Availability of appropriately skilled workers to support</p> <p>Transport</p> <p>Accessible facilities</p> <p>Independency / Life Skills training / experiences</p>	<p>Audit of existing provision &amp; new possibilities</p>
<p><b>Provide culturally appropriate provision that is sympathetic to the racial, cultural and religious background of disabled children and their families</b></p>	<p>Befriending Service</p>	<p>Parents/Carers to be present at Short Breaks</p> <p>Family based short breaks</p>	<p>Main take up of activities from BME community will be around Family Based Short Breaks</p> <p>Faith based short breaks</p> <p>BME Advisory Group</p> <p>Consortia Approach</p>
<p><b>Ensure that provision is available on a planned and regular basis and at the times when families, and young people, need breaks - this should include evenings, weekends and holiday provision, and have the capacity to respond to urgent care requirements</b></p>	<p>More individualised trips</p> <p>Trips – including longer &amp; residential</p> <p>Outdoor &amp; indoor play facilities</p>	<p>School holiday provision</p> <p>Longer breaks to enable a holiday</p> <p>Flexible arrangements to meet the families needs</p>	<p>Increased number of providers and activities for Weekday Evening, Weekends and School Holidays</p>

<p><b>Provide age appropriate provision which ensures the following groups are not disadvantaged in accessing short breaks</b></p>	<p>More age &amp; ability appropriate group activities</p>	<p>Increased provision for children aged under 10</p> <p>Availability of appropriately skilled staff</p> <p>Transport</p>	<p>To increase number of services for children aged 0-9 years</p>
<p><b>Utilise the service provider that offers the best possible combination of skills and experience to deliver services of the highest possible quality to meet individual needs at the most efficient cost</b></p>	<p>Youth House at Kimberworth</p> <p>Increased access to mainstream activities</p> <p>Independence &amp; transition support</p>	<p>Increased access to mainstream activities</p> <p>Accessibility</p> <p>Transport</p>	<p>Need to work with mainstream providers to increase accessibility – beyond DDA compliance – and identify new possibilities</p>
<p><b>Promote information about available provision to the public, including details of eligibility – including threshold criteria – and routes to accessing the service</b></p>		<p>Up to date information on a regular basis</p> <p>Other types of information including home visits and taster sessions</p>	<p>Renewing eligibility criteria</p>

## **2.5 ASSESSMENT OF NEEDS, STRENGTHS AND ASPIRATIONS**

Although it is not possible to ascertain the exact number of disabled children and people and those who would be eligible for short break provision, there are nonetheless 430 children and young people who are registered on the voluntary disabled children's register. This provides a baseline from which we can project a significant percentage increase in the number of young people accessing short breaks and to set targets accordingly.

Feedback from consultation and forecasted numbers of disabled children and young people, backs up the knowledge that we are not engaging with a significant number of families who are eligible for short breaks, but do not wish to be on the voluntary disability register.

The profile of the children and young people accessing current provision highlights that we are providing a range of services to meet the varying complexities of need. However, there are a relatively low number of young people accessing certain types of service and there are significantly more children and young people over the age of ten accessing services.

The aspirations outlined by children and young people, parents/carers and stakeholders with regard to how they would like to see short break provision develop, are comprehensive. Whilst there are some aspirations that are challenging, they are achievable and are wholly appropriate in terms of the Aiming Higher of Disabled Children requirements.

## **2.6 IDENTIFICATION OF OBSTACLES TO ACHIEVING DESIRED OUTCOMES**

One of the key current obstacles is that a significant number of families are not accessing short break provision. In order to achieve the desired outcomes, the communication of the short break offer is a key priority.

The lack of accurate information on the number of disabled children and young people has proved problematic and in order to ensure that this does not pose an ongoing issue and obstacle to achieving the desired outcomes, the development of recording and monitoring systems is critical.

## **2.7 IMPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONING**

The key responses from consultation on the future short break needs of young people and their parents/carers, as detailed in the table under section 2.4, provides a framework for the commissioning of future provision. In line with the key principle of this commissioning strategy, we will endeavour to implement the responses from young people, their parents/carers and stakeholders that are summarised in the table under section 2.4.

We will also ensure that the short break offer is effectively communicated to children and young people and their parents/carers and that there are robust information and monitoring systems in place.



### 3. MARKET ANALYSIS

#### 3.1 CURRENT SERVICE PROVISION

In Rotherham there are a range of existing services which are tailored to families' needs and include:

- c) overnight breaks, with care available in both the child's own home and elsewhere;
- d) breaks during the day, with care available in the child's own home and elsewhere;
- c) breaks in universal settings, delivered through the support of a befriending, sitting or sessional service;

Provision is available at the times when families and young people need breaks and the number of current service providers offering specific types of services is outlined below:

**Continuing Care Team** – Continuing care package children receive between 9 and 12 hour night shifts plus 6 hours per week respite care during the day.

**Respite Care Team** - Service is provided throughout the day until 10pm at night and also during holidays and weekends

**Families Together** – Service is provided 1-2 hours (short term support) to enable a parent to complete a task for this time span such as shopping or brief meetings; 2-4 hours where carers offer this frequency on an ongoing basis as an agreed level or to build toward the possibility of an overnight stay.

**Orchard Centre - Cherry Tree House** - A Short Break service which offers over night stays, primarily 24hr/7days a week (not operational during Bank Holidays and Christmas periods unless an emergency placement is required). Full available capacity of the centre is 5 beds + 1 emergency per night (5 x7 plus 1x7 = 42 beds per week). Cherry Tree House possesses a dedicated staff team eager and willing to diversify in order to meet the changing needs of service users.

**Orchard Centre - Bramley House** - A short term break unit which provides short breaks for six young people with physical and/or sensory disabilities with the provision of one emergency bed. The service provides an opportunity for the young person to spend time away from home in an environment which is appropriate to their needs. In February 2010 Bramley House will be undergoing extensive refurbishment which will enable the unit to provide respite for a wider range of children with complex needs.

**Orchard Centre - Outreach Service** - Provides respite care from their own premises and out in the community of between 2-4 hours a day. The Outreach Service is available to the young people on weekdays after school hours and during weekends. During the school holidays the service has the flexibility to ensure that young people can access facilities during the day time.

Family support is offered through Family Support workers, family workshops and Post Diagnosis Support.

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Summer Activity)** - This is a week long summer school for 20 young people with disabilities age 13 to 18. Activities include dance, drama and visual arts.

**RMBC Youth Service - Elephant In Step (Weekday Evening Activity)** - Youth club for young people with disabilities age 13-18. Takes place on the third Thursday of every month 7pm to 10pm. Activities include disco, arts and crafts, karaoke and games. Transport is provided for the young people if required.

**RMBC Youth Service - Habershon House Residential** - A residential project to provide group based Short Breaks in the school summer holiday period for young people in 'Group A' and their immediate families, at Habershon House in Filey. 3 night, 4 day residential, transport provided.

**KIDS - Haven Holidays** – This trial project is called 'Giving Short Breaks a little extra' which aims to provide families with a Short Break whilst on holiday. The scheme involves a family holiday at one of two Haven holiday parks (Primrose Valley in North Yorkshire or Church Farm in Sussex) with between 10-20 hours of Short Break care and support being provided to the family whilst they are there. 3, 4 or 7 night holidays are available.

**Kelford and Hilltop Federation** - Aimed at pupils aged 13 to 18 to have a weekly 3 hour after-school Short Breaks session at either Kelford or Hilltop schools. Activities will include pool, snooker, TV, computer games, arts and crafts and sports. Each session will cater for up to 20 young people from 3:30pm to 6:30pm and will include transport if required.

**Autism Communication Team (ACT)** - Youth Club for young people aged 13 to 18 years old diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Takes place 6:30pm to 8:30pm every Tuesday at Winterhill Young People's Centre in Kimberworth and every Thursday at Maltby Linx Youth Centre in Maltby. Opportunity for young people to play games, have fun, relax and meet other young people.

**Rotherham Parent and Carers Forum (RPCF)** – Established independent forum led by parents and carers of disabled children in Rotherham, committed to improving services and making sure views of parents and carers are heard. Supported by Rotherham Council the forum also deliver short breaks activities through family day trips. These have included a visit to Twycross Zoo on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009 and a special production of the Pantomime 'Cinderella' at Rotherham Civic Theatre on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009.

**SCOPE** - Weekend provision of sports and arts activities delivered in partnership with the RMBC Sports Development Team. Fortnightly saturday afternoon sessions 1pm to 4pm targeted at young people aged 10 to 18 years old. Activities include boccia, athletics, gymnastics, drumming and arts and

crafts. Each session can accommodate up to 10 young people, transport can be provided for up to half of the attendees.

**Rotherham Children's Centres** - There are presently eight of Rotherham's Children's Centres that offer enhanced nursery places for children aged 3 to 4 years old. Due to the age and the developmental stages of the children many of them do not have a firm medical diagnosis of need and are in many cases they are still undergoing assessment. AHDC funding will enable Children's Centres to offer parents/carers a short break from their caring responsibilities during this stressful time in their life. Families are supported to access an average of 3 hours of Short Breaks per week.

### Direct Payments

Direct payments are used to pay for help to meet assessed needs. Examples of how people can use direct payments to meet their needs include appointing a personal assistant to support/ help with every day living skills and help with caring (eg respite care and taking a break from caring)

Direct Payment figures for Child Disability for 08/09 and 09/10 are shown below.

	<b>Direct Payments for Child Disability</b>
2008/09	£169,140
2009/10	£172,523

### 3.2 FEEDBACK FROM YOUNG PEOPLE AND PARENTS/CARERS ON CURRENT PROVISION

There has been recent feedback on current service provision at the Orchard Centre and also feedback on the Newman Bungalow Summer Play Scheme. The feedback is as follows:

#### Orchard Centre

What parents said they were doing well:

- their child enjoyed coming to the centre or receiving the outreach service
- they were either very satisfied or satisfied with the service
- they found the staff either very good or good
- they were aware of their child's care plan and risk assessment and understood what was in it

Suggestions for improvements that parents thought could be made –

- parents/carers could be consulted more and asked for their opinions on the service
- if possible, respite should not be cancelled
- all parents/carers should know how to complain if they need to

#### Newman Bungalow Summer Play Scheme

The Complex Health Needs Team provide a respite service during the school holidays, through utilising the bungalow at Newman School to accommodate several children at any one time and to give the children the chance to interact with each other.

15 families who all took advantage of the school holiday scheme during Summer completed a survey and the results were as follows:

- The scheme scored 111 out of 120 for enjoyment (93%)
- 100% of families said they coped better and just over a third of these families felt that their child showed positive changes in behaviour after their time at the bungalow
- 91% of families would like more respite throughout the school holidays and just under half would like to utilise the bungalow at a weekend. Just one family indicated that they would benefit from using the bungalow in the evening, confirming that they are currently meeting the needs of the majority of families during the evening
- 91% of families said they would like to/maybe access events that would include siblings. The same percentage of families also said they would like to/maybe access family days.

### **3.3 APPRAISAL OF QUALITY, PERFORMANCE AND OUTCOMES ACHIEVED**

The main driver for the appraisal of quality, performance and outcomes for statutory provision is the annual OFSTED inspection of provision. In addition, in line with Minimum Care Standards (Regulation 33), an independent designated person visits RMBC Orchard Centre provision at least once a month in order to carry out checks to ensure that the home is being managed and performance managed against its statement of purpose and in accordance with the Minimum Care Standards.

From 2009, there has been appraisal of quality, performance and outcomes across all short break provision and with the introduction of NI39, there is now a national indicator linked directly to the satisfaction of parents/carers in the short breaks that are being provided across Rotherham.

### **3.4 STRENGTHS, POTENTIAL AND AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

It has been demonstrated through consultation that current service provision and newly introduced short break provision is viewed positively by both young

people and their parents/carers. In addition, it performs well against national performance targets/standards, it represents value for money, and utilises existing capacity in a way that allows services to be as flexible as possible in order to meet need.

The gaps in service provision as described in section 4.2, demonstrate some of the key areas for development via the commissioning strategy.

### **3.5 IMPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONING**

It is clear from analysing the current market that short break services are almost exclusively provided by NHS Rotherham and Rotherham MBC. Whilst these providers are keen to re-configure and transform services to meet the Aiming High agenda, it is important that the market is developed in order to provide a diverse range of short break activities outside of the specialist service arena.

The gaps that have been identified by current service providers and potential service providers are all pertinent and as such, have implications for the composition of the commissioning plan.

It is evident from the level of performance information available, that there needs to be more consistent and detailed local performance monitoring across services. In addition, it is important to develop an outcomes framework against Every Child Matters, to demonstrate the impact of the new Aiming High monies.

The information gained from parents/carers demonstrates that the commissioning plan needs to ensure that there is a consistent and ongoing process for eliciting the views of Children and Young people and parents/carers.

## **4. COMMISSIONING PROPOSALS**

### **4.1 THE DESIGN OF FUTURE PROVISION**

The consultation feedback from young people, parents and key stakeholders gave a very clear message in terms of the key themes that we would need to address as part of the short breaks transformational challenge.

When specifically considering the model of service provision, stakeholders came back with broadly similar visions, which can be summarised as follows:

- Ensure mainstream provision is more accessible – including sports facilities
- Develop a Youth House – young people’s own space
- A clear and well publicised eligibility criteria – keep it simple
- A brochure of the short breaks available – both online and in paper format
- Support families – build capacity to support access to provision – mentor

to build confidence

- A wide range of service providers and a diverse choice of short breaks that are available all year round
- Opportunity for the whole family to go on holiday for a break
- Short breaks that are appropriate for a range of needs
- More age appropriate provision, particularly for the under 8's
- Challenge current mainstream provision – charter mark for disability
- Ensure a positive experience for young people and their parents/carers
- Joined up thinking between service providers
- Use existing capacity more creatively and think beyond Rotherham
- Better co-ordinated transport to make the transformational change happen
- Transition to adulthood is addressed through short breaks
- Ensure children, young people and parents are engaged in the process and ensure a focus on outcomes. A feedback loop for young people and parents around the service/s that they have received and a mechanism to ensure that services evolve as per their need
- Training, support and identification of the new workforce

## 4.2 COMMISSIONING PROPOSALS

The Aiming High for Disabled Children Short Breaks Programme Plan, which Rotherham has to submit to Government for approval and the subsequent release of monies, outlines key features of service where we have to demonstrate a transformational change.

The feedback from consultation and subsequent discussions around the enhancement of short breaks has been translated into the following commissioning objectives under the various strands of Programme Plan delivery:

### **Engagement with parents and disabled children & young people**

1. There is a clear and understandable eligibility criteria for short breaks
2. Continue to ensure that there is a sustainable parents forum in Rotherham, which has direct influence on shaping short break provision
3. Continue to ensure that Young People have a direct influence on shaping short break provision
4. Continue to fund a Short Breaks Information/Communication Officer
5. Refresh short breaks communication strategy and continue to commission branded short breaks materials

**Offer a significantly greater volume of Short Break Service Provision**

1. Disabled Children and young people have equal access to mainstream/ universal provision
2. Continue to ensure that residential overnight stays are effectively targeted, through the re-configured Orchard Centre provision which focuses on the most complex cases in line with AHDC criteria
3. Successfully increase the number of family based overnight stays
4. Successfully increase family based day care provision
5. Successfully increase group based short breaks during the day through specialist provision
6. Successfully increase the range of group based short breaks during the day through non-specialist provision
7. Ensure that services are available at all times (24 hours) and are able to respond to emergencies

**Direct Payments**

1. Maximise the uptake of direct payments/ individualised budgets
2. Ensure that services purchased through Direct Payments are of a high quality

**Capital Projects**

1. Continue working towards the establishment of a resource that facilitates the undertaking of age appropriate short break activities and has a dedicated space for young people to develop a Youth House
2. There is a dedicated facility where transitional work with young people can take place

**Workforce**

1. Ensure that the essential posts continue to be funded in 2010/11
2. Ensure that there is a competencies/training framework in place
3. Ensure that inclusive working practices are further developed

**Commissioning and Market Development**

1. Ensure that there continues to be a robust Short Breaks commissioning process in place, including performance monitoring arrangements
3. Ensure that there is a diverse range of service providers

The specific commissioning proposals under each objective are detailed in the following table:

## Commissioning Strategy Key Commissioning Actions

Objective	Actions	Performance Indicators/measures	Responsibility	Resources	Risks
<b>Engagement with parents and disabled children &amp; young people</b>					
The new eligibility criteria for short breaks is clear, understandable and well publicised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully implement revised eligibility criteria</li> <li>Publicise the new arrangements to parents/carers, young people and the CYPs Workforce through various communication routes</li> </ul>	<p>Revised eligibility criteria fully operational by 1 April 2010</p> <p>Parental satisfaction with an eligibility criteria that is clear and understandable</p>	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons/Marie Noone	Staff time	No budget, only staff time
To ensure that there is a sustainable parents forum in Rotherham, which has direct influence on shaping short break provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is continued parent representation at the Short Breaks Group</li> <li>Continue funding to meet parent forum running costs and parent expenses</li> <li>Encourage parents forum to become sustainable, through building project management and funding skills</li> </ul>	<p>Parents are directly influencing the shape of provision through a parents forum that is constituted as per their wishes.</p> <p>Parental satisfaction with the above process</p>	Pip Wise  Voluntary Action Rotherham	£2,000	There is a lack of engagement
To ensure that young people have a direct influence on shaping short break provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued funding of the 0.3 WTE AHDC Young People's Involvement Post</li> <li>Fund sessional Youth Worker to assist in</li> <li>Establish a fund for young</li> </ul>	Young People are directly influencing the shape of provision through an appropriate mechanism	Kerry Byrne	£10,000 (0.3WTE post)  £2,000 (activities)	There is a lack of engagement



	<p>people's involvement running/activity costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of young people attending the Young People's Steering Group</li> <li>• There is young person (or advocate) representation at the Short Breaks Group,</li> </ul>	<p>Young People's satisfaction with the above process</p>		budget)	
<p>To ensure that there is a dedicated Information/Communication service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to fund the Information/Communication Officer post, with key duties to include the provision of information, guidance and advice to young people and parents around short breaks.</li> <li>• To fund 0.5 WTE of the Communication Co-ordinator post, with key duties to oversee the provision of information, guidance and advice to young people and parents around short breaks.</li> <li>• To fund a 0.5WTE Administrative Officer post, to support the information/communication service in the timely dissemination of information and communication materials</li> </ul>	<p>Information/Communication Officer in post by 1 April 2009</p> <p>There is up-to-date/accurate information and advice, with a marked increase in the number of people accessing short breaks</p>	<p>Peter Rennie/ Jackie Parkin</p>	<p>£32,000 approx + on-costs (1WTE )</p> <p>£15,000 (0.5 WTE)</p> <p>£13,000 (0.5WTE)</p>	<p>Capacity to deal with increased volumes</p>

<p>To ensure that young people and their parents/carers have the confidence and trust to access Short Break services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Negotiate with existing Short Break providers to undertake home visits and taster sessions with new entrant YP and their parent/carer.</li> <li>• Include the above requirement within 2010/11 commissioning documentation for new provision</li> <li>• Process agreed and workforce development issues addressed.</li> </ul>	<p>Short Break service providers assisting families in the access to short breaks, through providing confidence building for first time entrants</p> <p>Young People and Parent/Carer satisfaction with the process</p>	<p>Peter Rennie/ Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson</p>	<p>Within existing budgets</p> <p>There may also be a need to increase capacity in certain key services</p>	<p>Capacity to deal with increased volumes</p>
<p>To ensure that there is an effective short breaks communication strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review the 2009/10 Communications Strategy, identifying the key elements of communicating short breaks provision to parents and young people. To include internet, libraries, media and through local statutory and voluntary services e.g. GP surgeries and VAR</li> <li>• Develop a quality branded brochure of provision, which gives clear information on eligibility and how the varied provision meets particular needs</li> <li>• Continue to commission branded short breaks materials and associated literature</li> </ul>	<p>Short breaks communication strategy in place by June 2009.</p> <p>Quality communication materials, including a short breaks brochure, developed</p> <p>Marked increase in the number of information requests and take-up of short breaks</p>	<p>Information/ Communication Officer / Communication Co-ordinator</p> <p>Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker</p>	<p>Staff time</p> <p>£15,000</p>	<p>Capacity of staff</p> <p>Ensuring that information is up-to-date</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing review of information provision</li> </ul>				
<b>Offer a significantly greater volume of Short Break Service Provision</b>					
Disabled Children and young people have equal access to mainstream/universal provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review accessibility issues with key services – to include Young People’s and Leisure Services</li> <li>Develop a plan for improved accessibility, with SMART targets and cost implications</li> <li>Identify training needs of the CYPS workforce</li> </ul>	<p>Improved access to mainstream services with measurable outcome of specialist services being able to prioritise most complex needs as a result of capacity being freed-up.</p> <p>There is sustainable access to mainstream /universal provision</p>	Short Breaks Group	Staff time  £50,000	Mainstream services are not fully engaged
To ensure that disabled young people are fully able to access the My Place Youth Provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to have dialogue with the Young People’s Service</li> <li>The needs of disabled young people are fed into the My Place development process</li> </ul>	Young people access My Place and they are satisfied that it meets their request for a Youth House	Peter Rennie/ Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker	Staff time	My Place facilities not fully accessible
To ensure that residential overnight stays are effectively targeted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the effectiveness of the re-configured Orchard Centre provision, which now caters for the most complex cases in line with AHDC criteria</li> <li>Evaluate the effectiveness of the re-focused Orchard Centre provision, which undertakes more</li> </ul>	<p>Through evaluation and ongoing performance measures, it is evidenced that::</p> <p>The Orchard Centre caters for the most complex cases in line</p>	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	Refurbishment/ Adaptation costs (see capital)	Re-focused service does not bring about required change

	preventative measures to mitigate placement breakdown.	with AHDC criteria  Placement breakdowns are mitigated by the focus on preventative measures			
Ensure that appropriate outreach provision is available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to fund 3 x family support workers in the Outreach Team (over &amp; above existing levels), to increase capacity</li> <li>Formulate an action plan to reduce waiting times for the service – particular emphasis on strategies to encourage YP and their parents/carers to access follow-on Short Break services.</li> </ul>	<p>Through performance measures, it is evidenced that: there is a substantial increase in targeted support</p> <p>Waiting lists are significantly reduced through YP moving-on and in so doing, freeing up capacity.</p>	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	£51,500	Re-focussed service does not bring about required change
To successfully increase the number of family based overnight stays	Continue to Commission RMBC Families Together to increase capacity by at least 100% (from 15 to 30 carers and increasing number of young people cared for from 34 to at least 70) :	Additional Social Worker in post	Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson		Increased resources do not bring about required increase in provision
To successfully increase family based day care provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to employ an additional 1 WTE Social Worker to meet demand</li> <li>Payments to carers budget increased in light of increased number of carers</li> </ul>	Through performance measures, it is evidenced that: the increased number of carers and placements are realised	Sue May/ Simon Dewick	£40,000  £90,000	

To ensure that whole families have the opportunity to go on holiday for a break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research the various holiday provisions available</li> <li>• Consider whether we could commission holiday provisions, attracting discounted rates</li> <li>• Consider the level of contribution that would be made</li> <li>• Submit paper to DLT for consideration</li> </ul>	There are a range of quality holiday break options for families to access	Elena Hodgson/ Peter Rennie/ Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker	£30,000	Insufficient number of providers  Costs are too prohibitive
To successfully increase group based short breaks during the day through specialist provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through the employment of 3 additional Family Support workers, increase the number of group activities in accordance with young people's/parents requests</li> <li>• Maximise the use of new dedicated space within the Kimberworth building (see Capital section)</li> <li>• Increase the uptake of short breaks, through age specific provision</li> </ul>	A diverse range of age appropriate group activities are delivered.  Increase in uptake of short breaks evidenced  YP/ parent satisfaction with provision	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	<i>See Outreach section</i>	Increased resources do not bring about required increase in provision
To successfully increase group based short breaks during the day through non-specialist provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-refresh specification for the provision of flexible group based short breaks, so that it responds to young people's and parents requests outlined in the 2010/11 Needs Assessment.</li> </ul> <p>Specification to include school</p>	There are a range of providers delivering high quality short breaks as per the wishes of young people and their parents/carers.  There is a significantly	Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson	£450,000	Limited number of providers are engaged

	<p>holiday, weekday evening, weekend activities and a befriending service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invitation to tender issued (May 2010)</li> <li>• short break provision in place with an increased number of providers</li> </ul>	<p>enhanced geographical spread of provision – particularly in the North and South of the borough.</p> <p>There is a range of provision for 0-8 year olds</p>			
To ensure that there is a short break service that is able to respond to short notice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree model of provision for a short break service that is available at short notice and is also able to provide tailored/individualised short breaks.</li> </ul>	Model for short notice provision agreed and in place	Simon Dewick/ Julie Devine/ Alan Jevons	120,000	The cost of 24 hour / emergency provision is prohibitive
Ensure that there is flexible transport provision to meet the increase in short break provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through the 2010/11 commissioning process, ensure new providers are geographically wide spread, in order to minimise travel issues</li> </ul>	There is an easily accessible and responsive transport service that meets increased demand	Peter Rennie/ Craig Ruding  Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker	To be determined	Transport arrangements do not adequately meet demand
<b>Direct Payments</b>					
To maximise the uptake of direct payments/ individualised budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote direct payments for the full range of services, through the communications strategy</li> <li>• Develop an effective system for monitoring direct payments and</li> </ul>	There is a significant and measurable increase in direct payments	Peter Rennie/ Marie Noone	To be determined	Increased uptake is not realised

	the services provided				
To ensure that services purchased through Direct Payments are of a high quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map out individual short break providers</li> <li>• Encourage these providers to attend core competency training (see Workforce Development) and achieve a quality kite standard</li> </ul>	There is an evidenced increase in the quality of service provided	Peter Rennie		Providers do not take up the offer of training
<b>Capital projects</b>					
There are suitable premises in a central location that offer an age appropriate resource for undertaking group short break activities and have dedicated space for young people to develop a Youth House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the areas within the old Kimberworth Comprehensive building for Short Break provision – accessible and stand alone area, comes to fruition</li> <li>• Young people to design their own youth space (emphasis on under 13 provision)</li> <li>• Staff, parents and other stakeholders to design the group work areas</li> <li>• Refurbishment underway</li> </ul> <p>Young people and parents involved at every stage of the development</p>	There are dedicated areas within the Kimberworth building where young people have their own space, age appropriate group activities take place and are accessible by both statutory and voluntary groups	Ian Atkinson/ Peter Rennie	£210,000	Capital funding is not in place

There is a dedicated facility where transitional work with young people can take place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a plan for converting a property into a home style environment to teach life skills/ independent living or as a potential specialist emergency / crisis intervention facility</li> <li>• Submit plan to JLT for consideration</li> <li>• Purchase and refurbishment of the property</li> </ul>	There is a dedicated facility for transitional work with young people	Ian Atkinson/ Peter Rennie/ Paul Theaker	£140,500	The property is not released for this purpose  Costs are too prohibitive
The Orchard Centre caters for the most complex cases & there is an improvement to the physical environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor that the remaining refurbishment work at the Orchard Centre is on track</li> <li>• Monitor that the Orchard Centre garden development is on track</li> </ul>	Re-Configured Orchard Centre caters for the most complex cases & there is an improvement to the physical environment.	Peter Rennie/ Alan Jevons	£50,000	
<b>Workforce</b>					
To ensure that essential posts are in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue funding key posts – including Project Officer and Communications Officer posts</li> </ul>	Key personnel in place	Peter Rennie/ Paul Theaker/ Ian Atkinson	Staff time	



To ensure that there is a competencies/training framework in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify the key competencies required for the workforce</li> <li>Develop a key competencies framework which sets a standard for the training of staff in services commissioned for disabled children</li> <li>Map out the development needs based on the key competencies</li> </ul>	Training programme in place and workforce trained to the standards outlined in the framework	Peter Rennie/ Jackie Parkin	Staff time £30,000	Staff capacity
To ensure that inclusive working practices are further developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include key competencies in the C&amp;YP Workforce Development Strategy</li> <li>Consider training requirements of the overall C&amp;YP workforce in terms of promoting inclusive practice</li> <li>Training programme in place</li> </ul>	Training programme in place and mainstream workforce trained to the required standard	Peter Rennie	Staff time Training costs	Poor take-up of training
<b>Commissioning and market development</b>					
To ensure there is a Short Breaks Group in place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-visit Terms of Reference to ensure that the group is fit for purpose – membership to include continued parent and young people representation</li> </ul>	Short Breaks Commissioning Group continues to meet monthly in 2010/11 and is fit for purpose	Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker	Staff time	YP and parents/care rs are not sufficiently engaged

<p>To ensure that there is a robust Short Breaks commissioning process in place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop contracts for all service developments</li> <li>• Monitor contracts via quarterly performance and financial monitoring meetings</li> <li>• Quarterly performance fed into the Short Breaks Commissioning Group</li> <li>• Undertake a Needs Assessment refresh annually</li> <li>• Update annual programme plan in line with need</li> <li>• Consider contractual changes in line with changing need and commissioning and/or de-commissioning</li> <li>• Publicise the commissioning cycle to all key stakeholders</li> </ul>	<p>There is a robust commissioning process</p>	<p>Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker</p>	<p>Staff time</p>	<p>Staff capacity</p>
<p>To ensure that there is a range of diverse service providers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to work with Voluntary Action Rotherham to ascertain the key elements of stimulating market development</li> <li>• The 2010/11 commissioning round engages with a diverse range of providers</li> <li>• A diverse range of new providers are in place</li> <li>• Monitor how the market is developing and provide flexible</li> </ul>	<p>There are a range of quality short break providers</p>	<p>Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker / Paul Robinson</p>	<p>Staff time</p>	<p>Staff capacity</p> <p>Limited number of providers are engaged</p>

	support to providers				
Sustainability of the Short Breaks programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2010/11 Commissioning round to focus on the sustainability of projects</li> <li>• Needs Analysis re-fresh to be undertaken in September/October 2010</li> <li>• 2011/12 Commissioning Strategy to focus on programme sustainability</li> </ul>	There are a range of sustainable projects	Ian Atkinson/ Paul Theaker/ Peter Rennie	Staff time	The programme is not flexible in dealing with cost pressures

## **5 IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW OF THE STRATEGY**

This Short Breaks Commissioning Strategy with its vision and key objectives is a long term plan to be carried out over the next three years. The actions contained within the strategy are based on the key priorities to be achieved or commenced throughout the life of this document. It sets specific targets in terms of service, strategic and process developments. The Short Breaks Commissioning Group will be the key forum to monitor and review the progress of the implementation of this strategy and will submit regular progress updates to the Joint Leadership Team.

It is recognised that needs and supply within Disability Short Break services are ever changing. Accordingly, this strategy will be subject to yearly review following an annual refresh of the Short Breaks Needs Assessment. This will be overseen by the Joint Leadership Team and the RMBC and NHS Rotherham Commissioning Leads on this strategy will ensure that the outcomes of this review are circulated to all relevant parties.

Programme Objective	Activity	Responsibility	Status	Mar-10	Apr-10	May-10	Jun-10	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11
<b>1</b>	<b>Service Provision Based on Identified Need (FSO Indicators 1 &amp; 6)</b>															
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Evidence of continuing consultation</b>															
1.3.1	Update Commissioning Strategy to reflect Needs Assessment Refresh 2009/10	P.Theaker	Complete													
1.3.2	BME Project to research the views of BME families with disabled children	REMA/Youth Service	Complete													
1.3.3	New provision is culturally appropriate and meets racial, cultural & linguistic needs	Project Group	In Progress													
1.3.4	Recruit Project Officer to cover maternity leave	P.Theaker	In Progress													
1.3.5	Needs Assessment Refresh 2010/11	Project Officer	Not Started													
1.3.6	Evaluation of programme and sustainability strategy	P.Theaker/P.Rennie	Not Started													
1.3.7	Commissioning Strategy 2011/12	P.Theaker	Not Started													
<b>Fully Achieved</b>	<b>Sustainable and ongoing engagement in development of provision</b>															
1.4.1	Parents Forum are regularly feeding into service development	Project Group	In Progress													
1.4.2	Young People Steering Group established & shaping development of provision	E.Hodgson/R.Oxley	In Progress													
1.4.3	Parents and young people's views are informing and influencing decision making	Project Group	In Progress													
<b>2</b>	<b>Increase Volume and Range of Short Breaks Provision (FSO 2 &amp; 4)</b>															
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Substantial growth of provision demonstrated</b>															
2.3.1	LAIMP demonstrates substantial growth of provision	E.Hodgson	Complete													
2.3.2	LA can evidence that they are 'on track' to deliver projections	P.Rennie/E.Hodgson	Complete													
2.3.3	Programme Plan updated to reflect Needs Assessment & Commissioning Strategy	E.Hodgson	In Progress													
2.3.4	Tendering documents issued - Summer, Weekday Evening and Weekend provision	P.Theaker	Complete													
2.3.5	Closing date for 2010/11 Tender document submission - 9th June 2010	Project Group	In Progress													
2.3.6	Successful/Unsuccessful Providers notified, feedback given - 14th-18th June 2010	Project Group	Not Started													
2.3.7	Contracts awarded to successful Providers, commencement of new contracts	Project Group	Not Started													
<b>Fully Achieved</b>	<b>Increased volume and range of Short Breaks secured &amp; sustainable</b>															
2.4.1	Increase capacity of Orchard House, Families Together and Newman Bungalow	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.2	Develop a volunteer-led befriending service for disabled young people	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.3	Increase access to mainstream provision and services	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.4	Increase number of services for disabled children aged 0-9 years old	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.5	Develop proposal for Whole Family Facilitated Holidays	E.Hodgson	In Progress													
2.4.6	Develop Short Notice/Emergency Care	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.7	Dedicated Facility for Transitional work with disabled young people	Project Group	In Progress													
2.4.8	Develop Individualised Short Breaks	Project Group	Not Started													
2.4.9	Review and develop strategic approach to Direct Payments/Individual Budgets	Project Group	In Progress													
<b>3</b>	<b>Improve Access to Short Breaks Provision (FSO 3, 7, 8 &amp; 10)</b>															
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Growth in Groups A &amp; B accessing Short Breaks Provision</b>															
3.3.1	Communicate new Eligibility Criteria - e.g. Parent/YP 'friendly'	Information Officer	In Progress													
3.3.2	New Eligibility Criteria consistently operating	Project Group	In Progress													
3.3.3	Additional Tendered Activities to reflect increase in Group A & B participation	Project Group	In Progress													
3.3.4	Universal settings are hosting regular Short Breaks provision	Project Group	In Progress													
3.3.5	Regularly updated information booklet on Short Breaks provision widely available	Information Officer	In Progress													
<b>Fully Achieved</b>	<b>Access to service provision has been significantly improved</b>															
3.4.1	Significantly greater number of children accessing provision	Project Group	In Progress													
3.4.2	Minimise waiting times for families accessing provision	Project Group	In Progress													
3.4.3	Universal settings are hosting regular Short Breaks provision	Project Group	In Progress													
<b>4</b>	<b>Improve Quality of Short Breaks Experiences (FSO 5 &amp; 9)</b>															
<b>Stage 3</b>	<b>Feedback from disabled children and young people using services</b>															
4.3.1	Ongoing Feedback from Disabled Children and Young People around services	E.Hodgson/R.Oxley	In Progress													
4.3.2	Continued consultation with Children and Young People around Capital Plans	E.Hodgson/R.Oxley	Complete													
4.3.3	Review of Workforce Issues and planning for 2010/11	Project Group	In Progress													
4.3.4	Evidence of continued training for workers in Universal Settings	Project Group	Not Started													
4.3.5	Quality Indicators for Service Provision indicated in Commissioning Plans	P.Theaker/I.Atkinson	Complete													
<b>Fully Achieved</b>	<b>Consistent, reliable and positive experiences for Disabled Children</b>															
4.4.1	Robust systems in place to monitor cost, quality and performance of services	E.Hodgson	In Progress													
4.4.2	Service providers to build in workforce plans to demonstrate quality	P.Theaker/I.Atkinson	In Progress													
4.4.3	Completion of Orchard Centre Capital work to cater for more complex needs YP	Project Group	In Progress													
4.4.4	New Short Break Activities Facility up and running - Kimberworth Capital Project	Project Group	In Progress													
4.4.5	Specialist equipment for My Place Youth Centre	Project Group	Not Started													
	<b>Tracker Return Dates - TDC</b>	<b>P.Rennie/E.Hodgson</b>		<b>31st Mar PO2, St 3</b>	<b>30th Apr PO3, St 3</b>	<b>May-10</b>	<b>Jun-10</b>	<b>Jul-10</b>	<b>Aug-10</b>	<b>30th Sep PO4, St 3</b>	<b>Oct-10</b>	<b>Nov-10</b>	<b>Dec-10</b>	<b>Jan-11</b>	<b>Feb-11</b>	<b>31st Mar PO1,2,3,4</b>

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	Children and Young People's Services Cabinet Member and Advisers
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	23 June 2010
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<p><b>Performance Indicators</b>  <b>Children and Young People's Services Performance Indicator Report - 2009/10 Outturn</b>  Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome  Appendix B – 'CYPS Performance Monitoring Table – 2009/10 Outturn</p> <p>[Wards affected – All]</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	Children and Young People's Services

**5. Summary**

This report and accompanying appendices outline performance at the end of 2009/10 against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

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**6. Recommendations**

- **That the Performance Report and be received and performance noted**
- **That the recommendations regarding performance clinics (within Appendix A) be approved.**
- **That Cabinet Member approves the provision of this report to the Children's Board.**

## 7. Proposals and Details

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

- Performance against targets (Comparing outturn performance against set targets)
- Direction of travel analysis (Comparing 2009/10 outturn performance to 2008/09 outturn performance)
- Year to Date Performance (Judged by corporate monitoring system Performance Plus)
- Performance against Statistical Neighbours average
- Performance against National average
- Areas of Success
- Areas of Under-performance
- An update on previous performance clinics
- Recommendations for future performance clinics

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

## 8. Finance

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

## 9. Risks and Uncertainties

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

## 10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

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

Poor performance compared to statistical neighbours and national can have a significant impact on the overall rating of CYPS. Ofsted form a provisional view/rating of CYPS by reviewing "Block A: inspected and regulated services and settings" and "Block B: inspections of safeguarding and services for looked after children; annual unannounced inspections; findings from any triggered inspection; and serious case review evaluation findings". Blocks A and B are weighted in the

rating but then “Block C: National Indicator Set” is then used to support the overall rating. If there are concerns in Blocks A and B, the rating is likely to be confirmed as ‘performs poorly’ if performance against a large majority of indicators in the NIS, including those for staying safe and enjoying and achieving, is lower than in similar areas.

Central Government has indicated that the Comprehensive Area Assessment will be abolished. This will clearly have implications for the childrens CAA and will impact on Ofsted. However, it is too early to assess the degree of change we can expect in this policy area.

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

- Children and Young People’s Services 2009/10 Performance Indicator Quarter One, Two and Three Reports (with appendices)
- Children and Young People’s Services 2008/09 Performance Indicator Outturn Report (with appendices)
- Comprehensive Area Assessment: Annual rating of Children’s services – arrangements and guidance
- Children & Young People’s Plan 2007- 2010
- Local Area Agreement 2008-11 (including 2009 refresh)

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## Rotherham Children and Young People's Services

# Assessment of Performance by Every Child Matters Outcome

### 2009/10 Outturn Report

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

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

Please note the following data health warnings;

- Comparative data relates to the latest available data and therefore date periods for some indicators may vary. It has been sourced via the DCSF Local Area Interactive Tool (downloaded 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010)

## Performance Summary – All themes

Number of Indicators: 58

Number of Components: 69

The tables below give data analysis of performance by Every Child Matters outcomes. These are abbreviated as follows;

BH = Being Healthy    SS = Staying Safe  
MPC = Making a Positive Contribution

SS = Enjoying & Achieving  
AEW = Achieving Economic Wellbeing

### Performance against Targets (Comparing this quarter's performance against set targets)

On Target	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
✓	Has met target	8	73%	4	36%	13	46%	8	67%	3	43%	36	52%
✗	Has not met target	1	9%	6	55%	12	43%	2	17%	1	14%	22	32%
- / n/a	No targets set (ie new and/or baseline yr)	2	18%	1	9%	3	11%	3	17%	3	43%	11	16%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>69</b>	

### Direction of Travel "DOT" (Comparing 09/10 outturn to 08/09 outturn)

DOT	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
↑	Top performance or improvement	9	82%	6	55%	18	64%	8	67%	6	86%	47	68%
→	Performance has maintained	0	0%	0	0%	2	7%	0	0%	0	0%	2	3%
↓	Performance has declined	1	9%	5	45%	7	25%	3	25%	1	14%	17	25%
- / n/a	No comparison can be made	1	9%	0	0%	1	4%	1	8%	0	0%	3	4%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>69</b>	

## Year to Date Performance “YTD”

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above target or Top Performance	5	45%	3	27%	8	29%	3	25%	1	14%	20	29%
●	On Target	3	27%	1	9%	5	18%	5	42%	2	29%	16	23%
▲	Below Target	1	9%	6	55%	12	43%	2	17%	1	14%	22	32%
- / n/a	No targets set ( <i>ie new and/or baseline year</i> )	2	18%	1	9%	3	11%	2	17%	3	43%	11	16%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>69</b>	

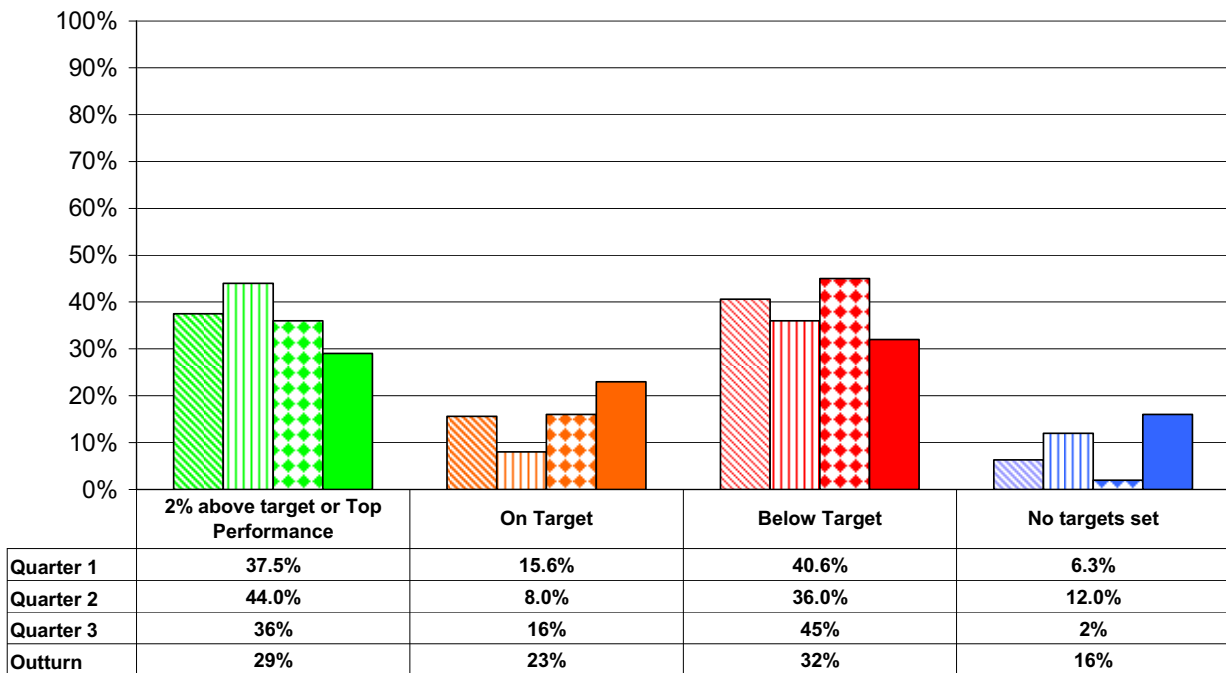
## Performance against Statistical Neighbours

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above Statistical Neighbour or Top Performance	1	9%	3	27%	6	21%	1	8%	4	57%	15	22%
●	Same as Statistical Neighbour or above by less than 2%	4	36%	4	36%	3	11%	2	17%	1	14%	14	20%
▲	Below Statistical Neighbour	4	36%	4	36%	14	50%	4	33%	2	29%	28	41%
- / n/a	No Statistical Neighbour Data to compare	2	18%	0	0%	5	18%	5	42%	0	0%	12	17%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>69</b>	

## Performance against National

Outturn Perf.	Interpretation	BH		SS		EA		MPC		AEW		All	
		No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
★	2% above National or Top Performance	1	9%	3	27%	2	7%	0	0%	2	29%	8	12%
●	Same as National or above by less than 2%	1	9%	4	36%	0	0%	2	17%	2	29%	9	13%
▲	Below National	5	45%	4	36%	16	57%	4	33%	3	43%	32	46%
- / n/a	No National Data to compare	4	36%	0	0%	10	36%	6	50%	0	0%	20	29%
<b>Total Number of Indicators</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>10</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>58</b>	
<b>Total Number of Components</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>12</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>69</b>	

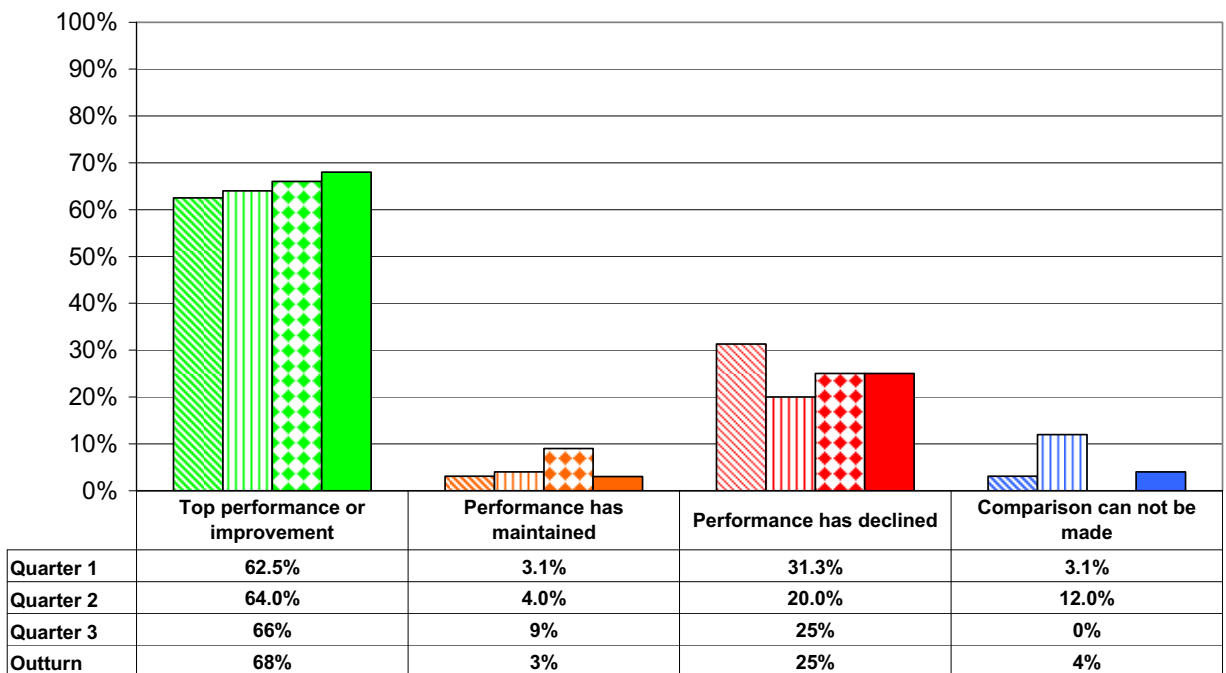
**Progress Over Quarters 2009-10  
Performance Year to Date - All Themes**



Please note that there are significantly more indicators reported for the outturn than are reported quarterly. This is why there are large variations in the outturn figures against the quarterly figures.

Due to rounding some percentage totals may not equate to 100%.

**Progress Over Quarters 2009-10  
Direction of Travel - All Themes**



Please note that Direction of travel (DOT) for Outturn compares year on year ie. 2009/10 performance against 2008/09 performance. Where as the Quarterly DOT compares performance against the previous Quarter.

Due to rounding some percentage totals may not equate to 100%.

## Notes on overall performance

- Across all themes, 52% of the National Indicator components have met their targets. This shows a 17% increase from 35% in the 2008/09 outturn report. This increase is particularly evident in the Being Healthy and Making a Positive Contribution themes which have 73% and 67% of indicators on target respectively. Being Healthy shows particularly strong performance with 45% of indicators achieving top performance or are 2% above target.
- There are, however still 32% of all indicators which are not meeting targets. The Staying Safe and Enjoying and Achieving themes are underperforming with 55% and 43% of indicators not meeting targets respectively. Future targets are to be reviewed with managers to ensure that they are appropriate and realistic whilst still driving improvement.
- Across all themes 68% of the National Indicator components in 2009/10 have shown improvement on the previous year. This increase is particularly evident in the Being Healthy and Achieving Economic Wellbeing themes which show 82% and 86% of components improving respectively. Performance has declined in 25% of components in comparison to 2008/09 outturn performance, this can be seen predominantly within the Staying Safe theme which shows 45% of components having a downwards direction of travel.
- This year the benchmarking data downloaded from the Local Area Interactive Tool shows that 46% of indicator components are below the national average with only 25% being inline or above. Comparison against statistical neighbours show that 42% of components are inline or above and 41% are below the statistical neighbour average.

In addition to the 58 indicators above, there are seven that fall outside of the Every Child Matters framework.

- NI 13 - Migrants' English language skills and knowledge. This has a 2009/10 outturn of 13% which is a 5% decrease in performance from 2008/09. It should be noted that this indicator has now been deleted from the National Indicator set so this will be the last period of reporting.
- NI 22 - Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area. This indicator is only reported biennially so the next figures are 2010/11.
- NI 161 - Number of Level 1 qualification in literacy (including ESOL) achieved. Performance for 2009/10 showed a positive direction of travel with an outturn figure of 1400 up from 1100 in 2008/09 although it remains below the target of 1581.
- NI 162 - Number of Entry Level 3 qualifications in numeracy achieved. Performance for 2009/10 showed a positive direction of travel with an outturn figure of 500 up from 400 in 2008/09 although it remains significantly below the target of 2950.
- NI 163 - Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher. These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey which is not available until August 2010.

- NI 164 - Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 3 or higher. These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey which is not available until August 2010.
- NI 165 - Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 4 or higher. These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey which is not available until August 2010.

**Please note that the following Every Child Matters indicators are not included within this report;**

### **Being Healthy**

- NI 58 - Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children (not released until 903 Statutory return has been validated in July 2010).

### **Staying safe**

- NI 63 - Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement (not released until 903 Statutory return has been validated in July 2010).
- NI 70 - Reduce emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people (No outturn figure available from Health service).

### **Enjoying and Achieving**

- NI 107 - Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups (Awaiting clarification from Audit Commission regarding ethnicity groupings).
- NI 108 - Key Stage 4 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups (Awaiting clarification from Audit Commission regarding ethnicity groupings).

### **Making a Positive Contribution**

- NI 44 - Ethnic composition of offenders on Youth Justice System disposals (this indicator is only available one quarter in arrears, therefore it will not be released until July 2010).

### **Achieving Economic Wellbeing**

- NI 91 - Participation of 17 year-olds in education or training (This can not be calculated locally and no data has been published nationally for over 12 months the next update is due June 2010).
- NI 106 - Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education This can not be calculated locally and no data has been published nationally for over 12 months. We are still waiting confirmation of next update by the Department for Education).
- NI118 - Take up of formal childcare by low-income working families (Outturn data will not be available until June 2010).

## Areas of Success

### Being Healthy

- Take up of primary school lunches (No 3a / NI52a) continues to improve with a net increase of 565 meals per day from last year. An outturn figure of 43.9% has been achieved against a target of 40.5%. This is an increase on the 2008/09 outturn (also 40.5%) and is above the national average of 39.3%.
- Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services (No 2 / NI51) is measured via a self assessment against four set questions with points awarded one to four for each answer. We have achieved 14 out of a possible 16 point and are above our target of 12. This puts us inline with the statistical neighbour average of 14 although slightly below the national average of 14.7.

### Staying Safe

Three indicators are performing 2% or better above target these are;

- Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements (No 11 / NI62) has reduced from a 2008/09 outturn figure of 13.3% to a provisional figure of 9.1% this year. This is above the target of 11%, above the statistical neighbour average of 10.8% and above the national average of 10.7%.
- Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales (No 14 / NI66) has increased from a 2008/09 figure of 85.4% to a provisional outturn figure of 97.5% this year. This is above the target of 92%, above the statistical neighbour average of 92.4% and above the national average of 90.9%.
- Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales (No15 / NI67) has maintained top performance of 100% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 99.8% and the national average of 99.1%.

**Please note that these figures are awaiting validation through the 903 and CIN census statutory returns.**

### Enjoying and Achieving

- Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy (No 19 / NI72). The outturn figure of 50.4% (relating to academic year 2008/09) is 3.8% above the target and above the statistical neighbour average of 49.9%. Although we remain slightly below the national average, the increase of 6.2% on the previous year is well above the national increase of 3.2%.
- Secondary school persistent absence rate (No 27 / NI 87). Although performance of 5.5% is still slightly worse than statistical neighbours (5.3%) and national (4.9%), the target of 6.5% has been exceeded and there has been a 1.7% improvement on 2008/09 outturn. Target exceeded in part due to collaborative work with schools. Schools are now taking a more pro active role in addressing PA. All PA students have an individual action plan. DCSF have requested that the LA review the target for 2011/12 in view of the progress made.



- Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks (No 38 a & b / NI103 a & b) has maintained top performance (100%) in part a) excluding exceptions. This exceeds the target of 95% and is above the statistical neighbour average of 97.2% and the national average of 91%. Part b) including exceptions has also exceeded the target of 90% with an outturn figure of 97.4%. This shows an improvement on 2008/09 figure and is above the statistical neighbour average of 94.4% and the national average of 82%.

### **Making a Positive Contribution**

- Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders (No 42 / NI19). The rate of re-offending (0.28) continues below that of the target (0.48), this is an improvement on the rate in 2008/09 of 0.69 and is better than the statistical neighbour average of 1.1 and the national average of 1.
- Coverage of Chlamydia in under 24 year olds (No 49 a / NI113 a) has an outturn figure of 25% which meets the target of 25% and shows improved performance from 2008/09 figure of 19.7%. This performance is better than the statistical neighbour average of 16.2%.

### **Achieving Economic Wellbeing**

- Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19 (No 52 / NI79) has met the target of 69% with performance of 70.9%. This is a positive direction of travel from the previous years outturn of 67.7%. Although this still remains below the statistical neighbour average of 72.1% and the national average of 75.9%, the increase of 3.2% is above the national increase of 2.3%.
- Care leavers in suitable accommodation (No 57 / NI147) has achieved a top performing 100% which is above the target of 95% and shows a improvement on last years outturn of 94.7%. This is above the statistical neighbour average of 89.3% and the national average of 89.6%.

## **Areas of Under-performance**

### **Being Healthy**

- Services for disabled children (No 5 / NI54). This is a new indicator and no target was set for the first parental satisfaction survey. The performance of 60% however, is 1.4% below the statistical neighbour average and 1% below the national average. Significant work has been undertaken through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme to ensure that all parents who might be part of the survey have all the information they require in order to give an informed response.
- Prevalence of obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (No 7a / NI56a). Although the performance of 19% has an upwards direction of travel from the 2008/09 figure of 22% the target of 18% has not been met and it is still below the national average of 18.3%.



## Staying Safe

- Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption (No 10 / NI61). This indicator has an unvalidated outturn figure of 72% which is below the target of 83%, has a downward direction of travel from last years outturn of 87.5%, below the statistical neighbour average of 77.8% and below the national average of 75.8%. A corporate performance clinic has been held on this indicator (see performance clinics section of this report).
- Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral (No 8 / NI59). This indicators performance of 74.6% is below the target of 80% and below 2008/09 performance of 77.8%. Performance is however, better than statistical neighbours (71.6%) and national (71.8%).

**Please note that these figures are awaiting validation through the 903 and CIN census statutory returns.**

## Enjoying and Achieving

- Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths (No 23 / NI78) has an outturn performance of 2, this did not meet the target of 0, showed a downward direction of travel from 2008/09 performance of 1 and is worse than the statistical neighbour average of 1.3. Projections for 2010 suggest strongly that both schools will exceed 30% this summer and then remain above the floor target.
- Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category (No 29a / NI89a). This indicator has historically been a major area of success with no schools being in Special Measures from December 2006 until this academic year. At the outturn period however, there were two schools in special measures and this is below the target of 0 and a downward direction of travel from 0 in 2008/09. It should be noted, however that this increase follows the introduction of the new Ofsted Framework in September 2009. Historically new Ofsted Frameworks produce increase in category schools nationally and that is likely to be replicated in Rotherham.
- Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2 (No 34 / NI99) and Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2 (No 35 / NI100). Both of these LAC attainment indicators are off target, with a downward direction of travel and are below statistical neighbour and national averages.

## Making a Positive Contribution

- Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment (No 44 / NI45). This National Indicator performance of 71% does not meet the target of 75.6% and shows a downward direction of travel from 2008/09 performance of 72.6%. Performance is also worse than both the statistical neighbour average of 75.6% and the national average of 73.10%.

## Achieving Economic Wellbeing

- Care leavers in employment, education or training (No 58 / NI148) is the only National Indicator within this theme not to meet the 2009/10 target with performance of 64% against the target of 65%. This indicator did, however show a positive direction of travel from a 2008/09 outturn figure of 55.3% and is also above the statistical neighbour and national averages of 58.2% and 63% respectively.
- 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) (No 56 / NI117) was the only indicator within this theme which showed a downward direction of travel. Performance has decreased to 7.9% from 6.9% in 2008/09. This indicator however, remains on target which was 8%.

## Performance Clinics

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

### Previous Clinics

Below are summary details of recent performance clinic activity.

Topic: **Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption (No 10 / NI61).**  
Clinic type: Corporate Improvement Board performance clinic

#### Main issues discussed

- Work of the new family finding social worker.
- Staffing issues and vacancy rates.
- Timeliness of court sessions.

#### Actions to be taken

- Report on the impact of the Family Finder who has been in post since November 2009. This post will increase finding of suitable families, matching children with families and placement stability
- Implement the LAC dedicated service in order to improve the focus on LAC
- Carry out analysis of current target and agree formula for re-setting and annual review. Targets to be stretching but within reasonable reach, bearing in mind benchmarking and changing influence from outside.

Topic: **Foster Carer Recruitment (not a National Indicator but identified through inspection improvement work)**

Clinic type: Elected member performance clinic

#### Main issues discussed

- Progress on the recruitment of foster carers.

- Work of the broader LAC strategy.
- Review LAC placements.
- Reducing LAC.
- Out of Authority placements.
- Pressures faced by change in laws for bedroom sharing.

#### Actions to be taken

- Overarching LAC strategy to be developed to encompass the issues discussed.
- Target of 30 new foster carers in 2010/2011.

#### Topic: **Young people's participation in positive activities. (NI110)**

Clinic type: Rotherham Partnership 'Turning the Curve' workshop

#### Main issues discussed

- Engagement of schools.
- Working within the definition but also ensuring improvement for all young people not just those surveyed
- Incentives for participation

#### Actions to be taken

- Work has been undertaken to encourage schools and year 10 students to participate and understand the implications of completing the TELLUS survey.
- Promote value of Positive Activities on career targeting to year 10 pupils
- Improve awareness of activities across the Rotherham Partnership

#### ▪ **Future Clinics**

Below are recommendations for future performance clinics.

No.	Ref.	Indicator	Rationale
16	NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	Although significant targeted improvement work has been directed at these areas including a Corporate Improvement Board clinic in January, improvement has been minimal.  These are key measures within the Notice to Improve and therefore it is recommended that a formal clinic be held to review progress and look at timeliness and quality of data for both measures.
8	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	
34,35 & 36	NI 99, NI 100, NI 101	LAC reaching L4 in English at KS2. LAC reaching L4 in Maths at KS2. LAC achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS4 (including English and Maths)	It is recognised that the LAC education cohort for these measures is small and can vary significantly year on year. Performance is below target and benchmarking groups. It is essential that we support looked after children to ensure their individual circumstances have as minimal impact on their education outcomes as possible to enable them to have good life choices.

▪ **Additional targeted improvement and challenge work**

In addition to the above, the improvement panel action plan covers a series targets around Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving and Leadership. Topics include;

- Staying Safe
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Leadership and Management
- Performance Management
- Recruitment and Retention of Social Care staff
- Finance
- ICT

## Inspected and regulated services profile

Inspection outcomes against regulated services feature strongly in the CAA arrangements for CYPS and as such local monitoring arrangements are being strengthened to ensure we increase the percentage of providers which are judged “good or better”. Therefore this section of the report has been introduced to ensure Directors and Members are fully aware of progress against this standard and the impact on the CAA outcome for the service and council as a whole. The table below provides details of the outcomes of new inspections which took place between December 2009 and the end of quarter 4 (March 2009). It also provides a direction of travel against the Ofsted standard of “% providers good or better of all inspections” between the two periods in time.

	% good or better Dec 09	NEW INSPECTIONS BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH 2010					Grand total of all inspections	% good or better As at Mar 10	DOT
		Total	Outstanding	Good	Satisfactory	Inadequate			
Children’s homes	0%	2			2		6	0%	→
Secondary Schs	50%	1			1		15	50%	→
Primary Schs	65%	9	1	1	3	4	99	65%	↓
Childminders	51%	16	2	7	6	1	265	50%	↓
Childcare non domestic	56%	5			5		79	56%	↑
Special Schs	100%	1	1				6	100%	↑
PRU’s	20%	1			1		3	20%	→
Colleges	50%	0					3	50%	→
Maintained Nursery	95%	0					22	100%	↑
LA Fostering Agency	0%	0					1	0%	→
LA Adoption Agency	100%	0					1	100%	→
Private Fostering Arrangements	0%	0					1	0%	→
General FE and Tertiary Colleges	50%	0					1	50%	→

**GLOSSARY**

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

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

**Abbreviations within the table**

NI	National Indicator	LPI	Local Performance Indicator
PI	Performance Indicator	LAC	Looked after Children
BV	Best Value Performance Indicator	SEN	Special Educational Needs
LAA	Local Area Agreement	PAF	Performance Assessment

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

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	09/10 Target	09/10 Perf	On Target	DOT (Yr on Yr)	Year to Date	09/10 Commentary	Latest Comparative Data					
											Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
<b>BEING HEALTHY</b>																
1	NI 50	Emotional health of children	HIGH	68.30%	N/A	56.4%	N/A	↓	N/A	This is a new indicator and as yet no real pattern has emerged for the Authority. Statistically we need at least 3 sets of results in order to see if a trend is emerging.	58.60%	▲	56%	●	-	-
2	NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services	HIGH	13	12	14	✓	↑	★	Score represents self assessment carried out by council and NHS against 4 set criteria. Maximum score is 16	14	●	14.7	▲	16	-
3	NI 52	Take up of school lunches								Increased take up of school meals continued in the 4th quarter with a net increase in the primary sector of 565 meals per day for the year. The secondary sector has maintained take up by comparison to last year with a resultant increase in the NI52 performance.						
a	a	Primary	HIGH	40.5%	40.5%	43.9%	✓	↑	★		48.10%	▲	39.30%	★	41.9%	42.3%
b	b	Secondary	HIGH	34.2%	34.2%	35.0%	✓	↑	●		44.80%	▲	35.10%	▲	34.2%	34.5%
4	NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth								The data collection has improved, after GP's were asked to chase up mothers and record the feeding status at 6-8 weeks. This has shown a big improvement in performance for 2009/10						
a	a	Prevalence	HIGH	24.0%	28.0%	28.9%	✓	↑	●		25.80%	★	-	N/A	32%	-
b	b	Coverage	HIGH	77.0%	90.0%	94.2%	✓	↑	★		92.90%	●	-	N/A	95%	-
5	NI 54	Services for disabled children	HIGH	No Data	N/A	60%	N/A	N/A	N/A	This is a new indicator & no target was set for the first parental satisfaction survey. The result is 1% below national average and a significant amount of work has been undertaken through the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme to ensure that all parents who might be part of the survey have all the information they require in order to give an informed response.	61.40%	▲	61%	▲	-	-
6	NI 55	Obesity among primary school age children in Reception								NCMP Published data The age children can be accepted to join the Carnegie clubs has been lowered to include children between 5-8 years of age, this will hopefully improve performance for 2010/11						
a	a	Prevalence	LOW	12.0%	10.0%	10.0%	✓	↑	●		10.50%	●	9.60%	▲	10%	-
b	b	Coverage	HIGH	88.1%	86.0%	94.0%	✓	↑	★		-	N/A	-	N/A	90%	-
7	NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6								The Carnegie clubs will continue for 2010/11 which will hopefully improve performance.						
a	a	Prevalence	LOW	22.0%	18.0%	19.0%	✗	↑	▲		19.80%	●	18.30%	▲	18%	-
b	b	Coverage	HIGH	88.0%	86.0%	91.0%	✓	↑	★		-	N/A	-	N/A	87%	-
<b>STAYING SAFE</b>																
8	NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral	HIGH	77.8%	80.0%	74.6%	✗	↓	▲	Considerable work is taking place to ensure this target improve. Performance is being rigorously monitored to ensure compliance.	71.60%	★	71.80%	★	81.0%	82.0%
9	NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	HIGH	84.9%	86.5%	79.0%	✗	↓	▲	The changes to the ICS documentation and the focus on quality is making an impact in meeting this target.	80.40%	▲	78.20%	●	87.0%	87.5%
10	NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	HIGH	87.5%	83.0%	72.0%	✗	↓	▲	A family Placement social worker has been recruited to ensure effective family finding. An initial focus on those children who have waited the longest has resulted in a dip in reported performance but is consistent with the overarching recovery plan	77.80%	▲	75.80%	▲	85.0%	86.0%
11	NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	LOW	13.3%	11.0%	9.1%	✓	↑	★	Comprehensive work has been undertaken to improve the quality of placements and quality of support to placements especially where additional pressures are identified. This has resulted in improved performance	10.80%	●	10.70%	●	10.5%	10.0%
12	NI 64	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more	LOW	4.8%	4.5%	4.0%	✓	↑	●	Performance against this indicator has been maintained. Performance will continue to be monitored by conference chairs	5.10%	●	5.80%	●	4.0%	3.5%



No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	09/10 Target	09/10 Perf	On Target	DOT (Yr on Yr)	Year to Date	09/10 Commentary	Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
13	NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	LOW	10.6%	11.0%	13.8%	✘	↓	▲	Although the numbers of children / young people becoming subject to a plan for a second or subsequent time has increased, good performance in this area is described as being between 10 and 15%	11.70%	▲	13.50%	▲	11.0%	10.5%
14	NI 66	Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	85.4%	92.0%	97.5%	✓	↑	★	Improved performance has been maintained. However monitoring will need to continue as performance remains vulnerable due to limited resources.	92.40%	★	90.90%	★	93.0%	94.0%
15	NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	HIGH	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	Performance in this area continues to be maintained	99.80%	★	99.10%	★	100%	100%
16	NI 68	Percentage of referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment	HIGH	57.60%	65.0%	59.5%	✘	↑	▲	The re launch of the Safe and Well Protocol should begin to have positive impact on this target as it will lead to increase understanding of threshold and reduce the number of referrals not requiring social care action.	69.20%	▲	63.80%	▲	57.0%	60.0%
17	NI 69	Children who have experienced bullying	LOW	53.50%	N/A	30.3%	N/A	↑	N/A	Policies and strategies to address bullying are currently ongoing with some projects still in the early stages of development. For example work around the DCSF Safe to Learn guidance, beginning with a task group formed to develop a resource pack, specifically looking at Safe from Bullying on journeys.	30.90%	●	28.80%	▲	-	-
18	NI 71	Children who have run away from home/care overnight	HIGH	14	15	11	✘	↓	▲	The number has been reduced to 11 to reflect issues faced by our regional partners as well as Rotherham. Whilst it is perceived that systems are in place there is a concern that matching the various bits of data is not as complete as first thought.	9.8	●	9.9	●	15	-
<b>ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING</b>																
19	NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	HIGH	44.2%	46.6%	50.4%	✓	↑	★	• There was a further increase in results of 6.2% in 2009. This is above the increase nationally by 3.2%. • The statutory target was exceeded by 3.8% NB: the figures in this quarter relate to the outturn as this indicator is collected annually.	49.90%	●	52%	▲	53%	-
20	NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	HIGH	68%	78%	68%	✘	→	▲	• This indicator remained broadly static in 2009 against a national decline of 1% and a decline of 1% in the average of our statistical neighbours but remains 4% below the national average. • Under performance is challenged and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil level and school level • Support to schools is detailed in the delivery plan	72.40%	▲	72.00%	▲	79%	-
21	NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	HIGH	40.9%	50%	47%	✘	↑	▲	The improvement of 6.1% in 2009 was 4% above the national average increase, Improvement in the standards for both English and Mathematics A*-C contributed towards the increase in this indicator.	46.70%	●	49.80%	▲	54%	-
22	NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	LOW	16		13		↑		• The number of schools below floor targets was reduced by 3% in 2009. This is a reduction of 9% from 2006. However this is 5% above the national average. • School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil level and school level	7.9	▲	N/A	N/A	-	-
23	NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	LOW	1	0	2	✘	↓	▲	Two schools below 30% in 2009. One remained below 30% but improved performance by 3% to 29%. 1 school, however, fell below 30% and is now subject to increased support and additional financial investment by the Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF). Projections for 2010 suggest strongly that both schools will exceed 30% this summer and then remain above the floor target. The approach of the schools and LA has been affirmed – March 2010 – by the DCSF and National Strategies.	1.3	▲	N/A	N/A	0	0
24	NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A*-C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	HIGH	38.4%	50.0%	48.8%	✘	↑	▲	This is a significant increase of 10.4% from 2008.	52.80%	▲	53.70%	▲	52%	55%

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25	NI 85	Post-16 participation in physical sciences								Participation numbers increasing each year. Increases in Maths and Chemistry due to slight increases in numbers in school 6th forms, but mainly due to significantly increased numbers in TRC.						
a	a	Physics	HIGH	89	85	96	✓	↑	★	Maths GCSE attainment is increasing, therefore more pupils reaching threshold to participate at A Level. The maths A*-C for the end of KS4 cohort results are: 2006 46.5% 2007 48.4% 2008 49.0% 2009 53.0%	71.2	★	-	N/A	90	-
b	b	Chemistry	HIGH	163	150	150	✓	↓	●	Chemistry and Physics GCSE results are showing an overall increasing trend, therefore more pupils are reaching the threshold to participate at A level.	127.7	★	-	N/A	160	-
c	c	Maths	HIGH	217	195	241	✓	↑	★		207.1	★	-	N/A	210	-
26	NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour	HIGH	69%	90%	69%	✗	→	▲	This performance indicator remains the same, there is continuing work with secondary schools to improve satisfactory to good standards of behaviour.	73.80%	▲	78.60%	▲	90%	100%
27	NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	LOW	7.2%	6.5%	5.5%	✓	↑	●	Target exceeded in part due to collaborative work with schools. Schools are now taking a more pro active role in addressing PA. All PA students have an individual action plan. DCSF have requested that the LA review the target for 2011/12 in view of the progress made.	5.30%	▲	4.90%	▲	6.3%	4.3%
28	NI 88	Number of Extended Schools	HIGH	60%	100% (Sept 10)	96%	✓	↑	●	96% of schools are now offering access to the full core offer. The remaining schools have only one strand of the core offer to meet. <b>NB: Target relates to Sept 2010, therefore current position is deemed as on target as it is anticipated that the September target will be met.</b>	-		-		100%	100%
29	NI 89	Reduction of number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvement in time taken to come out of the category								Following the introduction of the new Ofsted Framework from September 2009 one primary school was judged special measures in the Autumn Term and one primary school in the Spring Term. Historically new Ofsted Frameworks produce increase in category schools nationally and that is likely to be replicated in Rotherham.						
a	a	Number	LOW	0	0	2	✗	↓	▲		-		-		0	0
b	b	Time	LOW	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		-		-		0	0
30	NI 90	Take up of 14-19 learning diplomas	HIGH	52	104	100	✗	↑	▲	Second year of delivery of CBE Diploma, numbers maintained at 46. First year of C&M delivery, 44 students started the course but 5 have since dropped out - 2 due to change of course, 2 due to inappropriate behaviour at college and 1 due to long term illness, remaining number of students is 39. First year of Eng delivery, 7 started the course but one student has since changed course.	50.4	★	N/A	N/A	694	-
31	NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	LOW	44.4%	36.7%	35.8%	✓	↑	●	The gap was significantly reduced in 2009 by 8.6%. This had reduced the gap against national from 8.8% in 2008 to 1.9% in 2009. The target was exceeded by 0.9%	34.70%	▲	33.90%	▲	34.9%	-
32	NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	HIGH	78.6%	93%	80%	✗	↑	▲	School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools are supported to address underperformance at pupil and school level. Rotherham progression in 2009 increased by 1.4%, nationally the progress measure remained at 82%.	81.60%	▲	82%	▲	94%	-
33	NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	HIGH	72.80%	90%	77%	✗	↑	▲	School Improvement Partners challenge under performance and schools supported to address underperformance at pupil and school level. Rotherham progress measures in 2009 increased by 4.2% nationally the progress measure increased by 3% to 81%.	82.20%	▲	81%	▲	91%	-
34	NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	HIGH	41.7%	33.3%	29.4%	✗	↓	▲	Outcomes have been adversely affected by individual changes in care circumstances.	53.80%	▲	46%	▲	38.9%	-
35	NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2	HIGH	50.0%	33.3%	29.4%	✗	↓	▲	Outcomes have been adversely affected by individual changes in care circumstances.	54.50%	▲	46%	▲	38.9%	-
36	NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)	HIGH	6.1%	3.4%	4.2%	✓	↓	●	Target was achieved. Although the direction of this indicator is Showing as down in this years Cohort two young people achieved 5 or above GCSE A-C level with the other individual at BTEC level equivalent to 4A. (Not including English and Maths.) Also amongst this cohort 6 young people at special schools didn't take any exams. Circumstances related to Care have impacted on achievements.			9.80%	▲	30%	33.3%



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37	NI 102	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 and 4	LOW	KS2 – 26.6% KS4 - 30.8%	KS2 - 21% KS4 - 23%	KS2 - 25% KS4 - 30.3%	✓ ✓	↑ ↑	★ ★	KS2 – National Gap was reduced by 0.2% from 22.3% in 2008 to 22.1% in 2009 KS2 – Rotherham Gap was reduced by 1.6% from 2008-2009 but the gap to national is 2.9% KS4 – National Gap was reduced by 0.2% from 27.8% in 2008 to 27.6% in 2009 KS2 – Rotherham Gap was reduced by 0.5% from 2008-2009 but the gap to national is 2.7%	24.5% 28.0%	▲ ▲	22.3% 27.8%	▲ ▲	-	-
38	NI 103	Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks								103a) Of the 12 total number of statements issued this quarter, if we exclude exceptions, 7 were issued all within 26 weeks. 103b) Of the 12 final statements issued this quarter, all were issued within 26 weeks. A meeting is scheduled with the PCT to review School Health performance in meeting the 6 week deadline for contributions to the Statutory Education Assessment. This meeting will also raise concerns that the quality of information, required to ensure greater specificity in the writing of statements of SEN, could be improved. Indicator 103b reflects only 2 individual cases where the 26 week deadline was not met. (see Quarter 2 – parental preference changed)						
a	a	Excluding exceptions	HIGH	100%	95.0%	100.00%	✓	↑	★		97.20%	★	91%	★	95%	95%
b	b	Including exceptions	HIGH	95.90%	90.0%	97.4%	✓	↑	★		94.40%	★	82%	★	92%	94%
39	NI 104	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap - achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	LOW	53.30%	N/A	52.50%	N/A	↑	N/A	National - Gap reduced by 0.1% from 51.0% in 2008 to 50.9% in 2009 Rotherham - Gap reduced by 0.8% from 2008-2009 but the gap to national is 1.6%	53%	●	50.90%	▲	-	-
40	NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths	LOW	41.1%	34%	50%	✗	↓	▲	The attainment gap for Rotherham in 2009 was 50% compared to a national attainment gap of 46.3%.	44.30%	▲	46.50%	▲	34%	-
41	NI 109	Number of Sure Start Children Centres	HIGH	91%	100%	100%	✓	↑	★	The final two Children's Centres received designation this year. Marcliffe Children's Centre was designated on 22.10.09 and Thurcroft Children's Center was designated on 26.1.10.	-	N/A	-	N/A	100%	-
<b>MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION</b>																
42	NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	LOW	0.69	0.48	0.28	✓	↑	★	Rate continues below that of target. There is the potential that if first time entrants continue to decline leaving a cohort of young people who continue to offend that this performance will be challenging to sustain	1.1	●	1	●	0.97	-
43	NI 43	Young people within the Youth Justice System receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	LOW	9.7%	7.5%	7.1%	✓	↑	●	Custody rates have improved on last quarter, and it appears the new legislation may be assisting with this. However a number of young people are awaiting Crown Court dates for serious offences, and it is likely this will have a detrimental effect on next quarter's figures. As will a further decline in first time entrants.	4.40%	▲	5.80%	▲	5.0%	-
44	NI 45	Young offenders' engagement in suitable education, training and employment	HIGH	72.6%	75.6%	71.0%	✗	↓	▲	Slight improvement on performance for the last quarter. This is proving a challenging target to meet due to the reduction in first time entrants, (those who are more likely to be receiving suitable ETE provision). These are likely to drop further in coming quarters when South Yorkshire police launch a restorative justice initiative that will divert further young people from the youth justice system.	75.60%	▲	73.10%	▲	78.0%	-
45	NI 46	Young offenders' access to suitable accommodation	HIGH	97.6%	97.9%	98.6%	✓	↑	●	Slightly reduced in percentage terms on last quarter, but represents one young person in unsatisfactory accommodation, and above target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	98.0%	-
46	NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities	HIGH	62.2%	66.0%	60.0%	✗	↓	▲	Fewer schools took part in the survey than in the previous year. By November 2009 only four schools had registered to complete the survey. The percentage of young people stating that they take part in positive activities appears to have reduced according to the survey results. However, this does not match with evidence supplied by activity providers in the statutory, voluntary, community and private sectors which indicate large numbers of activities and large numbers of young people engaged. See returns supplied to DCSF.	61.20%	▲	65.80%	▲	-	-
47	NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17								First time entrant figures continue to reduce against target rates, with a probability they will reduce further as South Yorkshire police introduce the Youth Restorative Disposal. (A street based initiative that will divert young people away from a formal disposal by requiring them to make good in the community to their victim). Currently these figures are "proxy targets" based on information the YOS receives. Actual performance will be measured against figures produced by the DCSF, which are aggregate figures and likely to differ from these figures, although unlikely to significantly effect performance against target.						
a	a	Number	LOW	374	385	212	✓	↑	★		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	514	-
b	b	Per 100,000 10-17 Population		1,406	1425	784	✓	↑	★		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,900	-
48	NI 112	Under 18 conception rate	LOW	-10.1%	-0.39	-1.10	✓	↓	●	Improved partnership work and robust action plan in place.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	-

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	09/10 Target	09/10 Perf	On Target	DOT (Yr on Yr)	Year to Date	09/10 Commentary	Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target	
49	NI 113	Prevalence of Chlamydia in under 24 year olds								National Chlamydia campaign has increased acceptability, approximately 20 GP's have undergone training to operate the Locally Enhanced Service and further requests have been made. Additional partners screening including a big push by Contraception and Sexual Health, colleges and other commissioned services.							
a	a	Coverage	HIGH	19.7%	25.0%	25.0%	✓	↑	●		16.20%	★	N/A	N/A	35.0%	-	
b	b	Prevalence	LOW	8.9%	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	-	-
50	NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school	LOW	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	✓	↑	●	Continuing work on positive progression with secondary schools has seen a further reduction of permanent exclusions from schools. <b>NB: Although the outturn figure is 0%, there were actually 2 permanent exclusions during this period.</b>	0.10%	●	0.10%	●	0%	0%	
51	NI 115	Substance misuse by young people	LOW	15.20	N/A	12.9%	N/A	↑	N/A	The 2009 Tell Us 4 survey provides evidence that the situation in Rotherham with regard to alcohol and drugs is not more severe than the national average; indeed there has been an overall local improvement from the previous year. It should be noted however, that the Tell Us 4 survey identifies that although 47% of Rotherham's children and young people had never tried alcohol which is 4% lower than the national average, 13% of Rotherham's pupils stated that they had been drunk once or twice within the last four weeks compared to 10% nationally. And 7% had been drunk three or more times within the same time period which is 2% higher than the national average. The Tell Us 4 survey identifies that in relation to information and advice given in school regarding alcohol, 50% of Rotherham's Year 8's and 10's said that it was helpful which is quite low when compared to 58% nationally. 24% of pupils stated that the help and advice was not helpful compared to 20% nationally.	12.10%	▲	9.80%	▲	-	-	
ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING																	
52	NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	High	67.7%	69.0%	70.9%	✓	↑	●	The increase in 2009 of 3.2% was 1% above the increase in the national average but Rotherham remains 7.8% below the national average. In 2009, 78.7% of people aged 19 were qualified to at least Level 2 nationally. The PSA target is for 82% to have reached Level 2 by age 19 by 2011. The time series has been revised since last year's DCSF publication to take account of improved methodology assigning young people to local authorities – the revised data shows: 2006 – 61.2%, 2007 – 63.6%, 2008 – 67.9%	72.10%	▲	75.9%	▲	74.1%	-	
53	NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	High	39.10%	N/A	40.1%	N/A	↑	N/A	The increase in 2009 was 0.8%. Rotherham remains 11.3% below the national average. In 2009, 51.4% of people aged 19 were qualified to level 3 nationally, an increase of 1.6% since 2008. The PSA target is for 54% to have reached Level 3 by aged 19 by 2011.	42.50%	▲	49.40%	▲	-	-	
54	NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	Low	26.20%	N/A	23.0%	N/A	↑	N/A	The Rotherham gap in 2009 was 23.0% this has narrowed the gap by 4% from 27.0% in 2008. The national gap in 2009 remained 25%. The attainment for pupils in receipt of FSM increased by 5% against a national increase of 2%. The national gap in 2009 remained 25%.	26.50%	★	24.60%	●	-	-	
55	NI 82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	Low	45.90%	N/A	25.0%	N/A	↑	N/A	The Rotherham gap in 2009 was 25.0% this has narrowed the gap by 6% from 31.0% in 2008. The national gap in 2009 was 22.0% this has narrowed the gap by 2.0% from 24.0% in 2008. The attainment for pupils in receipt of FSM increased by 8% against a national increase of 4%.	49.90%	★	56.80%	★	-	-	
56	NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	LOW	6.9%	8.0%	7.9%	✓	↓	●	The three month rolling average target of 8% was achieved against an increasingly difficult economic climate of rising unemployment. This has impacted specifically on 18 year olds. Work to deliver the January Guarantee to all 16 and 17 year olds a place in learning has resulted in a 2.6% increase in the percentage of young people in learning to 81.9%	8.60%	●	6.70%	▲	7.10%	-	
57	NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	HIGH	94.7%	95.0%	100.0%	✓	↑	★	All care leavers remain suitably housed. Though 100% cannot, unfortunately, be achieved consistently.	89.30%	★	89.60%	★	92%	-	
58	NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	HIGH	55.3%	65.0%	64.0%	✗	↑	▲	50% of the young people who are currently NEET are mothers of young children or are expecting babies in the near future. 1 young person needs extra support to access EET due to learning difficulties. 3 are ex offenders who also need additional support. Bridges continues to work closely with these young people in order to obtain suitable EET.	58.20%	★	63%	●	70%	-	
INDICATORS OUTSIDE OF ECM OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK																	

No.	Ref	Definition	Good Perf	08/09 Actual	09/10 Target	09/10 Perf	On Target	DOT (Yr on Yr)	Year to Date	09/10 Commentary	Stat. Neigh.	Perf against Stat. Neigh.	National	Perf against National	10/11 Target	11/12 Target
	NI 13	Migrants' English language skills and knowledge	HIGH	18%	70%	13%	✘	↓	▲	The denominator reflects ACL funded provision, the majority of which was aimed at giving basic ESOL language support through various partners, but who were not expected to set accreditation targets through this funding. The only provision offering accreditation outputs was RMBC, Community Learning provision. Targets set – 50 / achievement - 46	-		-		DELETED	
	NI 22	Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children in the area	HIGH	20%						Biennial, next figures 2011	23.2		29.6			
	NI 161	Number of Level 1 qualification in literacy (including ESOL) achieved	HIGH	1100	1581	1400	✘	↑	▲	Data was published in March 2010. Interim performance figures will no longer be produced following the closure of the Learning and Skills Council. Responsibility for providing this level of information to local authorities has been transferred to the Data Service. Provision is being developed and commissioned with providers. The target is based on the Leitch levels that Rotherham needs to achieve by 2020, which has been straight-lined giving a static annual increase. Should the target be revisited to make it more realistic in relation to the gestation period required to deliver sufficient provision?						
	NI 162	Number of Entry Level 3 qualifications in numeracy achieved	HIGH	400	2950	500	✘	↑	▲	Data was published in March 2010. Interim performance figures will no longer be produced following the closure of the Learning and Skills Council.. Responsibility for providing this level of information to local authorities has been transferred to the Data Service. Provision is being developed and commissioned with providers. The target is based on the Leitch levels that Rotherham needs to achieve by 2020, which has been straight-lined giving a static annual increase. Should the target be revisited to make it more realistic in relation to the gestation period required to deliver sufficient provision?						
	NI 163	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher	HIGH	63%						These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey –Data available in August10. Due to the recession and cut-backs in the level of available LSC funding for adult learning/training programmes – T2G , adult apprenticeships, and FE delivered activities. Further cuts in these programmes are planned in 2010/11 for further reductions anticipated post-election. These cuts will make achievement of the targets extremely difficult.						
	NI 164	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 3 or higher	HIGH	42.60%						These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey –Data available in August10. Although not failing it needs to be noted that due to the recession and cut-backs in the level of available LSC funding for adult learning/training programmes – T2G , adult apprenticeships, and FE delivered activities. Further cuts in these programmes are planned in 2010/11 for further reductions anticipated post-election. These cuts will make achievement of the targets extremely difficult.						
	NI 165	Proportion of population aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 4 or higher	HIGH	No Data						These figures are delivered through the annual Labour Force Survey –Data available in August10. Although not failing it needs to be noted that due to the recession and cut-backs in the level of available LSC funding for adult learning/training programmes – T2G , adult apprenticeships, and FE delivered activities. Further cuts in these programmes are planned in 2010/11 for further reductions anticipated post-election. These cuts will make achievement of the targets extremely difficult.						

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Corporate Parenting Strategic Review</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

### 5. Summary

A review of Corporate Parenting Structures was undertaken by the Looked After Children’s Scrutiny Sub Panel between November 2009 and March 2010.

This Review has been considered by the Council’s Strategic Leadership Team, who recommend agreement to the Scrutiny Recommendations. An Action Plan is attached for consideration.

### 6. Recommendations

**That the report is received and the recommendations in the action plan endorsed.**

## **7. Proposals and Details**

The Rotherham M.B.C. Corporate Parenting structure was developed in 2005 following a comprehensive Scrutiny review of provision. Ofsted inspections of Children's Services in Rotherham since then have consistently viewed Corporate Parenting as a strength.

A full review of Corporate Parenting was undertaken in November 2009 to March 2010 by the Looked After Children's Scrutiny Sub Panel, utilising a Corporate Parenting Toolkit developed by the National Children's Bureau. The report recommended modernising the arrangements in line with the Government Agenda and with Ofsted Inspection expectations. A proposed Action Plan was developed and has been subject to scrutiny from the Senior Leadership Team. The Action Plan, Impact Analysis and recommendations from S.L.T. are attached.

SLT agree the findings of the Scrutiny review and request consideration of the action plan with a view to completion of the new structure by September 2010.

## **8. Finance**

The financial implications of each action have been fully considered within the report. All are nil or minimal costs (associated with administration), with the exception of a recommendation to enhance the Council Celebration of our Looked after Children's achievements, through the development of an annual large celebration event, as opposed to the current 2 yearly event.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

Progression with the actions as contained within the attached plan will ensure that Rotherham M.B.C. continues to evidence best practice in respect of Corporate Parenting. If we do not progress these actions we risk our Corporate parenting structures being viewed as out dated.

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

Actions in this report have implications for judgements made within Ofsted Inspections of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services and associated inspections.

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

Care Matters  
Care Planning, Placement and Review Draft Regulations and Guidance  
Ofsted inspection Guidance  
Rotherham M.B.C. Corporate Parenting Review 2010

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## Strategic Leadership Team's Commentary on Scrutiny Review of Corporate Parenting Arrangements

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
1..Ensure sign up to the Looked After Children Pledge by all Council services and supporting its adoption by partner agencies	The draft pledge has been developed by the LAC Council who have consulted with other LAC through their Magazine and a consultation event. Further work is required to complete and adopt the pledge. This work will be carried out by the LAC Council supported by the Voice and Influence service. This should be undertaken in conjunction with Elected Members see point 2 and 7	September 2010	Care Matters Council theme Proud E.C.M. theme Positive Contribution	<u>Benefit</u> The Voice of our LAC is central to the work undertaken by the Council  <u>Risk</u> If not adopted the voice of the child does not inform practice. This would be detrimental to good practice. This is also a requirement under Care Matters.		Accept
2.That the Council's 'Pledge' to Looked After Children is incorporated into the CYP Single Plan and informs the Corporate Parenting Strategy	The Pledge has been incorporated into the LAC Statement and has informed the Corporate parenting strategy. The Voice and Influence service will undertake further work with the LAC Council on the pledge. The CYP Single plan contains a focus area on LAC which references the pledge	September 2010	Care Matters Council theme Proud E.C.M. theme Positive Contribution	<u>Benefit</u> The Voice of our LAC is central to the work undertaken by the Council  <u>Risk</u> If not adopted the voice of the child does not inform practice. This would be detrimental to good practice. This is also a requirement under Care Matters.	Within Budget	Accept

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
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3. That support is given to regular celebration events for Looked After Children, Care Leavers and their Carers	Regular Celebration events are held for LAC, Care Leavers and their carers. These include an annual post 16 award ceremony, an annual carer party and a two yearly large celebration of all LAC achievements. Enhanced funding would enable a more formal celebration of Carers achievements and an annual large celebration of all LAC achievements	September 2009	Care Matters Council theme Proud and Achieve E.C.M. theme Positive Contribution and Enjoy and Achieve	<u>Benefit</u> Our LAC, Care Leavers and Carers feel valued and are encouraged to feel pride in their achievements. Retention of Carers is enhanced  <u>Risk</u> Reduction of Celebration events would have a detrimental effect on LAC and Carers	Continuation of existing events, within Budget. Development of further events will have a cost implication	Accept
4. That a Corporate Parenting Board is established as a sub-group of the Children's Board; its membership to include the lead member, key members with corporate parenting responsibilities, co-optees and relevant officers and partners as required.	This recommendation reflects the Government Agenda and is in line with Ofsted Inspection expectations.  The proposal and Terms of Reference are yet to be developed and will require further discussions with the Lead Member and presentation to the Children's Board	July 2010	Care Matters All Corporate and ECM themes	<u>Benefit</u> Improved communication between all parties, shared ownership of Corporate Parenting duties and development of a service in line with Nationally recognised Best Practice  <u>Risk</u> ineffective communication and a lack of Shared ownership. Ofsted Judgements could be affected by the lack of this structure	There will be a minor cost in administration of the new board, however as the proposal recommends that this replaces the LAC Scrutiny Sub Panel (scrutiny functions reverting to the Children's Scrutiny Panel) these costs should be offset	Accept

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
5. That the portfolios of the Lead Member and other Cabinet Members are amended to explicitly reflect their corporate parenting responsibilities	That Cabinet agrees to amend portfolios as part of current review	June 2010	Care Matters  All Corporate and ECM themes	<u>Benefit</u> Clarity of role  <u>Risk</u> Lack of Clarity of role. This could have a negative impact on an Ofsted Judgement	No cost implication	Accept
6. That the work programme of the Corporate Parenting Board be based on the issues raised in the pledge to ensure that the participation of looked after children is at the heart of its work	As per point 2, the draft pledge does require further input from our LAC and Elected Members. Means by which the Corporate Parenting Board and LAC Council can work together on this should be explored to ensure shared ownership of the Pledge and ensure that the participation of looked after children is at the heart of its work. This work would be led by the Voice and Influence service	September 2010	Care Matters  Council theme Proud  E.C.M. theme Positive Contribution	<u>Benefit</u> The Corporate Parenting Board and LAC Have a shared ownership and understanding of the pledge  <u>Risk</u> The council work plan does not benefit from the input of our LAC and does not meet their needs.	Minor costs can be met within budget	Accept
7. That the Corporate Parenting Board acts as a governing body to the virtual school	. The Get Real education service is regularly rated by Ofsted as good but the governance of the virtual school does require formalisation. A position of Virtual Head Teacher to oversee the Education of LAC has been developed. The Corporate Parenting Board would be in an ideal place to provide the Virtual school Governance.	September 2010	Care Matters  Council theme Achieve  E.C.M. theme Enjoy and Achieve	<u>Benefit</u> Governance of the virtual school through the Corporate Parenting Board would ensure that the education of our LAC is given the priority required  <u>Risk</u> If Governance is undertaken in a differing arena,	As this is a new function, there may be some minor costs associated with the functioning of the Board	Accept



Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
	This function should be written into the T.O.R.			Governance arrangements would potentially be less robust and there may be duplication of duties		
8. That the Corporate Parenting Board has formal links to the work of the Looked After Children's Council	As per point 6, input from the LAC Council is essential to ensure their voice is central to service development. Further work is necessary to establish the best means by which to achieve this aim. The LAC Council is now supported by members of the Voice and Influence service who will be able to undertake this work with the LAC Council and Elected Members  This should be written into the T.O.R	September 2010	Care Matters  Council theme Proud  E.C.M. theme Positive Contribution	<u>Benefit</u> The voice of the child is central to the work of the Council and informs best practice  <u>Risk</u> A lack of formal links to the LAC Council would impact negatively on service development	Minor costs can be met within budget	Accept
9. That terms of reference be developed for the Corporate Parenting Board to ensure clear lines of communication and reporting between this body and the relevant Scrutiny Panel	It is vital that the relationship between the Board and the Scrutiny panel are clear to ensure effective working practice and continuation of clear scrutiny. Draft Terms of Reference will be developed for the consideration of the relevant bodies	July 2010	Care Matters  All Corporate and ECM themes	<u>Benefit</u> Clarity of role and function, maintenance of a robust scrutiny of LAC Services  <u>Risk</u> Lack of Clarity and less robust scrutiny	No cost implications	Accept

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
10. On the creation of a Corporate Parenting Board, to minimise duplication between respective bodies, that the LAC Scrutiny Sub-Panel is disbanded	The role of LAC Scrutiny in respect of partnership work and service development would be undertaken by the Corporate Parenting Board and Scrutiny would be undertaken by the Children's Scrutiny Panel.	July 2010	Care Matters  All Corporate and ECM themes	<u>Benefit</u> Efficient use of time and resources, minimisation of duplication of resources  <u>Risk</u> Ineffective scrutiny, this risk would be managed through clear T.O.R. as point 9	No cost implications see point 4	Accept
11. That action is taken to ensure local compliance with the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care	The Corporate Parenting Board membership must include all key partners including the PCT. The T.O.R. must reflect this requirement	July 2010	Care Matters  Council Theme...  E.C.M. theme Be Healthy	<u>Benefit</u> compliance with the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care is central to the work of the board  <u>Risk</u> if this is not undertaken compliance will not be monitored as efficiently	No cost implication	Accept
12. That a training programme for Members is developed, reflecting different levels of corporate parenting responsibilities.	Members have received training, however a coordinated training programme for Members does require further development.	Dates to be identified by July 2010, programme delivery to commence September 2010	Care Matters  All council and E.C.M. themes	<u>Benefit</u> Members understand their role as Corporate Parents and their constituency work reflects this. Members with key responsibilities have enhanced training  <u>Risk</u> not implementing this programme risks uninformed work by elected members	Minor costs can be met within budget	Accept

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
13. That role definitions are developed for Members on the Adoption and Fostering Panels	Members on both panels have a panel member job description but this does not address their responsibilities as an elected member. This should be addressed in conjunction with the development of the T.O.R. for the Corporate Parenting Panel. Panel induction for Elected Members also requires review.	September 2010	Care Matters All council and E.C.M. themes	<u>Benefit</u> Elected Members have a clear understanding of their role on panel and wider Council responsibilities  <u>Risk</u> not implementing this risks lack of clarity of role	No Cost implication	Accept
14. That an annual report on all Corporate Parenting Board activity is presented by the Lead Member to full Council	This proposal ensures the full council receives appropriate information about the service and the work of the Board. This will inform all members and enhance the training programme under point 12	March 2011	Care Matters All council and E.C.M. themes	<u>Benefit</u> All members are appropriately informed  <u>Risk</u> None implementation risks lack of clarity for members	No Cost implication	Accept
15. That quarterly bulletins are issued to all Members with updates on corporate parenting performance and activity	This proposal underpins the proposal under point 14.	September 2010	Care Matters All council and E.C.M. themes	<u>Benefit</u> All members are appropriately informed  <u>Risk</u> None implementation risks lack of clarity for members	Minor cost implications associated with the publication of the bulletin	Accept

Scrutiny recommendation	Proposed action/ comment	Target date	Link to Themes/ Strategies	Impact Analysis		SLT recommendation to Cabinet
				Benefit/ Risk	Cost implication <i>Impact on revenue/capital budget, MTFS</i>	
16. That work is undertaken to establish the role of Safeguarding Member Champions in localities with appropriate training and support	Member training is planned for 4th July using the IdEA Safeguarding Framework	September 2010	Care Matters All council and E.C.M. themes	<u>Benefit</u> Members will feel more confident in challenging and supporting safeguarding issues  <u>Risk</u> None, Members will be more confident in their role as a Safeguarding Champion		Accept

<b>ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS</b>
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1.	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services Cabinet Member and Advisers</b>
2.	<b>Date:</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> June 2010</b>
3.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>The Learning Revolution: Making it Happen. Lead Accountable Body Status</b>
4.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young People’s Services</b>

**5. Summary:**

To inform Members of Rotherham’s progress so far to the proposal by the Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to channel all funding which supports informal adult learning through the Local Authority as the lead accountable body.

**6. Recommendations:**

- **That Members maintain their support for the service become the Lead Accountable Body and that a further report be presented to members following the receipt of additional information from the Skills Funding Agency on the 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 was abolished and adult learning is now managed by a successor body called the Skills Funding Agency. Local Authorities have been 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. It was recognised that 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 previous government wanted 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. Their plans were for local authorities to 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 previous Government wanted 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 expectation was for the Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to work with local authorities, colleges of further education and a range of other stakeholders and partners over the next year to implement these proposals. As requested, Rotherham Council signed an "In principle sign up", to the new arrangements. Since the change of Government there have been some guarantees that the funding which supports adult learning has been protected from public sector cuts however, we have not, as yet, received any further instruction regarding the move to Lead Accountable Body status. Once and further information is received a further report will be prepared for Members.

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

The total LSC funding 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:**

There has been very little information released by the new Government about the proposals for Adult Safeguarded Learning and it is possible that there may not be the same level of support for the move to Lead Accountable Body status.

#### **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:**

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

White Paper 'The Learning Revolution' March 2009

Lead Accountable Body Status Sign Up letter April 2010

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